



## ***Mataiotēs*: The Vacuum Created by Negative Volition Sucks in the Lie; Etymology of “Propaganda”; Pavlov Discovers Conditioned Reflex; Korean POWs**

**ματαιότης, *mataiotēs***: “vanity”; Latin: *vanitas*: emptiness; worthlessness; unreality. (*Cassell’s Latin English Dictionary*, s.v. “vanitas.”)

Emptiness, futility, purposelessness, transitoriness. “Futile things,” Ephesians 4:17; “high-sounding but empty words,” 2 Peter 2:18). (*A Greek-English of the New Testament*, 495).

**Kittel, Gerhard (ed.). *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*. (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1967), 4:519-523:**

**Outside the New Testament.** It denotes the world of appearance as distinct from that of being. When it is used and when it convinces, a value is assailed and a part of supposed being begins to sink into the world of mere appearance.

With the Old Testament a considerable number of Hebrew words pour their negative content into the Greek word. It’s distinctiveness in the Septuagint is that it is constantly used for the other world. God is known only to those to whom He has made Himself known. There can be no possibility of being kept from nothingness unless it is given by this one God. Whether this God for His part is a product of the human will, or whether He is as He says in the Old Testament, is itself not a matter for investigation, but of faith.

**In the New Testament.** **Μάταιος** has always had its basic sense of unreal or vain. Everything which resists the first commandment comes under the judgment of **μάταιος**, whether it be vaunting human thought or the concrete gods of paganism, or the conduct controlled by them.

**Acts 14:15 -** “We [ **Barnabus and Paul** ] are men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you in order that you should turn from vain things to a living God.”

**1 Peter 1:18 -** You were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers.

Even the community comes under the judgment of **μάταιος** the moment it ceases to cleave solely to God’s revelation. Its faith becomes vain, empty, vacuous once it ascribes to God an act which He has not done.

**ματαιότης**, speaks of the nothingness of man. Romans 8:20 tells us plainly that the state of “vanity” exists, and also that this has a beginning and end. Before its beginning and beyond its end is God.

**Romans 8:20 -** The creation was subjected to futility [ **absence of order; deterioration** ], not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it.

- 48) This amounts to the soul executing a data deletion process on the brain. Everything a person learns is etched into a memory trace in the brain and is flagged by volition as data the individual believes and accepts or disbelieves and rejects. This is how you evaluate incoming data: “I believe this; I don’t believe that.”
- 49) In reversionism the volition begins to convert those things once believed and accepted under positive volition and transfer them over to those things now disbelieved and rejected under negative volition.
- 50) This is data deletion. In computers often the program does not actually delete the record but merely flags it so that it is not included in data retrieval operations.



- 51) Likewise the soul has a data deletion process called negative volition toward doctrine. It does not actually delete doctrines from the brain's memory traces but flags them so that they are not included in data retrieval for decision-making, problem-solving, and sin management.
- 52) Doctrines once accepted are now rejected while those once rejected are now accepted. The process begins with confusion. A believer because of passive negative volition may be misled by incoming data from cosmic thinking.
- 53) Unaware of the deception, the reversionist may accept as truth a body of knowledge that is five-percent lie wrapped in 95-percent truth.
- 54) This is cosmic propaganda which presents the truth as a rhetorical veil in order to accomplish the hidden agenda of selling the lie. Example:  
  
"I believe that Jesus was a great teacher and wise prophet who did great things to help the poor, heal the sick, and encourage his followers. He was certainly a man of God whose manner of life is worth emulation."
- 55) The lie is that although Jesus Christ is a great guy He is not God. The propagandist can list *ad infinitum* great things about our Lord while sending the message that He is not God. He was a great guy who died as all men, but was not resurrected and therefore not the Savior.
- 56) A person can be misled by the Great Guy façade and through confusion conclude that Jesus is not really God but on the same par with other alleged Great Guys, e.g., Mahatma Gandhi, Buddha Gautama, or even, Abu al-Qasim Muhammad.
- 57) Cosmic propaganda is an effective tool to manipulate the souls of believers who are in reversionism and can result in brainwashing, i.e., changing the way he thinks.
- 58) Such was the case for Joash who when consistently counseled by his uncle Jehoiada it is said in 2 Kings 12:2 that he "did right in the sight of the Lord."
- 59) However, after Jehoiada died, Joash became an easy target for the propagandists of Baal. He bought the lie and this poor decision eventually led to murder.
- 60) Propaganda's original meaning goes back to 1622 and Pope Gregory XV. In an effort to win back those who were converted in the Protestant Reformation, Pope Gregory created the *Congregatio de Propaganda Fide*, The Congregation for Propagating the Faith. The original intent was to promote Catholicism by means of world missions. The word is taken from the Latin *propagare*, to propagate: to spread and promote an idea, theory, or knowledge. Over the centuries the definition has taken on a more sinister meaning:

**The Merriam-Webster New Book of Word Histories.** (Springfield: Merriam-Webster, Inc., Publishers, 1991), 378-79:

**Propaganda.** The ecclesiastical use of *Propaganda* was known in eighteenth-century English. By the 1790s, however, a generic use for this word had been found. It was applied to 'a group or movement organized for spreading a particular doctrine or system of principles'. By the 1840s this usage had acquired a derogatory connotation.

Early in the twentieth century we find *propaganda* used for 'the systematic dissemination of ideas, information, allegations, or rumors so as to promote or injure a particular cause'.

- 61) The scientific work done in Russia by Dr. Ivan Pavlov on digestion in animals led to his discovery of the "conditioned reflex." He trained a hungry dog to salivate at the sound of a bell, which was previously associated with the sight of food.



- 62) Pavlov's term "conditioned reflex" is defined in a book written in 1956 which documented the evil application of propaganda to Korean POWs:

**Hunter, Edward. *Brainwashing: The Story of Men Who Defied It*. (New York: Pyramid Books, 1956), 22-23, 25-27:**

*Conditioned*, in Pavlov's experiments, meant "induced by man, or by outside influences." Conditioned-reflex action can be brought about deliberately, and this is what the communist hierarchy now relies upon to make a basic change in human nature, to give birth to the "new Soviet man" in whom the conception of the individual *I* is to be replaced by the *we* of collectivity. In short, what the totalitarian state strives toward is no less than the insectivization of human beings. (pp. 22-23)

A conditioned reflex can be worked out to every stimulus. Any human activity, from the flow of saliva to an embrace or a murder, could be clinically predetermined in politico-medical laboratories by connecting it with a shouted or written slogan, a hand signal ... anything could be made into a trigger, or what Pavlovian doctors called a stimulus. What they had learned from the animals could be used to intrude into the mind and soul of man, to warp and change his brain. Brain-changing was the culmination of this whole evil process, when actual damage was done to a man's mind through drugs, hypnotism, or other means.

Dr. Leon Freedom explains how an animal possesses, in greater or lesser degree, the same senses and feelings as a man, up to a certain point. "Beyond that, man has something in addition that makes him Man. This is his reasoning faculty—his reasoned judgment and reasoned free will. This is what is meant by the divine in man, that differentiates him from all else that lives. So long as reason can be kept healthy and free, man's future is safe. (pp. 25-26)

"Insofar as a human being allows the divine traits in him to be overcome and his reasoning power—his judgment and free will—to be atrophied, he can be made into a demon, a puppet, a sick man psychologically." (p. 26)