

Life-Affirming

- god centered
- servant, working for others
- moral standards
- honesty/courage/charity
- individual human dignity
- open/intelligent/reasonable/responsible/loving
- personal responsibility
- chooses life, creative
- linear time (from somewhere, to somewhere)

GLOBAL DIALECTIC

- closed/biased/resentful/spiteful
- victims
- prefers death, destructive
- cyclic time (nothing really changes)
- man centered (satanic)
- power seeking, dominating others
- relative standards based on “feeling good”
- dishonest/lying/gas-lighting/deceitful
- collective wellbeing over individual rights

Life-Denying

continuum

PRAGER’S ORIENTATION

In his own words

- observant Jew, though not Orthodox
- god centered, as an active presence in the world
- god judges every human being
- god as the source of all moral judgments
- respects human dignity; never insults a caller
- visceral hatred of lies
- evil is ubiquitous; it is the presence of good that needs to be explained
- welcomes criticism and comments
- appreciates quality, especially artistic
- prefers goodness and wisdom over brilliance in people
- keeps track of what is being published
- is a happy pessimist

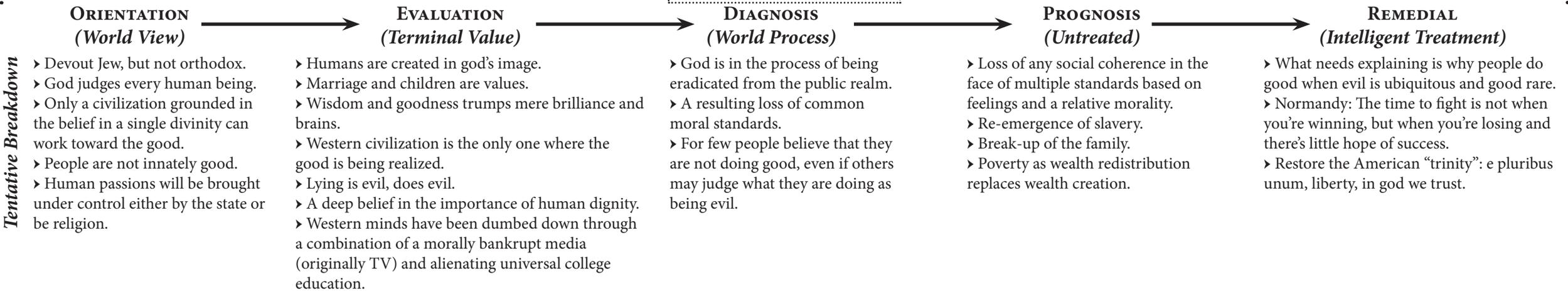
REDEMPTION

Prager’s rhetorical device is to contrast two different kinds of civilizations: Western (anglosphere) as it used to be (god-fearing), and non-Western (god-less), with the latter “secular” mentality taking over. Behind this distinction, never directly mentioned, lies the concept of redemption (acknowledging sin, giving up claims to godhood, and a form of divinized subjectivity that relates people to each other). In Western societies, redemption is not only possible but in some cases sustainable; in secular non-Western societies, redemption is highly unlikely and if incidences do occur their effects are quickly erased.

THERE ARE THREE PHASES TO ANY PROCESS OF REDEMPTION.
 First comes the recognition that an individual or a community has sinned. This is not guilt, which stems from a violation of society’s norms, but a mistaken judgment or ill-conceived act that runs against one’s very being as inherent in the transcendental precepts. A mistake has been made, it is recognized as a serious mistake, and as a result there’s a shit-load of pain on the way.

If such a mistake has been recognized, then—in a Judeo-Christian world—it becomes necessary to give up all claims to god-hood. Until a person or community is willing to turn their lives over to the Divine Mystery, the Mystery remains blocked by the individual or community from any remedial action.
 Finally, a sea-change takes place whereby “normal” life-affirming relationships are restored between members of the community that allows for the emergence of a well-functioning good of order grounded in intellectual conversion (honesty), moral conversion (courage), and religious conversion (charity).

GENERAL PROCESS



Tentative Breakdown

- ▶ Devout Jew, but not orthodox.
- ▶ God judges every human being.
- ▶ Only a civilization grounded in the belief in a single divinity can work toward the good.
- ▶ People are not innately good.
- ▶ Human passions will be brought under control either by the state or be religion.
- ▶ Humans are created in god’s image.
- ▶ Marriage and children are values.
- ▶ Wisdom and goodness trumps mere brilliance and brains.
- ▶ Western civilization is the only one where the good is being realized.
- ▶ Lying is evil, does evil.
- ▶ A deep belief in the importance of human dignity.
- ▶ Western minds have been dumbed down through a combination of a morally bankrupt media (originally TV) and alienating universal college education.
- ▶ God is in the process of being eradicated from the public realm.
- ▶ A resulting loss of common moral standards.
- ▶ For few people believe that they are not doing good, even if others may judge what they are doing as being evil.
- ▶ Loss of any social coherence in the face of multiple standards based on feelings and a relative morality.
- ▶ Re-emergence of slavery.
- ▶ Break-up of the family.
- ▶ Poverty as wealth redistribution replaces wealth creation.
- ▶ What needs explaining is why people do good when evil is ubiquitous and good rare.
- ▶ Normandy: The time to fight is not when you’re winning, but when you’re losing and there’s little hope of success.
- ▶ Restore the American “trinity”: e pluribus unum, liberty, in god we trust.

1. **Western society is the source of all that is good in the world.** No other civilization has abolished slavery, created wealth, insisted on human dignity, developed pure science, created rights, focused on liberty, and developed the arts.
2. **Since WWII, Western minds have been dumbed down.** There are two main reasons for this: TV, with its morally bankrupt content, and universal college education, with its “kinder-garden” mentality and ascendant rabid secular orientation.
3. **Such a god-less secular society eventually disintegrates from a lack of moral standards.** Moral action is now based on a combination of feelings and moral relativity that makes it impossible for people to work together without the application of brute power.
4. **Only god can provides a set of universal standards.** Europe is well on the road to decline and eventual collapse, but America can still be redeemed provided there is a return to the American “trinity”: e pluribus unum, liberty, and in god we trust.