

## **WASTING NATURE: A Serious Response**

The gravity of cultural implosion globally happening isn't yet appreciated for the lasting impact it will have, for years, even centuries. Societal abuses bringing on implosion have been going on for centuries; but in the twentieth century they amplified in unprecedented and unsustainable ways.

Nature has been changed in lasting and profound ways, in some ways, irreversibly. It is quite sure that the "good life" of the last fifty years will not repeat. In some ways, that is good, and in others, bad.

**It's time to change THINKING and HABITS or the "bad" will get much worse.**

Globally, humanity is confronted with multi-faceted collapses of ecologies, economies, and institutions, whether business, religious, political or financial. Before these social calamities can be reversed, mitigated, societies need to understand more "organically" the moral failures that set the global stage for massive abuses and collapses of nature.

When an honest assessment is made and causes are understood and acknowledged, there is hope that moral correctives can be put in place and remedies applied to correct wrongdoing and restore ecologies, economies, future wellbeing.

The globally perilous state of cultural affairs has been troubling me since more than fifty years. I have come to believe that institutionally, religious/ civil culture (especially in the industrial Western world and its multi-national corporations) has been compounding illusion upon illusion by mistakenly hyping the place and privilege of humankind in the order of nature. Even now, religious culture presumes a self-serving faith that is radically disconnected from the order of nature from which all organic life arises and depends.

The worldview yet advanced in religious/ civil culture, and which justifies arrogance and self-aggrandizement, is mythical, without grounding in reality. The static-centric worldview that dates back two millennia is an illusory basis for cultural reliance. It is my sense that unless and until we get rid of the fraudulent worldview (theology) of staticism and centrism, and replace it (them) with a worldview consciousness/ theology of evolving reality, we will continue to deceive ourselves, behave tragically, waste nature and each other.

Universal problems scream for universal answers, answers that are informed in common natural processes and human dependence on them. Institutions that are beholden to the presumptions of the static-centric worldview are incapable of promoting a worldview that exposes the lies of their presumptions. It takes outsider vision, institutionally independent, that is honest with connections of causes and consequences, to see the problem and to propose workable solutions.

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For more than five decades, my lifetime commitment has been to inform myself in the cultural illusions of the static-centric worldview (SWV) and the problems associated with them, and to develop a communal strategy to advance universal awareness of the evolutionary worldview (EWV) and the universal moral implications of it.

In this time I've been working to develop an interdisciplinary approach to the problem and toward a universal sense of moral imperatives dictated by the essential interdependency of all life, and the dependency of all life on organic linkages in ecosystems defined by geography, biology and cultural evolution.

The advances of evolutionary science and the broad cultural knowledge of science that prevails, make it morally intolerable for institutions to rely on presumptions that can't be justified in reality to common, scientific awareness. Religious faith is misinformed if it has no awareness of evolution's imperatives. Correcting the lack of religious awareness of evolution seems on its face to be the priority beginning for culture, for religion. Any meaningful change in society toward greater responsibility and moral conduct has to be based on solid fact bases of relationships in nature and all life in it.

For purposes of enabling personal and social growth into moral and practical understandings of connections in the world of organic/ religious evolution, I have developed and put online a syllabus of "Joined Faith/Evolution Study" that exposes the connections of cultural/ religious illusion to the static-centric worldview, and that points the way to implementing a change of worldview consciousness and greater moral appreciation for nature and human connections in nature and all other life.

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New thinking and new behaving are first steps to self-healing and healing of nature. By studying the Faith/Evolution syllabus we may experience immediate encouragement and greater self-esteem because when we try to find harmony with nature, nature gives back in kind.

Why not begin a study group in your church, in your community? Why not at least begin now to move your own personal life toward living more sensitively and sustainably with nature?

[www.secondenlightenment.org](http://www.secondenlightenment.org)  
[www.evolution101.org](http://www.evolution101.org)

**Do what you can to spread the word! Thank you.**  
**Sylvester L. Steffen**

## PARADIGMATIC NATURE

### The Joined FAITH / EVOLUTION Syllabus

#### **Evolution 101: Cultural Orientation:**

Consciousness, enlightenment, and symbiotic living advance wellbeing-in-common when personal living focuses on wellbeing. By the purposeful direction of intentional living, conscionable wellbeing thrives in personal/communal living. (**THE GLOBAL THINKING COMMUNITY; 2000: SUMMARY PREVISION TOWARD GLOBAL REVITALIZATION**).

#### **Evolution 202: Programmatic History:**

Enlightenment (consciousness) advances by reflection and awareness of Natural Law (**PRIMARY SCRIPTURE**), nature's intensions and intentions; by the harmony of reason, faith and purpose (**QUANTUM RELIGION**); and by the mindfulness of dialog, discernment and decision (**RELIGION & CIVILITY**).

#### **Evolution 303: Plateaus of Consciousness:**

The example of personal living radiates "conscious light". Trust is the ground virtue of wellbeing (**THE POSSIBLE JOURNEY**); Eucharist is selflessness experienced in action (**WHAT SELF-DONATION IS**). All life attenuates the energies of selflessness and flourishes in the "cultural spectrum" (**GREEN RELIGION**).

#### **Evolution 404: Intension/Intention and Spiritual/Secular Harmony:**

The resonance of purpose harmonizes in words, ideas, and spreads as a warming light that stimulates newness (**NOVOGENESIS**); the iterations of life are aware in attenuated energy (**METAGENESIS**); uplifted consciousness authenticates spirituality/ secularity (**THEOGENESIS**). God shines through in the Godlikeness of living.