Someone recently asked how I developed my **living God model**, *to which I responded…* I am not a Biblical Literalist; I do not believe a lot of the events given in the Bible literally happened; *or at least not literally as written*. Rather I regard them as **partly representative**, but representative of real issues humanity has to face up to & get under some type of **best practice** management.

In my view representative is more important than literal, as it attests humanity *finding it within its higher self* to engage critical issues. Issues which determine both our creditworthiness & fate as a species; so seeking to bring them out in some good, ***or at least better,*** place.

Thus the Bible appeals to **the pure of heart**; to rise above our crass common natures & live in some higher or more transcendent state. I hold the Biblical God as the top 10% of our capabilities, he whom we call Satan as the bottom 10%, & our more normative natures & creeds operating on some graduated scale in between.

Confucianism, Hinduism & civil religion for instance are not transcendent enough to come from the Biblical God; but not that low to the ground they originate from Satan either.

Confucianism, Hinduism, civil religion plus a range of other faiths are not transcendent enough to come from the Biblical God *(not from the top 10% of our capacities)*; but not that crassly self-serving they originate from Satan *(not from the bottom 10% of our capacities)*either.

Rather, the creeds of the various tribes & nations of Ishmael; are what I choose to call the **intermediate faiths**.

Where no human can be totally pure, the servants of the Biblical God aspire to be as pure as we can be while still remaining part fallen humans. By comparison Islam’s Muhammad still had some good in him as all humans have; yet went as close to being a servant of Satan as any part-good human can.

On **the living God model**; no I did not invent it. As Genesis commences in the early Axial-age when humanity was grappling with new challenges; it is observable the Bible develops through figures like Abraham, Moses, Isaiah & St Paul to name but a few. These are developing interactively with the growth in knowledge & growing human empowerment across a whole range of fields throughout the great axial-age.

After the Bible was declared a closed Book; the **Church tradition** still clove to the living God model. The works of say Augustine, Pope Gregory the Great, Thomas Aquinas & the Reformation leaders like Luther & Calvin continued to interactively respond to broad-based human advance; plus subsequent changes in the terms & conditions of human existence as such occurred.

I do not regard the living God model as invented by me or anyone else. Rather I hold it **self-evident** to anyone who looks at the progressive development of the faith over time & changing circumstance.

I work in the field of **design engineering** in religions & social systems; I hold the Bible & all other creeds do likewise with varying degrees of success.

Where all humans are in some part good & some part fallen I am very much in the **percentages business.**

I hold the Biblical faiths as **seventy percenters**; we have got it about seventy percent sound & right; about thirty percent in error. I hold the Biblical faiths as near perfect. 70% sound is about as high a margin of trueness humanity can have. 30% fallen is as low a margin of human error humanity can have if we are to learn & develop at all. Without capacity for error we would be like the animals in a state of **zero development stasis**; only by being in some part fallen or error-prone can we explore & make the mistakes necessary to develop, learn & grow toward more advanced states at all.

This is why the Biblical God is forgiving of human error; *contingent on us not mindlessly repeating the same mistakes we did yesterday over & over, while expecting a different result.*  He forgives mistakes we repent & learn from, so changing our ways; which leaves us free to build on what we get right *(in this higher God)* while making yet other mistakes we can similarly learn & develop from as we go forward.  *(No matter how much we improve, we never achieve perfection; we would stop learning & developing if we did)*

I hold the matrix of most other creeds as about the **fifty five percenters**, *perhaps sixty percenters:* in being about 55-60% enlightened & about 45-40% error prone. The good news is these creeds of Ishmael still have a margin in our favor, yet the margin is much reduced as Ishmael is something of a slow learner; so every advance in these creeds is obtained at greater cost & casualty to ourselves.

By comparison Muhammad was not totally bad, he still had some good in him as we all do; but he suffered from more human failing than most. Thus I call the Islam raised in his name to be a **thirty percenter,** as it seems about 30% sound & 70% error prone or aberrant. *(Perhaps 40-60 on a good day)*  The problem for Muslims is no matter how hard they strive for better things, **you can’t beat those margins;** the percentages are implacably stacked against your every effort. Thus when followers of the Bible attest Muslims go to hell; they are probably right.

Islam demands our higher natures ~submit~ to the misrule of our lowest natures. If it believes the higher nature of the Biblical Trinity, or the intermediate natures of the various tribes & nations of Ishmael will submit to the lowest common denominator; it can dream on.

Lastly indigenous or natural religions pre-date higher human development; so cannot provide a management system for ongoing higher development; when they don’t even understand the question.

Natural religions who believe the natural world has dominion over us; cannot guide a more highly developing species which; *Genesis 1:28* has been granted dominion over the earth & all it contains. As part-Maori myself; I hope I can say that without automatically being branded **racist!**

To put my position on two points in Genesis; I hold Adam & Eve being kicked out of the Garden of Eden as representatively true, but also **literally true** at least to some extent. Its dating suggests as early axial age man tentatively developed higher abstract knowledge; we could no longer remain in the state of innocence, *be it superstitious or otherwise;* of the hunter-gatherer societies & their subject-hood to the natural or Indigenous religions which exercised suzerainty over them.

Thus while the tale of Adam & Eve is in some part representatively true; it is also literally true we got kicked out of an early state of innocence, *or ignorance,* by eating off the tree of higher knowledge.

On Noah’s flood this seems to be a retained memory of rising waters which occurred during the melt-down from the last ice age. It is held these raised sea levels by up to 120 meters. As most human settlement is coastal or on low-land plains; this means societies retreated before rising water levels over a period of several centuries. *People associated floods with rain, so it was presumed somewhere it had rained & rained* ***& rained.*** *Societies who had little knowledge of what was happening even 100 miles in any direction; had no other explanation for all this water inexplicably flooding their world.* The Bible turned this literal physical event into a moral lesson; *examining failings in our own nature which* ***might have*** *bought such calamity on ourselves;* because that is what the Bible does.

