



# THE JORDAN PETERSON PHENOMENON

by [Bishop Robert Barron](#) · February 27, 2018

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Like many others, I have watched the Jordan Peterson phenomenon unfold with a certain fascination. If you don't know what I'm talking about, you don't spend a lot of time on social media, for Peterson, a mild-mannered psychology professor from the University of Toronto, has emerged as one of the hottest personalities on the internet. He is followed by millions of people, especially young men. His lectures and presentations—cool, understated, brainy, and blunt—are avidly watched and commented upon. And his new book, [12 Rules for Life: An Antidote to Chaos](#), is a number one bestseller all over the world. Moreover, Peterson's spirited and articulate opposition to the imposition of speech codes in his native Canada has made him a controversial political player, a hero of free speech to his supporters and a right-wing ideologue to his detractors. His [interview with Cathy Newman of Channel 4 News](#), during which Peterson's interlocutor revealed herself as a hopelessly biased social justice warrior, has, as of this writing, been viewed 7.5 million times.

In many ways, Peterson is doing for this generation what Joseph Campbell did for the previous one, namely, reintroducing the archetypal psychology of C.G. Jung in an

appealing and provocative manner. Jung's theorizing centered around what he termed the archetypes of the collective unconscious, which is to say, those primordial instincts, insights, and memories that influence much of our behavior and that substantially inform the religions, philosophies, and rituals of the human race. The Jungian template enables Peterson to interpret many of the classical spiritual texts of Western culture in a fresh way—those very texts so often excoriated by mainstream intellectuals as hopelessly patriarchal, biased, and oppressive. It also permits him to speak with a kind of psychological and spiritual authority to which young people are not accustomed but to which they respond eagerly.

*His new book*, an elaboration of twelve basic psychological rules for life, makes for bracing and satisfying reading. Peterson's considerable erudition is on clear display throughout, but so is his very real experience in the trenches as a practicing psychotherapist. His advice is smart indeed, but it never seems abstract, detached, or unrealistic. In the course of this brief article, I can only hint at some of his fascinating findings and recommendations. A theme that runs through the entire book is that of the play between order and chaos, symbolized most neatly by the intertwining fish of the Tao image. Human consciousness itself, Peterson argues, sets one foot in the former and the other in the latter, balancing the known and the unknown, the settled and the unexplored. Too much of one, and we fall into complacency, routine, and at the limit, tyranny; too much of the other, and we lose our bearings completely, surrendering to the void.

The great myths of the hero—from Gilgamesh to Luke Skywalker and Bilbo Baggins—typically recount the story of someone who leaves complacent domesticity behind in order to venture into the dangerous unknown, where he manages to find something of enormous value to his family or village or society. One key to psychological/spiritual fulfillment is to embody this archetype of the hero, to live one's life as an adventurous exploration of the unknown. So Peterson tells his readers—especially young men, who have been cowed into complacency for various reasons—to throw back their shoulders, stand tall, and face the challenges of life head on. This archetype of the hero also allows us to read the story of Adam and Eve with fresh eyes. In Paradise (the word itself denotes “walled garden”), our first parents were secure and innocent, but in the manner of inexperienced children. Leaving Paradise was, in one sense, a positive move, for it permitted them to grow up, to engage the chaos of the unknown creatively and intelligently. This reading of Genesis,

which has roots in Tillich, Hegel, and others, permits us to see that the goal of the spiritual life is not a simple return to the Garden of dreaming innocence, but rather an inhabiting of the Garden on the far side of the cross, that place where the tomb of Jesus was situated and in which the risen Christ appeared precisely as “gardener.”

Peterson’s investigation of the psyche of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was, for me, one of the most illuminating sections of the book. Solzhenitsyn, of course, was a victim of both Hitler and Stalin, a terrorized and dehumanized inmate in the Gulag Archipelago, and one of the most tortured of souls in the terrible twentieth century. It would have been surpassingly easy for him simply to curse his fate, to lash out in anger at God, to become a sullen figure scurrying about the margins of life. Instead, he endeavored to change his own life, to turn the light of his moral consciousness on himself, to get his psychological house in order. This initial move enabled him to see the world around him with extraordinary clarity and, eventually, to tell the story of Soviet depravity with such devastating moral authority. The lesson that Peterson draws from this example is this: if you want to change the corrupt world, “start to stop doing what you know to be wrong. Start stopping today.”

