

# Freestone Park Constitution Week



## Newsletter

Vol. 1

Num 7



## Communism and the United Order

To frame a discussion concerning the differences between Communism and the United Order, one must have an understanding of what Communism is, how Socialism fits into the picture and then you can see how these are Satan's imitations of the Lord's Plan, and are in no way the same thing.

### ***A few words on Communism:***

#### ***Heber J Grant -***

The Church does not interfere, and has no intention of trying to interfere, with the fullest and freest exercise of the political franchise of its members, under and within our Constitution which the Lord declared: "I established . . . by the hands of wise men whom I raised up unto this very purpose" [D&C 101:80], and which, as to the principles thereof, the Prophet, dedicating the Kirtland Temple, prayed should be "established forever" [D&C 109:54].

But Communism is not a political party nor a political plan under the Constitution; it is a system of government that is the opposite of our Constitutional government, and it would be necessary to destroy our government before Communism could be set up in the United States.

Since Communism, established, would destroy our American Constitutional government, to support Communism is treasonable to our free institutions, and no patriotic American citizen may become either a Communist or supporter of Communism. . . .

Furthermore, it is charged by universal report, which is not successfully contradicted or disproved, that Communism undertakes to control, if not indeed to proscribe the religious life of the people living within its jurisdiction, and that it even reaches its hand into the sanctity of the family circle itself, disrupting the normal relationship of parent and child, all in a manner unknown and unsanctioned under the Constitutional guarantees under which we in America live. Such interference would be contrary to the fundamental precepts of the Gospel and to the teachings and order of the Church. Communism being thus hostile to loyal American citizenship and incompatible with true Church membership, of necessity no loyal American citizen and no faithful Church member can be a Communist.

We call upon all Church members completely to eschew Communism. The safety of our divinely inspired Constitutional government and the welfare of our Church imperatively demand that Communism shall have no place in America.

#### ***Hugh B. Brown -***

The threat of communism is sinister, and its dangers are imminent. Hundreds of millions of our fellow beings are being relentlessly imbued with the satanic ideology that religion is nothing but a tranquilizing opiate. They seek to deprive men of physical, mental, and spiritual freedom while endowing the state with monstrous supremacy. This relentless indoctrination is but a continuation of the war that began when Satan's plan of force was rejected by the Father. We live in the most dangerous period of history. The church is the main bulwark against Communism. The entire concept and philosophy of Communism is diametrically opposed to everything for which the Church stands. It destroys man's God-given free agency. No member of this Church can be true to his faith, nor can any American be loyal to his trust, while lending aid, encouragement, or sympathy to any of these false philosophies; for if he does, they will prove snares to his feet.

## ***A few words on Socialism:***

### ***Heber J Grant -***

There are different views among Socialists as to the manner in which this radical change is to be effected, but when pressed to a declaration of their intents, the declaration is made that when a sufficient number of adherents to Socialism is obtained, holding the voting power, a government is to be set up by this majority which will exercise compulsory force to dispossess property owners... and the establishment of a tyranny greater than any form of oppression ever known to the world.

We call upon all Church members completely to eschew Communism. The safety of our divinely inspired Constitutional government and the welfare of our Church imperatively demand that Communism shall have no place in America.

### ***Ezra Taft Benson -***

We must ever keep in mind that collectivized socialism is part of the communistic strategy. Communism is fundamentally socialism. When Socialism is understood, we will realize that many of the programs advocated, and some of these already adopted in the U.S., fall clearly within the category of Socialism. What is Socialism? It is simply governmental ownership or management of the essential means for the production and distribution of goods. The socialistic-communistic conspiracy to weaken the U.S. involves attacks on many fronts. Their press and other propaganda media are therefore constantly selling the principles of centralized or federal control of farms, railroads, electric power, schools, steel, shipping, and many other aspects of the economy - but always in the name of public welfare.

There is no freedom under full socialism. Our fight is freedom vs. creeping socialism. A good measurement is to determine the amount, or percentage, of income of people which is taken over and spent by the state.

## ***Socialism/Communism is not the same as the United Order:***

### ***Heber J Grant -***

We again warn our people in America of the constantly increasing threat against our inspired Constitution and our free institutions set up under it. The same political tenets and philosophies that have brought war and terror in other parts of the world are at work amongst us in America. The proponents thereof are seeking to undermine our own form of government and to set up instead one of the forms of dictatorships now flourishing in other lands. . . .  
. . . Communism and all other similar *isms* bear no relationship whatever to the United Order. They are merely the clumsy counterfeits which Satan always devises of the gospel plan. . . . Latter-day Saints cannot be true to their faith and lend aid, encouragement, or sympathy to any of these false philosophies. They will prove snares to their feet.

### ***Marion G. Romney-***

In distinguishing communism from the United Order, Pres. David O. McKay said that communism is Satan's counterfeit for the gospel plan, and that it is an avowed enemy of God. Communism is the greatest anti Christ power in the world today and therefore the greatest menace not only to our peace but to our preservation as a free people. To the extent to which we tolerate it, accommodate ourselves to it, permit ourselves to be encircled by its tentacles and drawn to it, to that extent we forfeit the protection of the God of this land.