Off note is neither Biblical lesson concluded we should revert to an earlier state of innocence *or ignorance.* Rather both cautioned us to develop higher knowledge **with care** & beware of becoming too arrogant in presuming it the remedy to all our problems.

It is important to realize Biblical stories are **NOT** a set of fables, a work of fiction, or a human invention. Rather they are events that actually happened, which made us take **a close deep look** at ourselves.

The early development of knowledge was supposed to make things better; instead it confronted us with new challenges & placed new demands on ourselves. As I posit in my works on the law of money; every-time you grow the power of the head side of a coin; the down-side grows on pro-rata basis. Thus every increase in power & knowledge; imposes a proportionately greater burden of responsibility on ourselves. Responsibilities we could ignore in a Garden of Eden state of innocence, *or ignorance;* in our more developed state we have to **take ownership off** & bring under management.

Likewise as the melt-down from the last ice-age forced us to **relocat**e to higher ground; so making us ask if our striving for higher development in same way angered the Gods. Today this deep self-questioning is **highly relevant**; as the higher development of modernity is denuding the environment causing us to contemplate we may have to relocate to the domains of space.

23/06/2017; sent as an ~open letter~ to the writers off <http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11893042>

My own position is in our times we have reached the limits of mass lateral expansion we call GDP growth. Environmental limits & environmental decline; global warming, over-population plus creative accounting & deficit financing just printing money on demand; COMBINE to inform us continuous mass lateral expansion can only culminate in disaster.

In sum we need to disdain continuing mass lateral expansion as potentially **humacidal;** *extinguishing humanity as a whole. The alternative is humanity could survive, we are quite tough; but only in such materially & environmentally reduced circumstance we would be unable to continue developing. This could result in a sort of* ***standing dark-age****, where hopelessness, despair & the sheer pointlessness of life reign supreme. Such a society is likely to be ruled by gang-wars, anti-social behaviors or anarchy; suffer from depression & high rates of suicide.* We need a **hinge of history event**; one in which humanity changes course & direction to engage the new paradigm we are now presented with.

It is our good fortune as one door closes yet another door has opened UPWARDS. The vertical growth of knowledge, technology & science seem ~open-ended~ in nature, indeed to proffer some type of VERTICAL INFINITY.

To secure that future; society must RESTRUCTURE, into a smaller, leaner, meaner but inherently ~smarter~ machine. One which reduces population numbers by say -2%pa; reduces the material impacts of GDP by say -2%pa; which combined with technological efficiency might reduce environmental impacts by say -5%pa.

At the same time we need to growing knowledge, technology & science at say +2%pa or more.

We need engage & openly debate youth concerns for the future; by admitting their expectations cannot be met by the current mass lateral expansion ethos; but an exciting **if challenging** future is available to them by social restructure to pursue continuous vertical development. Such an open & frank debate would probably do more to address youth concerns & suicide rates; than anything else we could do.

Lastly we need to admit while race does not matter culture & religion does. Culture & religion be it Hinduism, Confucianism, Christianity, Islam, Maoritangi or civil religions are INTENDED to determine end outcomes; that is why we invest so much in them.

In their article Noelle McCarthy and John Daniell are themselves trying to bring forth a new culture in their bid to change outcomes. While there is clear evidential validation race does not matter much; there is equal evidential validation culture & religion do matter, & matter significantly in determining end outcomes for society.

Thus modern society must ask just which cultural or religious ethos is most likely to secure the ONLY VIABLE FUTURE WE CAN HAVE.

On that note I refer people to my own works like ~Composition of the Trinity~ 7 pages & ~Pathology of SIN~ 6 pages; posted to my Homepage… <http://communichristi.org.nz/>

In closing please be aware; while race does not matter religion & culture do matter in determining end outcomes; that is why we invest so much in them.

If we are to secure this **laterally constrained vertically open-ended future**; we better choose the social management culture & religion that is up to the job.

……………………………

In conclusion, while the world of past societies part-changed over a human lifetime; *the pace of change was slow*, so the world remained largely familiar to people of all ages.

By comparison the pace of change has accelerated to such an extent; the world I was born into in 1947 *effectively* no longer exists; while the emerging new world is so profoundly different it is *in many ways* a foreign & alien society to me.

For the incoming generation the emerging new world is **real**; past societies foreign & alien.

I work in design engineering of religions & engineering social restructure to adapt to the incoming world. (Very modern) It surprises people that Biblically I live in the Book of Genesis. It quite literally is my meat & drink. (Very ancient)

One of the reasons; Genesis is where we re-engineered society as humanity exited the Stone-age to enter what we now call the Axial-age. Today we need to re-engineer to address the changed terms of conditions of human existence in modernity; the so-called Knowledge-age.

Thus, 6,000 years old though it is; Genesis still speaks to the present! It contains many lessons & guidelines in religious & social re-engineering for a changing tomorrow, which is why I call this doc ~ancient & modern~

We need a **conversation** where the mature wisdom & experience of the outgoing generation (we have been around awhile; we know nothing is as easy as first advertised) **engages** with the enthusiasm & realism of the incoming generation.

Such a dialogue needs to be mutually respectful of what both parties have to offer; simultaneously being brutally frank open & honest; *which sounds something of a contradiction in terms.*

Yet both parties have a mutual interest in a VIABLE human future; so must engage with each other in mutual respect plus brutal frankness to craft a way forward. This is the **living spirit** in which this open public dialogue must take place; to ensure there is a viable human future in which people of all ages can vest their hope & trust; then work together **as one** to secure. km… close.