

God: The Immutable Frame of Reference

By Ben Bilyeu

One's frame of reference is the immutable unit in one's life, which permits one to know where one is and to know what one is. One's frame of reference is that absolute criterion which gives direction, order, predictability and control to one's environment and value and identity to one's person. Stated simply, a frame of reference is one's guide in life! For a child, the frame of reference is his parents. For a student his frame of reference is his teachers. In each case, the parent and the teacher give direction to the child and to the student and with direction, purpose and value. The frame of reference for a pilot is the horizon, and for the captain of a ship the frame of reference is the north magnetic pole of the earth. In both instances, the horizon and the magnetic pole are the absolutes which permit each voyager to know where he is. The frame of reference is the plane of orientation, the person or thing in a person's life, which gives order, direction, control, self worth and thus meaning to one's life.

Most of life may be described by the terms "arbitrary" and "relative". In a world in which every person was the same height, the terms "tall" and "short" would be unintelligible. In fact, in such a world, these terms would not have come into existence! If every person exuded the same symmetry of appearance, would the designations "lovely", "plain", "ugly", or

"handsome", be meaningful? In a word—"no". Much of life may be described by the terms "arbitrary" and "relative". This is especially true of the synthetic reality that man has created: nations, schools, language, laws, ethics, politics, the legal system, etc. All of the frames of reference that secular man clings to in acquisition of order and identity—meaning in his life—are relative and wholly arbitrary.

In the synthetic reality that man has created—civilization—he directs his life by arbitrary and relative laws and values—'absolutes' that simply do not exist! Man has not—cannot—create absolute standards of values, of right and wrong whereby order and direction and individual worth are given to life! The best that man can do is to decree arbitrary/relative legislation and ethics and pretend—decree—that they are absolute! The laws and values of each nation are wholly relative in contrast to other nations. While nations go to war to impose their system upon other peoples, all the while flaunting supremacy, and while they go to great efforts to indoctrinate pride and patriotism as an immutable frame of reference, no nation possesses a system of values transcending the values of any other nation! Protagoras' axiom that "man is the measure of all things" is pseudo truth! Man is the measure of all things—all

things relative, all things arbitrary! **Nothing that man has created in his synthetic reality is absolute and transcendent! Everything is relative! There is no such thing as "truth", no such thing as "right" or "wrong"! Everything is in a state of flux. There is no certitude!**

Every person clings to someone or some thing which one deems to be bigger and thus stronger than oneself and by embracing this person or this object one acquires his/its strength, security and value. But the time honored values and "reasons for living" of citizenship, patriotism, wealth, status and pleasure that every hour of one's life are indoctrinated into one's mind as constituting the essence of life—the reasons for living are spurious because a mortal being cannot be saved from his mortality, nor can a terminal entity be made important! The inherent need for man to embrace The Absolute—The Immutable Frame of Reference, is the logical reflex of a being, who, intrinsically, is mortal, fallible, and yes, insignificant in his every endeavor.

Secular man has one and only one way to vanquish the charade of his existence and to find identity and self worth: by the embrace of the ultimate frame of reference—The Transcendent Being, e.g., God. Two postulates are relevant: If God exists; note, IF. (And by "God" is meant the being- the architect of

physical reality and the Author of Human kind), then this entity is the matrix of reality and de facto, is the measure of all things. If God exists and, if— IF —He (or She) has any premeditated empathy for the cosmic misery known as “Human Existence,” then He, alone, is The Frame of Reference that gives meaning to human existence!!

But....does this being exist? ©

2005 From The Existence of God: A Rational Inquiry by Ben Bilyeu P.O. Box 1452, Cookeville, TN. 38503 bilyeu@usit.net