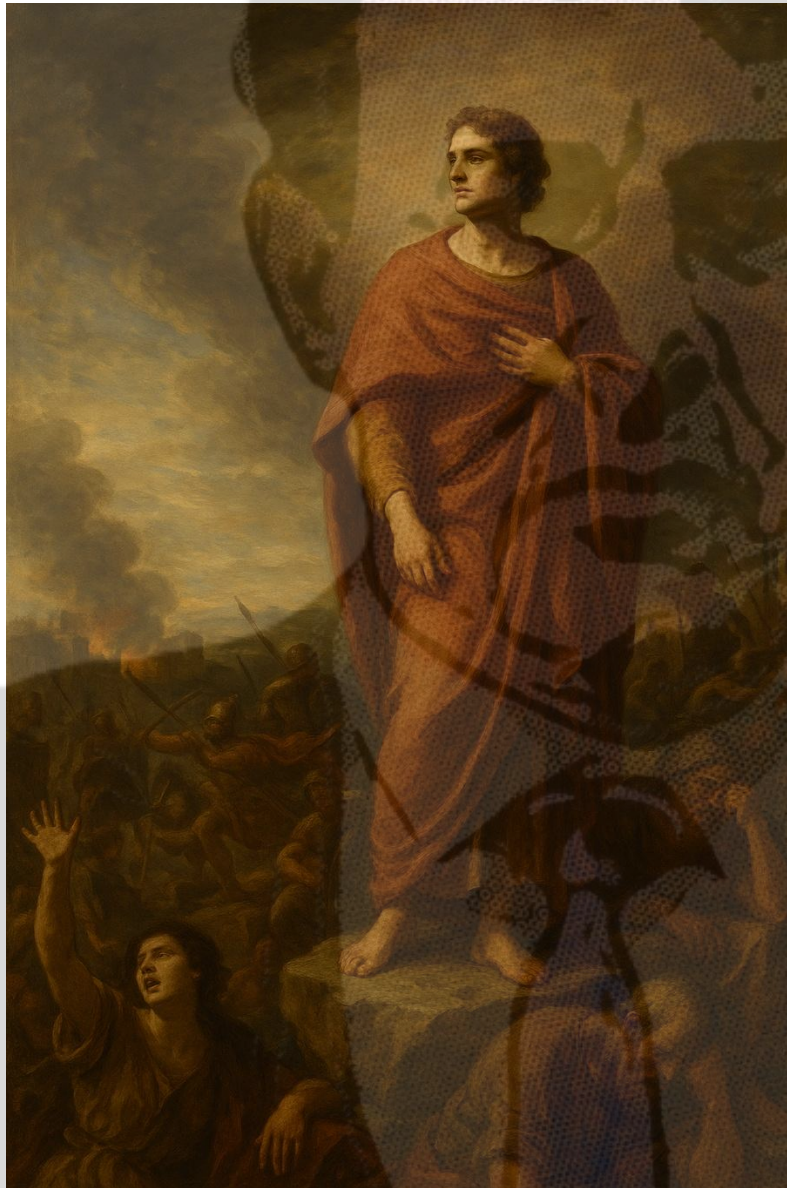


⚖️ “The creed of our time is ‘you do you, I do me’ — but when truth is reduced to personal preference, society loses both its compass and its soul. From Judges to Rome, from Weimar to the French Revolution, history shows that relativism promises freedom yet delivers only chaos, fear, and tyranny.”



⚖️ The Creed of Relativism: A Path Worn by History

Executive Summary

The prevailing philosophy of our time can be summed up in a simple mantra: *“I do me, and you do you.”* It appears harmless, even liberating. Yet beneath the surface it represents a deeper creed: relativism — the belief that truth is subjective, morality is fluid, and identity is self-defined. History shows us where such a path leads: fragmentation, collapse, and often tyranny. This segment explores the dangers of

relativism through theological reflection, cultural analysis, and historical parallels, and calls for a return to the unchanging truth of God.