I have shared just a handful of wise insights from a book that is positively chockablock with them. So do I thoroughly support Jordan Peterson’s approach? Well, no, though a full explication of my objection would take us far beyond the confines of this brief article. In a word, I have the same concern about Peterson that I have about both Campbell and Jung, namely, the Gnosticizing tendency to read Biblical religion purely psychologically and philosophically and not at all historically. No Christian should be surprised that the Scriptures can be profitably read through psychological and philosophical lenses, but at the same time, every Christian has to accept the fact that the God of the Bible is not simply a principle or an abstraction, but rather a living God who acts in history. As I say, to lay this out thoroughly would require at least another article or two or twelve.

On balance, I like this book and warmly recommend it. I think it’s especially valuable for the beleaguered young men in our society, who need a mentor to tell them to stand up straight and act like heroes.

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**BillG** · 18 days ago

As a personal note, for twelve years, since my Freshman year of undergrad in which a Catholic philosophy professor introduced me to Aquinas, I fought with the idea of God and belief. I was raised Protestant, but considered myself an Agnostic or Atheist for most of this time.

Around 18 months ago I started to listen to Dr. Peterson's Youtube videos. They pushed me over an edge in which things about God and religion that did not make sense before started to click together. I started to wonder why so many of the best arguments for God and the best arguments of classical Western thought were never presented to me (even after "too much education").

Six months later I started to watch Bishop Barron's Word on Fire series, seeking to hear some of these arguments from a Catholic perspective.

Two months ago my wife and I started to attend Mass. We're signed up for RCIA classes in the Fall, and other than raising my son, there is nothing in my life more exciting than the thought of taking communion Easter 2019.

Dr. Peterson and Bishop Barron have enriched my life considerably. I end up in Bishop Barron's camp on the historicity of God, but am deeply indebted to Dr. Peterson for helping me clean my philosophical room.

13 ^ | ▾ · Reply · Share ›



**grateful1** → BillG · 17 days ago

What an amazing journey you and your wife have made, and are about to begin! Have you thought of contacting Marcus Grodi of The Coming Home Network? On EWTN, he interviews people from all walks of life who have come to the Catholic faith. His own path from Protestantism (as a pastor, no less) is remarkable in and of itself. His interviewing style is to "get out of the way" of his guests, while gently and unobtrusively guiding them as they reveal the hand of God in their lives. A fuller presentation of your story on a program like his would inspire so many. May God bless you and your family.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Chris** → BillG · 18 days ago

For further reading in your "philosophical room", try Rene Girard's books, particularly his later interviews. He came at the Bible as a deconstructing atheist and found himself a Catholic soon enough. His is a faith that is based on scientific discovery.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**BillG** → Chris · 18 days ago

Thank you! I read "I See Satan Fall like Lightning" as part of this process. Any other works you'd particularly suggest?

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**Chris** → BillG · 18 days ago

Yes, for sure; "The One by Whom Scandal Comes", "Evolution and Conversion", "When these Things Begin", "Reading the Bible with Rene Girard". "I See Satan..." is a good book to have read before you read these others that I have listed. His interviews are great. His depth of mind and thinking is for the ages. I see his theories as having plenty of ammo for Christians in the ongoing debate with today's "Science is king" atheists. He's got some good stuff to think about!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**JimB** → BillG · 13 days ago

In case this isn't obvious, read a little of the Bible, and a little of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, every day. I try to read just one concept in the new testament, one in the old testament, and one in the Catechism, each day, and really try to absorb them and do them in my life. If you do this, it will gradually fill you with wisdom and many solutions to many problems, and build your faith. (Doing this every day also really helps work against the brain washing of Secularism that is all around us.) And of course, read Bishop Robert Barron's emailed Daily Gospel Commentaries!

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**Patti Day** → BillG · 10 days ago

Your excitement and enthusiasm is beautiful. I hope you have found a good RCIA class. They're not all equal. Depending on how much you've learned, you may benefit from the apologists on Catholic Answers Live on EWTN radio, daily 6-8 PM Eastern', on the internet, or Ch 130 on Serius XM, or You Tube. You can learn a lot in 6 months. May God bless you and your family. I teared up just thinking of your glorious adventure. Oh yes, read that Catechism. It's loaded with great information. You can start anywhere.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Eben** → BillG · 6 days ago

So interesting how similar my path has been. Compare this: raised protestant, with a very simplified (even dumbed down) interpretation of the scriptures. I discovered philosophy at college. Briefly became an atheist, but it was too difficult to defend (or even believe). Then Buddhism for a short while, after which I just wallowed in agnosticism for twenty years. At 40 I discovered Jordan Peterson. I studied his biblical series. I began to look at Christianity again, but felt the protestant take was either too easily compromised by the political correct agenda of the day, or too simple to take seriously.

I then took a very cautious, skeptical look at the 'former enemies'... Catholics. Luckily, the first video I saw was Father Mike Schmitz. He explained complex problems away with a such clarity that I began to doubt my former objections against Catholicism. Then I discovered Bishop Barron.

