



## THE NEW PAGANISM III

If you ask many Catholics now what the meaning of the word *Eucharist* is, you will probably get, “Well, you know, it’s what we receive at the Eucharist!” What do you receive? It’s what you **think** you receive! See how the new paganism plays a part here? That’s why the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church was so important. Another effect of the new paganism is that back in the late 90’s, there were never so many requests of nullity for priests who were asking not just to be dispensed from the obligation of their priesthood but to have their priestly ordination declared invalid. Why? Because some never knew what a priest really is because it is dependent on what each person *thinks* it is! It’s the same with requests for annulments in marriage. What’s marriage? It is what each person thinks for themselves!

## THE CONSEQUENCES

What have been the effects or the consequences of this new paganism in the modern world? In one declarative sentence it can be stated: **THEY HAVE BEEN DEVASTATING.**

The new paganism has produced a whole generation of persons who may still call themselves Christians or even Catholics but the behavior contradicts the most fundamental principles of Christianity. Christianity teaches us that God gave us a mind to know Him to discover what God wants us to do, and we have a free will to choose what God wants. We can no longer make the assumption that a person knows who God is! Millions no longer do know Who God is!

What does the new paganism teach? Well, it does teach us that we do have a mind to *know*! To know what? To know what we want to do! For many people that is the first law of their lives. They go to school and learn as much as they can in order to know what they want to do. The idea of acquiring knowledge is to find what God what us to do! This notion of finding out what God wants us to do is not pre-conciliar, it is pre-scientific! So behind most higher education in the modern world is the feeding of the mind with what each person wants to do.

We have a mind. We have a mind to learn things. What should we learn? Well, what else but to learn what I want to do with the learning that I acquire. Judaism and Christianity have taught over the centuries that we have a free will in order to choose what God wants us to do. The new paganism reverses the whole purpose of having a will. It says that the purpose of having a will is to choose what I want. So the neo-pagan will say to those of faith, “You can’t be serious? Are you telling me I have a free will to do somebody else’s will?” So the new paganism has penetrated the society in which we live so that even to talk differently is to expose oneself to the risk of being called psychotic. For example, Sigmund Freud’s definition of psychosis is “that mental disorder which makes people *think* there is a God or a supreme being.” Freud said that if that is not psychosis, then what is?

More and more today many people with a Christian conscience are thought of as loons because they still think sexual pleasure is something which should be controlled and that you just don’t derive as much pleasure as you can from the reproductive faculties that you have. Our bodies are not our own. Just because something gives me pleasure does not mean, well, why not go all the way. So many think that freedom is license to do whatever you please when in fact freedom is there to allow us to do that which we ought to do, namely love God.

One way the new paganism has penetrated modern society is the sea of make-believe that is produced by the electronic and print media. There is so much fiction now. For example, the news is sifted and edited, until it is determined what should be said and not said. Everything is edited. There is a prior norm in the mind of those who are controlling our media how the minds of millions who watch TV or listen to radio, how their minds are to be shaped. There is very little we can trust from the media any longer. You are only being told what they want you to hear.