1. The Problem with “I Do Me, You Do You”

The phrase is attractive because it seems to offer freedom: freedom from judgment, freedom from responsibility for others’ choices, freedom to live as one pleases. It sounds compassionate — “don’t interfere, don’t criticize, let people live their truth.” Yet that supposed freedom is deceptive. Beneath the surface, it produces consequences that are neither freeing nor compassionate, but destructive.

👑 It Absolutizes the Self

“I do me” elevates the individual into the highest authority. Personal preference becomes the ultimate standard. In such a world, the self is sovereign — accountable to no one and nothing outside of itself. But human beings were not designed to be their own gods. When man places himself on the throne, he takes a role too heavy to bear.

Scripture confronts this lie directly: *“You are not your own, for you were bought with a price”* (1 Corinthians 6:19–20). Our lives are not self-created, self-owned, or self-directed; they belong to God. Autonomy feels powerful in theory, but in reality it isolates us from the One who gives meaning and direction. Autonomy is not ultimate; surrender to God is.

💔 It Fractures Community

Society cannot thrive when every individual defines right and wrong for themselves. The shared moral fabric frays until nothing holds people together but convenience or fear. The book of Judges records this tragic refrain: *“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes”* (Judges 21:25). The result was not peace but chaos — violence, idolatry, civil war.

Relativism always erodes trust because there is no common ground. It weakens commitments because promises mean nothing if truth is negotiable. It breeds isolation because everyone retreats into private worlds of self-defined morality. Instead of binding us together, “you do you” makes each person a lone island, drifting apart from the bonds of love and community.

💔🔥 It Redefines Love

In this framework, love is no longer an active pursuit of another’s good but mere non-interference: “I won’t judge you if you don’t judge me.” But indifference is not love. True love is costly, inconvenient, and sometimes confrontational.

The Bible paints love in far stronger colors: it *“speaks the truth in love”* (Ephesians 4:15), it *“bears one another’s burdens”* (Galatians 6:2), and it lays down its life for others (John 15:13). Love is not silent when someone is walking toward destruction. Love warns, corrects, and sacrifices. Relativism abandons

people to their own paths — even if those paths end in ruin — while calling that abandonment “compassion.” That is not love; it is apathy dressed up as virtue.

It Denies Objective Truth

Finally, relativism undermines the very existence of truth itself. It claims that truth belongs to the self: “my truth” and “your truth.” But truth cannot be split or customized without ceasing to be truth.

Jesus makes an absolute claim that shatters relativism: *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”* (John 14:6). Truth is not invented by individuals; it is revealed by God. Without that anchor outside ourselves, truth becomes shifting opinion. The compass is lost, and all that remains is confusion.

2. What It Means When Relativism Rules

When relativism is the creed of the age, the consequences are predictable:

-  **Truth Becomes Subjective** – No longer an anchor outside ourselves, truth becomes whatever one feels or chooses. Instead of guiding like a compass, it shifts with moods, trends, and personal convenience. What is “true for me” may contradict “true for you,” and both are treated as valid — until reality proves otherwise.
-  **Morality Becomes Fluid** – Right and wrong are no longer grounded in God’s unchanging standard but are dictated by culture, politics, or majority opinion. Yesterday’s taboo becomes today’s right, and today’s virtue may be tomorrow’s crime. Without God’s law, morality drifts like a boat cut loose from its moorings.
-  **Identity Becomes Fragile** – When the self is built on self-definition rather than God’s design, it must be constantly reasserted and defended. Identity becomes performance: fragile, unstable, and easily shattered by disagreement. The result is not freedom but anxiety and insecurity.
-  **Love Becomes Tolerance** – Love is rebranded as unconditional affirmation: “Accept me exactly as I define myself, or you are hateful.” But biblical love is deeper: it rejoices in truth (1 Cor. 13:6) and seeks the eternal good of others, even when uncomfortable. Relativism reduces love to passive approval, which is no love at all.
-  **Power Fills the Vacuum** – When there is no shared truth, the one who controls the narrative, the platform, or the law decides what is “true.” Relativism claims to liberate, but it creates a vacuum where raw power takes over. The strong impose their “truth,” and freedom gives way to control.

Relativism promises freedom, but what it actually produces is slavery — apparent freedom, real bondage.

