
The Reverend Sun Myung Moon founded Causa International in 1980 "to provide Latin Americans with an ideological framework in their struggle against communism." Since that time Causa seminars have been conducted in Latin America and in many other places in the world, in North America, Asia and Europe. The lecture manual under review here was designed precisely as an aid for these seminars. The manual can be studied as a book in its own right, but it is intended to be used by a lecturer conducting the seminars with 35 mm slides, videotapes and other texts. The manual reproduces in excellent color printing the slides intended to be projected for the participants.

The researchers of Causa International understand correctly that communism is an ideology, a philosophical system of thought, with explicit beliefs derived from Marx and Lenin. It calls for commitment, proposes a plan of action and promises a successful outcome to its hopes. The whole system assumes that there is no God. Military power, hundreds of prisons and barbaric gulags have succeeded in subduing large parts of humanity.

This situation has moved Reverend Moon and his associates to develop a God-centered worldview, "Godism," as an antidote to the communist ideology. This manual for the Causa seminars proposes: (1) a survey of the present situation of communist expansion and of Western naivete, (2) an overview and critique of Marxist ideology, dialectical and historical materialism, (3) a digest of Marxist economic theory and imperialism, (4) a description of Western confusion over values, (5) a 100-page explanation of Godism which is the Causa worldview. The book presents a strong refutation of the main points of Marxism. This is done with clarity and persuasive force. It courageously maintains that communism and Christianity are not compatible and warns against American secular humanism as a mixture of truth and falsity.

Godism purports to be an ideology centered on God. It is not "a religion," not a church, though Reverend Moon is also the founder of the Unification Church. The seminar manual claims to present a worldview based on philo-
sophistical and scientific reasoning, but now and then scriptural references are given. The seminars appeal to persons who believe in God, no matter what church they belong to. No attempt is made to recruit members for the Unification Church, and no suggestions are given that readers or seminarists become non-denominational.

Here and there the reader might find dubious statements about God's positive and negative polarity, and God's masculinity and femininity, but for the most part the presentation is not at variance with the long traditions of the churches.

I must respect the chosen objective of Causa International to provide an ideology to resist atheistic communism. I find this lecture manual more than adequate for that objective.

Still something else must be said. Those who believe in God and who truly make him the center of their lives need something more than the Causa manual. They need the warmth and poetry of prayer and religious fervor. They need a community of fellow believers who worship together and profess their faith together and cooperate in relieving the oppression of the masses. They need to be involved in cooperative projects for farmers and urban laborers, they are called to help in the reform of social inequities, of structural sin, of oppressive relations between nations. This too is a way of resisting communist expansion. There are social conditions that make communist revolutions attractive. And the ideological resistance must be supplemented by social reform, not simply to slow down the march of revolution, but because the promotion of justice is an integral ingredient of genuine religion, and even of genuine human living by those who have not found God.

Furthermore anyone who claims to be God-centered, as the authors of the manual do, should see that a philosophical study of God is well worth the effort of believers who can handle it. God, believers assert, is greater than our heart, is infinitely magnificent beyond anything that we can imagine. Therefore it is our delightful responsibility to pursue Him in every way we can. We do not need the communist ideology nor their political and military might to frighten us into organizing a contrary ideology. God's magnificence and beauty are already a lure to excite us, to animate us to learn about Him in every way we can. He Himself is already the motive for our undertaking a loving task of philosophical search, of metaphysics and philosophy of religion.

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