***Much more on this is included in the included Conference talks.***

## ***\*What is to be done?***

### ***Ezra Taft Benson -***

What can priesthood holders do? We should become informed about communism, socialism and about Americanism. What better way can one become informed than by first studying the inspired words of the prophets and using them as a foundation against which to test all other material? We should know why collectivism or unnecessary federal supervision will hold our standard of living down and reduce productivity. We should know why the communist leaders consider socialism the high road to communism. We should treat socialistic-communism as the tool of Satan. We should follow the counsel of the President of the Church and resist the influence and policies of the conspiracy wherever they are found in the schools, in the churches, in government, in unions, in business, in agriculture. We should help those who have been deceived or who are misinformed to find the truth. Unless each person who knows the truth will stand up and speak up, it is difficult for the deceived or confused citizen to find his way back. Thousands of patriotic Americans, including Latter-day Saints, have helped the communists without realizing it. Each priesthood holder should use his influence in the community to resist the erosion which is taking place in our political and economic life. He should see that his party is working to preserve freedom, not destroy it. He should join responsible local groups interested in promoting freedom and free competitive enterprise, in studying political issues, promoting good men in public office and scrutinizing local, state, and federal agencies. He should not wait for the Lord's servants to give instruction for every detail. In doing these things, a member of the Church is not only making himself an opponent of the adversary, but a proponent of the Lord. May God give us the wisdom to recognize the threat to our freedom and strength to meet this danger.

### ***J. Ruben Clark -***

This gigantic world-wide struggle, more and more takes on the form of war to the death. We shall do well and wisely so to face and so to enter it. And we must all take part. Indeed, we all are taking part in that struggle, whether we will or not. Upon its final issue, liberty lives or dies.

This earth-wide conflict has taken the form of seizing without compensation from the man who has, and giving to the man who has not; of taking from the worker the fruits of his work, and giving to the idler who does not work. It has from its very nature become an economic, uncompensated leveling downward, not upwards of the whole mass. That this result may in one country be reached by confiscatory taxation, and in another by direct seizure, is a mere matter of method. The results is the same. In some countries outright seizure and confiscation are already openly and shamelessly practiced. All is done in the name of the state, as if it were deity – as if the state, not God gives all. Even into the field of family relationship, which, next to man's relationship to God, is the most precious and dearest of all relationships, this modern State is thrusting its polluting hand. In some lands this new State is robbing the parents of custody of their children, it is forbidding the parents to teach and admonish the children in the ways of righteous living; it is teaching the children that officers of State, not God, shall be looked to for a guide as to standards of life! Into the field of religion, the holy of holies of the soul of man, this modern world State also enters, to dethrone God and exalt the State into God's place. This is the archest reason of them all! For man robbed of God becomes a brute. This sin must be felt, not told, for words cannot measure the height and breadth of this iniquity; nor can human mind encompass the punishment of those who shall commit this sin.

***\*What is to be done? - I love to use this phrase because this was the name of a Communist pamphlet that V.I. Lenin said inspired him to get involved in the Communist movement. It reminds me that this phrase should be a call to action to stop those who would take our freedom.***

## So What is Communism?

Because much of what we have read has been pretty generic in its description of Communism, I thought I'd just illustrate some of the basics for people who have never studied Communist theory. Rather than muddle through the convoluted arguments of *Das Kapital*, let's look at just a few of the basics as outlined by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in *The Communist Manifesto* (which was written for common people to understand) and see if we haven't seen some of this being propagated in countries all over the world, including our own: *(I have added the emphasis)* *[or comments and clarification- items in blue are my words]* and used whole passages to keep the context.

**Abolition of the family!** *[as referred to by President Grant above]* Even the most radical flare up at this infamous proposal of the Communists.

On what foundation is the present family, the bourgeois *[the Bourgeois means the wealthy, and the middle class property owners who have been seduced by them, who believe the Capitalist propaganda and oppress the "Workers" or "Proletariat"]* family, based? On capital, on private gain. In its completely developed form this family exists only among the bourgeoisie. But this state of things finds its complement in the practical absence of the family among the proletarians, and in public prostitution. *[because the poor are so oppressed, they already have begun to abolish families on their own, to make a living]*

**The bourgeois family will vanish as a matter of course** when its complement vanishes, and both will vanish with the vanishing of capital.

Do you charge us with wanting to stop the exploitation of children by their parents? To this crime we plead guilty. But, you will say, we destroy the most hallowed of relations, when **we replace home education by social.** *[Indoctrination of the young with socialist ideals - teaching them to honor their social class over family]*

And your education! Is not that also social, and determined by the social conditions under which you educate, by the intervention, direct or indirect, of society, by means of schools, etc? *[Basically, we are just proposing our own indoctrination instead of the old indoctrination of the Capitalist]* The Communists have not invented the intervention of society in education; they do but **seek to alter the character of that intervention, and to rescue education from the influence of the ruling class.** *[Meaning stopping the teaching of freedom and Capitalism by the Bourgeoisie]*

The bourgeois clap-trap about the family and education, **about the hallowed co-relation of parent and child, becomes all the more disgusting,** the more, by the action of Modern Industry, all family ties among the proletarians are torn asunder, and their children transformed into simple articles of commerce and instruments of labour.