3. Historical Parallels

Relativism is not unique to our time. The pattern of **abandoning truth, embracing relativism, and collapsing into chaos or tyranny** has repeated itself across history. Every culture that tries to replace God's truth with man's preference eventually reaps the same fruit.

Israel in the Judges Era

The book of Judges closes with this sobering summary: *"Everyone did what was right in his own eyes"* (Judges 21:25). With no king and no shared submission to God's authority, the nation fractured. Idolatry spread, families broke down, tribes turned against each other, and civil war ravaged the land.

The tragedy of Judges is not simply ancient history — it is a mirror. When every person becomes their own standard of truth, society inevitably descends into moral chaos and relational breakdown. Israel's story warns us that spiritual relativism leads directly to national ruin.

Athens and Rome

In Athens, the Sophists of the 5th century BC rejected the pursuit of objective truth. They taught that "man is the measure of all things." Rhetoric became about persuasion rather than reality — winning the argument mattered more than discovering truth. This mindset hollowed out the moral seriousness that once undergirded Greek democracy.

Rome, centuries later, followed a similar course. Early Rome prized discipline, loyalty, and civic duty. But as the empire expanded and grew wealthy, those virtues were discarded. Luxury, indulgence, and moral relativism replaced the old Roman character. The empire rotted from within long before enemies breached its walls.

Relativism, whether in Greek philosophy or Roman culture, undermined the foundations of societies that once seemed invincible.

Weimar Germany (1920s–30s)

After World War I, Berlin became a hub of radical experimentation. Morality, art, and politics were cut loose from higher standards. Anything went — sexual freedom, avant-garde culture, and a rejection of old values. Relativism reigned.

But relativism cannot hold a society together. When there is no shared truth, the vacuum is filled by whoever shouts loudest and promises order. In Germany, that vacuum was filled by Adolf Hitler. His "truth" was not truth at all, but ideology enforced with violence. The progression is chillingly clear: relativism → moral vacuum → dictatorship. What began as radical freedom ended as totalitarian slavery.

The French Revolution

The French Revolution began with inspiring ideals: liberty, equality, fraternity. Yet with God dethroned, these ideals soon collapsed under their own weight. Churches were closed, a “Goddess of Reason” was enthroned in Notre Dame, and truth and morality were defined by mob consensus.

But relativism cannot sustain liberty. When every man decides right and wrong for himself, chaos follows. That chaos quickly gave way to fear, and fear to tyranny — the infamous Reign of Terror, where the guillotine silenced dissent.

The Revolution that promised freedom dissolved into bloodshed, proving again that a society cut off from God’s truth cannot stand.

The Consistent Lesson

Across these examples — Israel’s Judges, Athens and Rome, Weimar Germany, and the French Revolution — the lesson is the same: **Relativism leads to anarchy → fear → tyranny.**

When truth is abandoned, people first embrace chaos in the name of freedom. Fear then drives them to seek order at any cost. Tyranny fills the void, and the cycle repeats. History warns us: the creed of relativism has always ended in destruction.

4. Why This Matters Today

Our age repeats the pattern. “You do you” has become cultural law. Truth is personal, morality is fluid, identity is self-invented, and love is reduced to uncritical affirmation. It feels tolerant, but it erodes the foundations of society.

- Families fracture when covenant is replaced with preference.
- Communities weaken when shared truth is abandoned.
- Nations drift when justice becomes subjective.
- Ultimately, power rushes to fill the void — the loudest, wealthiest, or strongest voices define reality.

This is not freedom; it is bondage dressed up as choice.

Conclusion

The creed of relativism — “*you do you, I do me*” — is not a path to flourishing, but to fragmentation. It dethrones God, dissolves truth, and enslaves. History testifies: whenever man rejects God’s truth, he does not walk into liberty but into chains.