I had no idea of the vast intellectual landscape of the Catholic Church. I found the same Quality I had encountered in Robert Pirsig and Jordan Peterson in the writings and videos of Bishop Barron, St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas.

Only purer. The difference between turning to the light and having the light take a hold of you (shaking you... sometimes quite roughly, actually!)

There exists a thirst for truth. Jordan Peterson speaks the truth. People are ready to hear it. And the truth, if you keep following it where it leads you, will eventually bring you to the Source of all Truth.

God works in mysterious ways. Sometimes he even works through a cowboy boot wearing middle-aged psychology professor from Canada.

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**Eben van Renen** · 21 days ago

My dream is for Peterson and Bishop Barron to discuss the Bible, of his Biblical lectures. 20 hours should make for a good introduction. oh and keep in mind that Peterson clearly states that his angle on Christianity is purposefully limited to the psychological/philosophical perspective, although he believes that there exists a deeper, transidential truth to it all as well

8 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**ForEngland** → Eben van Renen · 18 days ago

I would love this. I respect both of them, and Bishop Barron aptly articulated my own concerns with Dr. Peterson's Bible series. I very much enjoy Dr. Peterson's take, but would love to see the Bishop's counterpoint in a long-form interview... Maybe on Dave Rubin's show...

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Eben van Renen** → Eben van Renen · 21 days ago

For any Catholic interested in Peterson, may I suggest his Biblical Lecture Series. It is free on youtube and it is simply amazing. The book is also a must read

it is free on youtube, and it is simply amazing. The book is also a must read.

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Derrellyn Yates** → Eben van Renen · 11 days ago

I think I would prefer not a debate but rather a discussion along the lines of what took place with Wm. Lane Craig -- but hours longer (not that either of them has that amount of time).

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**Pauline Hinton** → Eben van Renen · 21 days ago

That would be a great debate!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Pauline Hinton** → Eben van Renen · 21 days ago

That would be a great debate!

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**Mary Conces** · 18 days ago

Thank you, Bishop Barron, both for appreciating Dr. Peterson's brilliant and bracing insights and for alluding to the missing pieces of his puzzle. I first "met" him on a link to LifeSite News in the fall of 2016, and his mixture of intelligence and morality made me think--If this guy isn't Catholic, he should be. Since then, I've been praying for him. I've followed many of his classes and interviews on YouTube, and know he isn't Catholic--although he's worked out a lot of truths by sheer intellect and compassion--and I still think he needs to be. With the dragons he's fighting, he needs all the grace he can get. With several others, I agree that an interview with you would be fruitful for him and for all who heard it.

5 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Natalie Zelenak** · 21 days ago

I agree with your objection to Peterson however I think he is making the Bible relevant again to a generation that has dismissed it as "ancient fairy tales". Once God's word gets around there is no stopping it from changing hearts and minds. I think it may even one day bring Peterson himself to real conversion. I don't see how you can spend all that time marinating in Gods word and not be changed by the one who is the word. I have been recommending every young person I know (especially young men) to check out your stuff online. Now recommend them to both you and Peterson. I would love love love to hear a discussion between you and Peterson. I so enjoyed your recent conversation with William Lane Craig! God bless!

4 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Let Me Recover My Sight -Mk 10** · 10 days ago

The Vatican again condemned the Heresy of Gnosticism in a new document issued just two weeks ago.

Bishop Barron writes in this article "I have the same concern about Peterson that I have about both Campbell and Jung, namely, the Gnosticizing tendency,"

The new Vatican anti-Gnosticism document is titled "Placuit Deo," and was issued by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on February 22, 2018.

That Vatican document says these things about the present danger of Gnosticism:

--"Gnosticism and Pelagianism represent perennial dangers for misunderstanding the biblical faith"

--"a new form of Gnosticism puts forward a model of salvation that is merely interior, closed off in its own subjectivism."

--"Pope Francis, in his ordinary magisterium, often has made reference to...Gnosticism."

The document specifically says: "The Sovereign Pontiff Francis, on February 16, 2018, approved this Letter, adopted in the Plenary Session of this Congregation on January 24, 2018, and ordered its publication."

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**Dolores Pap** · 11 days ago

He comes across as a strident anti-feminist. Not my cup of tea..

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**LMG** → Dolores Pap · a day ago

Antifeminist but not anti-woman. Feminists have done huge harm to women because they have done so much harm to the family using a false understanding of human relationships based on power rather than on service. "Husbands love your wives as Christ loves the Church" \_\_ all Christian spouses are called to service. I am female.

