

# THE FELLOWSHIP

*Your World Recovered*

June 2009

Volume 10

*The Fellowship is a newsletter published by the Chemical Recovery ministry. The Fellowship is making recovery far more exciting, provocative, and high-spirited (no pun intended), than our addiction ever was. The news of this world is dominated by an earthly perspective. The Fellowship is a refreshing view of "everything under the sun" from the perspective of those formerly deeply entrenched in its vices and now free and grateful to share a unique perspective on life.*



This month's edition of the Broadcast looks at Chemical Recovery and **HUMANISM**

**Human philosophies are pervasive in today's world striving to convince us that God does not exist or if He does, He wants little to do with mankind and we are better to fend for ourselves.**

For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

*2 Thess, 2:11 -12 NIV*

**DROP US A LINE**



Faq@chemicalrecovery.org

**We're  
All  
Ears**

## **Featured Articles on the Web**

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- ▷ [Before Long, The Consequences Came](#)

## **CR Enters The TWILIGHT ZONE**

You are moving into a land of both shadow and substance, of things and ideas. You've just crossed over into The Twilight Zone.

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Upon return from a one year deployment to Afghanistan in the war on terror the one thing Goldwater longed for most was the fellowship of his CR brothers. When he arrived to group that first Sunday evening back, all looked just as it was when he'd left, or so he thought.

The familiar smell of pre-group coffee was still in the air when the meeting began at approximately, but certainly not promptly, 8:30pm. As strange as it was for group to begin late things got stranger when Goldwater noticed that there were no longer rules posted, only a list of suggestions to replace them. But the changes that sent a chill down Mr. Golwater's spine were those made to the CR traditions. It was during the tradition sharing that he realized he had entered—The Twilight Zone.

Total Recovery had progressed into Total Discovery which one member explained meant that recovery could never be realized until we "found" ourselves and came to understand the psychology of why we used them. No sooner had Mr. Goldwater recovered his breath after the shock of so drastic a change in group philosophy than the next tradition was being explained. Humanity's Authority had replaced Biblical Authority; rationale being there is no supernatural, consequently, no God or God-inspired Word, instead it was the agreed upon norms of men that became the law of "the room." Truth in Love had morphed into Free Love (by which the group now proclaimed: if all our desires were satisfied there would be no need to resort to drug use). Empathy was usurped by Sympathy as those in recovery were all considered victims needing the understanding and rescue of the collective. Earthly Fellowship was the natural replacement for Eternal Fellowship for how can an enlightened people believe in an unseen, unverifiable afterlife? This fellowship emphasized our connection to the here and now spent in the warm bosom of our beloved Mother Earth. Outreach remained the same in title but the spirit of it was quite altered. Anyone who did not accept the principles laid out above was deemed truly sick and forced to join the group until cured.

*(This article is excerpted owing to space. The complete article can be seen online @ [www.chemicalrecovery.org](http://www.chemicalrecovery.org)*

## **Writers Needed**



We are committed to getting out Gods message of hope to those in need of recovery. We present articles and commentaries that confront others to think about their lives and the events and times around them. We are looking for like-minded Christians who can write cutting-edge articles to aid in this endeavor.

To join us in this work, please email [article@chemicalrecovery.org](mailto:article@chemicalrecovery.org)

**Q:** I have seen on several different news stories that there now exists pills that will cure alcoholism and drug addiction. Won't these render the need for CR obsolete?

**A:** Man is constantly trying to find ways to prove that God does not exist, that He is, in fact, mere superstition believed by the less enlightened. As part of this philosophy man believes that all ills can and will eventually be cured as a result of intellect. There is no need for any supernatural intervention, no need for God. So in line with this thinking, pills have been invented and are touted as "addiction cures" These pills are basically dopamine blockers. They don't cure anything they simply block the pleasant consequences of using. They also serve to block feeling pleasure from other non addiction avenues which can lead to depression.