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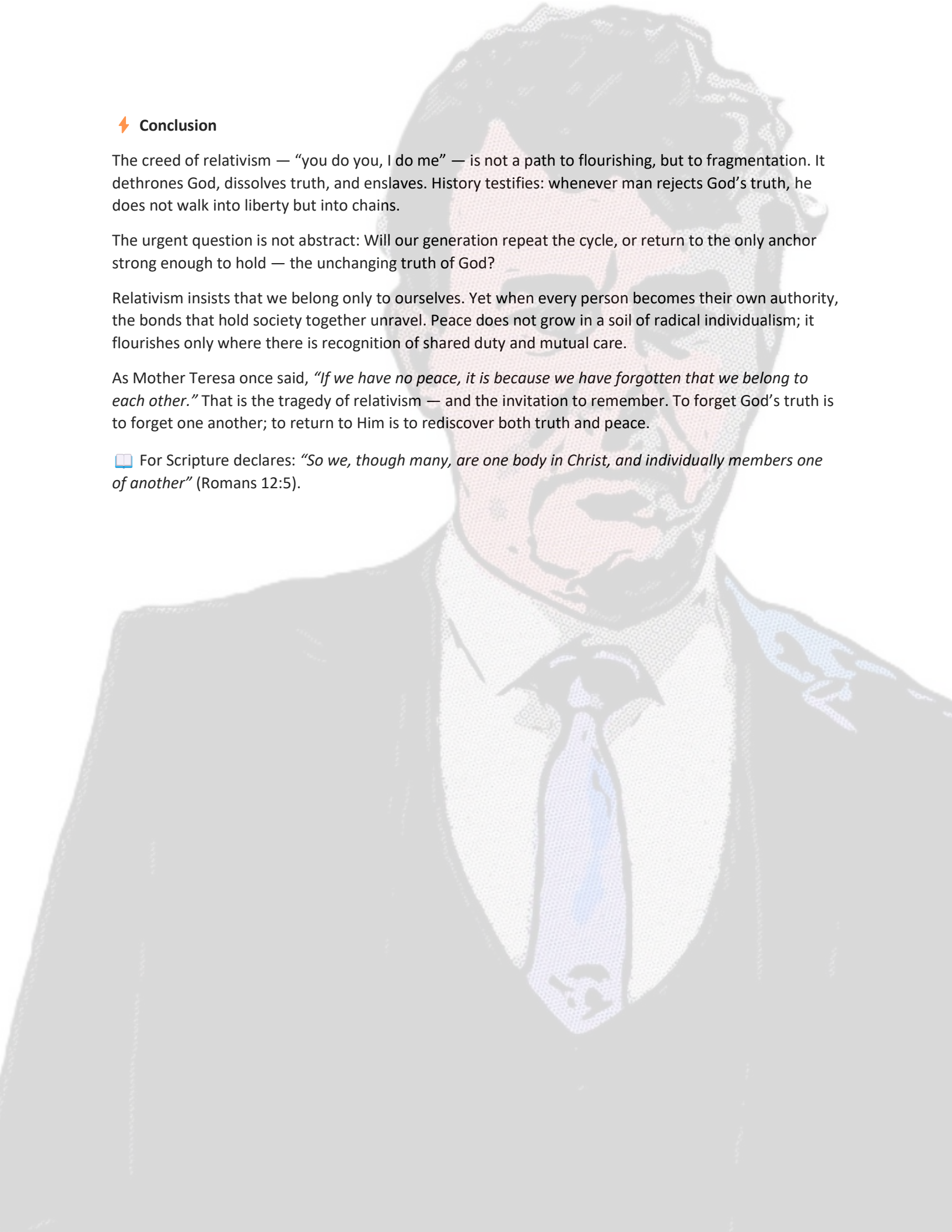
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The urgent question is not abstract: Will our generation repeat the cycle, or return to the only anchor strong enough to hold — the unchanging truth of God?

Relativism insists that we belong only to ourselves. Yet when every person becomes their own authority, the bonds that hold society together unravel. Peace does not grow in a soil of radical individualism; it flourishes only where there is recognition of shared duty and mutual care.

As Mother Teresa once said, *“If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.”* That is the tragedy of relativism — and the invitation to remember. To forget God’s truth is to forget one another; to return to Him is to rediscover both truth and peace.

📖 For Scripture declares: *“So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another”* (Romans 12:5).