Of course, in the beginning, this cannot be effected except by means of **despotic inroads on the rights of property,** *[this can only be done by taking away property rights]* and on the conditions of bourgeois production; by means of measures, therefore, which appear economically insufficient and untenable, but which, in the course of the movement, outstrip themselves, necessitate further inroads upon the old social order, and are unavoidable as a means of entirely revolutionizing the mode of production. *[This will have to be done gradually because we need to use the current infrastructure to get us going, this is the only way to accomplish it,]*

These measures will of course be different in different countries.

Nevertheless, in the most advanced countries, the following will be pretty generally applicable:

1. Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to public purposes. *[The Federal government owns about 30% of the land in the country including 48% of Arizona, 45% of California, over half of Utah, Oregon and Idaho, 69% of Alaska, and 84% of Nevada - now Congress debates about what part of the land it will allow the people the honor of paying to use]*
2. A heavy progressive or graduated income tax. *[When Marx wrote this the U.S. had no income tax, when income taxes started out it was only 1% of the income of the very wealthy, The people didn't complain, so eventually it worked it way up to where the top marginal rate has been as high as 90% under the Carter Administration, and today 97% of all federal income taxes are paid by 50% of the people. Even with all of the "tax cuts for the wealthy" with the top 5% of wage earners paying 54% of the taxes (an increase of 1% since 2002). the fact that we even have these taxes is a Communist tenant]*
3. Abolition of all right of inheritance. *[Today, thousands of farms and businesses are lost as families cannot afford the punitive "death tax" in our country, and there are many in Congress today, trying to return it to the higher levels that once existed and then raise them even higher]*

4. Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels. *[This is all part of the attempt to pick society apart by attacking small groups of individuals, demonizing them, making them unpopular, than taking away their rights one a time. Eventually you take the property of everyone.]*
5. Centralization of credit in the hands of the State, by means of a national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly. *[The Federal Reserve System. In the last few days we have seen the Federal Reserve buying out huge chunks of the national economy.]*
6. Centralization of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the State. *[The FCC, the US DOT, AmTrak, etc. etc. etc.]*
7. Extension of factories and instruments of production owned by the State; the bringing into cultivation of wastelands, and the improvement of the soil generally in accordance with a common plan. *[Since they have not yet gained control of production, instead the government limits the use of land by private entities. They want to confiscate the land then dole it out in a centralized way " in accordance with a common plan"]*
8. Equal liability of all to labour. Establishment of industrial armies, especially for agriculture. *[Just a bunch of "All power to the Proletariat" gobbledegook. They want farms run by laborers, not by land owners]*
9. Combination of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of the distinction between town and country, by a more equable distribution of the population over the country. *[What has happened to small family run farms? There are many in the environment movement today trying to stop "Urban Sprawl" by stopping the growth of suburbs, forcing workers into the larger cities and saying that we must eat food only grown in our own local area (generally within a few dozen miles) - thus forcing us into large self contained cities with limited freedom of movement ]*
10. Free education for all children in public schools. Abolition of children's factory labour in its present form. Combination of education with industrial production, &c., &c. *[Realize, we had no federal "Department of Education" until the last year of the Carter Administration, since that time the cost of education has skyrocketed, while test scores have declined, etc. The Communists would have our schools be a place of indoctrination and training for industrial labor in the areas deemed necessary by the State. Being taught the curriculum approved by the State rather than by parents and local communities]*

This of course is just the tip of the iceberg; the talking points and the political ideas to get people to go along with the plan. In practice, Communism was far more murderous. Here are a few numbers. The following estimates represent citizens *killed or starved to death by their own Communist governments* since 1918. *These numbers do not include war dead, from civil war or those of other Countries they attacked.*

People's Republic of China:	73,237,000 (1949 - Present)
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:	61,911,000 (1918 - 1987 {no stats from 1987-1991})
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	3,163,000 (1948 - Present)
Democratic Kampuchea (Cambodia)	2,627,000 (1975 - 1987)
Democratic Republic of Afghanistan	1,750,000 (1978 - 1992)
Socialist Republic of Vietnam	1,670,000 (1975 - Present)
People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia	1,343,610 (1974 - 1991)
Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	1,072,000 (1945 - 1992)
Chinese Soviet Republic	700,000 (1931 - 1934 - only 2 Chinese provinces)
People's Republic of Mozambique	700,000 (1945 - 1990)

Note, this is just the top 10 list and excludes (In order of deaths) Mozambique, Romania, Bulgaria, Angola, Mongolia, Albania, Cuba, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Laos, Hungary, Poland and Yemen. Nor does it include the millions of forced abortions, particularly in China). Altogether they have killed around 150,000,000 of their own people!

For a very interesting look at the early years of Communism I highly recommend W. Cleon Skousen's book *The Naked Communist*.