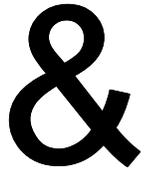
This would be fine if addiction were simply just an allergy to drugs, however it is not that simple. Abuse of and addiction to drugs affects us in many ways; socially, economically, physically, spiritually and psychologically. Simply popping a pill will not alleviate the struggles in these areas. You cannot cure the desire to escape by making freedom unpleasant.

The addict needs to know that he is powerless over his addiction and that it will require a power greater than himself to bring recovery from his addiction. It is at this point that we lose all the Humanists. We need to believe in God to recover from addiction? How absurd!

To persist in this line of thinking it requires redefining recovery as abstinence. We are told how John Q Public has used this pill and has been without a drink or drug for years with no side effects. The truth is, we know nothing about John Q except for what we are told. For all we know he could be beating his wife on a daily basis but we will not see that piece of information.

Recovery is about not using because you choose not to. While you were using you gave up the life God had intended for you. Recovery is getting that life back. It is about learning humility, self control, gratitude, love for self and others. There are no pills for these. This is where humanism falls flat on its face. The list above did not come from man but from God.

God has provided us with doctors and medicine to help us when we need it however it is no replacement for recovery. Churches the world over should ensure that they have a group in place for helping the addict to recover through the power of God. **Have a question? Send it to [faq@chemicalrecovery.org](mailto:faq@chemicalrecovery.org)**



## THE VICTORY OF REASON

### Rodney Stark A CR Book Review

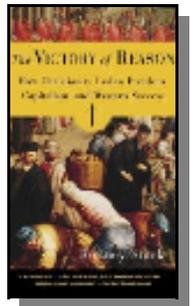
Against current political correctness, author Rodney Stark sets his sights on proving that Western civilization's unparalleled success rests squarely upon the shoulders of Christianity. And while it has become trendy to blame Christianity for all of the world's ills, Mr. Stark's meticulous research provides ample evidence to the contrary. Delivering not only a well-reasoned argument but moreover an insurmountable tidal wave of historical data, that leaves one asking "Why is there any question about this in the first place?"

Central to this endeavor is his assertion that Christianity stands alone amongst other world religions in inviting mankind to enter into a personal relationship with God and by extension the things of God. In so doing Mr. Stark deftly explains the groundbreaking social impetus necessary for the inquiry and discovery that has propelled the west towards modernity.

These are bold statements indeed, yet the author systematically proves his point by challenging and refuting accepted notions. "The Dark Ages" for example were anything but dark in Mr. Stark's opinion. Rather than being backward he describes early monastic settlements of the ninth century as being hives of industry where the collective pursuit of profit was viewed as a right use of resources, with profits being reinvested back into the enterprise to yield even greater returns. Similarly eleventh century Italian city states like Venice and Florence, flourished in new found prosperity as local merchants learned for the first time to manufacture the goods which previously had been imported, instead of merely trading in raw materials. Throughout this period in various parts of Western Europe the seeds of the great economic engine we know today as capitalism were first sown and eventually took root, as men worked to discover new ways to improve their lives.

Mr. Stark also dispels the notion that Christianity is in some way at odds with scientific discovery (the modus operandum of technological innovation for the last one thousand years), by arguing and proving that it was again the Christian monastic communities that sought to advance higher learning both in terms of theological as well as scientific discovery. The earliest universities were organized and administered by religious orders, in the name of knowing God more fully. Again, rather than resisting the utilization of scientific methods it was in these centers of Christian learning that the free flow of ideas gave birth to a world of scientific research hitherto unheard of until that time.

Beginning with the uniquely Christian concept of the rights and responsibilities of the individual, Mr. Stark carefully analyzes the convergence of the revolutionary ideas within Christianity that have yielded what we today know and experience as western civilization. These same ideas and values have ultimately produced and maintained the expansion of order and stability in our world for hundreds of years. At its core is the acceptance that there is a God who has a clear and concise plan for how men should live. A plan that we can and should know by simply connecting our faith in Him to logic and logic to reason.



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**Total Recovery | Biblical Authority | Accountability | Truth In Love | Empathy | Willingness To Change | Eternal Fellowship | Outreach**