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**Dolores Pap** → LMG · 21 hours ago

Peterson has some truly regressive, conservative ideas, more akin with Islamic traditions than our Western culture. Can you imagine that this guy believes that women shouldn't wear MAKE-UP, or attractive outfits to work for fear it will incite the men they work with?? That's just totally outrageous and insane.He's nuts..

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**Leslie Hidley** → Dolores Pap · 5 hours ago

Back in the stone age when I was young, Catholic girls were encouraged to attend to how they dressed lest they stimulate an unseemly interest in someone else... sounds thoughtful to me.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Dolores Pap** → Leslie Hidley · 3 hours ago

I remember those silly Stone Age days as well, and I am certainly glad they they are behind us- I remember one spinster Sister telling us girls that patent leather shoes were 'verboden' because boys might see the reflection of our underwear, and become 'excited'. We didn't even know what that meant.. :-)

What is very strange is that they assumed men were creatures of such uncontrollable passion, and that it was a woman's duty to prevent the unleashing of their hormonal storms and temptations, as though men shouldn't be held accountable for their actions. Poppy cock. Why would men get such a pass?? Kind of reminds me why patriarchal fundamental religions want to cover their women from head to toe in a black shroud..

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**Leslie Hidley** → Dolores Pap · 2 hours ago

"Spinster" Sister? As a bride of Christ, hardly the case, nevertheless, she was wrong about shoes. What I've noticed is that men - as well as women - sometimes are creatures of uncontrolled passions - which doesn't make them unaccountable (unless you're in court and judged insane) but can make them in need of help from their friends. To paraphrase the comedian Flip Wilson's wonderful character Geraldine, "Don't let your clothes write a check that your body (or your morals) can't pass."

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**Dolores Pap** → Leslie Hidley · 41 minutes ago

Well- I think Sister, as was the expectation, was a chaste, pure 'bride of Christ' and hardly gave the concept of her sexuality any thought. What would she know about passion? Her 'marriage' wasn't ever consummated. As an aside- wouldn't it bother her that she had soo many co-brides? :-)

As far as Robertson, I think he's a misogynist, and worse blames women- he's a victim blamer. I've lived too long to allow that to happen.

Reading this just solidified my opinion: "The idea that women were oppressed throughout history is an appalling theory." (2017). The Pronoun Warrior. Toronto Life

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**Leslie Hidley** → Dolores Pap · 4 minutes ago

Who's Robertson? You mean Peterson? That women have been oppressed throughout history is the received "wisdom" of the day -



SOURCE: "Jordan Peterson, Jung, and Hope for the Faint-Hearted," by Dr. Peter Jones, February 22, 2018, on the truthXchange website.

Dr. Peter Jones, a theologian with graduate degrees from Harvard Divinity School and Princeton Theological Seminary.

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**Emmie** · 16 days ago

Dear Bishop Barron, my brother insists that Jordan Peterson's heresy is NOT Gnosticism but Pelagianism. In light of the letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith which was published March 1, 2018, he makes a strong case. We agree with Dr Peterson that language is essential to thought. Naming the error precisely helps protect against internalizing error. I argued that Peterson's reliance on mythology is reliance on knowledge to bring order out of chaos. Rather than relying on grace, faith & reason to bring us to heaven. Also his chaos/order dualism seems gnostic in the sense that from the beginning there was good and evil, as opposed to from the beginning there was our all good God, so he says that some flesh, if not all flesh, is evil. But I would appreciate your explanation greatly. Thank you for your attention to this.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Derrellyn Yates** → Emmie · 11 days ago

I'm not certain that Pelagius's optimistic view of humans falls in line with Peterson's opinion of our tendencies. If I had to choose between the two (Augustine and Pelagius), I think he clearly falls into Augustine's camp (before the saint's final conversion, of course -- after all, Peterson's story is hardly concluded). "Da mihi castitatem et continentiam sed nolli mollo." -- Augustine, on his path but not yet arrived to sainthood.

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**Derrellyn Yates** → Derrellyn Yates · 11 days ago

whoops, meant "modo" instead of "mollo" up there. Sorry about that.

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**Steady State** · 21 days ago

Why does it fall to someone like Peterson to stand up for men? That's my question. I'd sat the answer is the false teacher JP11 poisoned the well of masculinity by annihilating the rights and authority of the father and, by analogy, of all men. The reason theres no Catholic Jordan Peterson is that they're all JP11 sycophants.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**The\_Medievalist** → Steady State · 18 days ago

Steady State - can you elaborate on how you think JP11 poisoned the well of masculinity? Any articles or links providing more details would also be helpful. I have always thought of JP11, at least in his personal witness, a strong example of masculinity in how he met the challenges in his life. But, perhaps I have missed things in his writings which undermine masculinity.

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**grateful1** → The\_Medievalist · 17 days ago

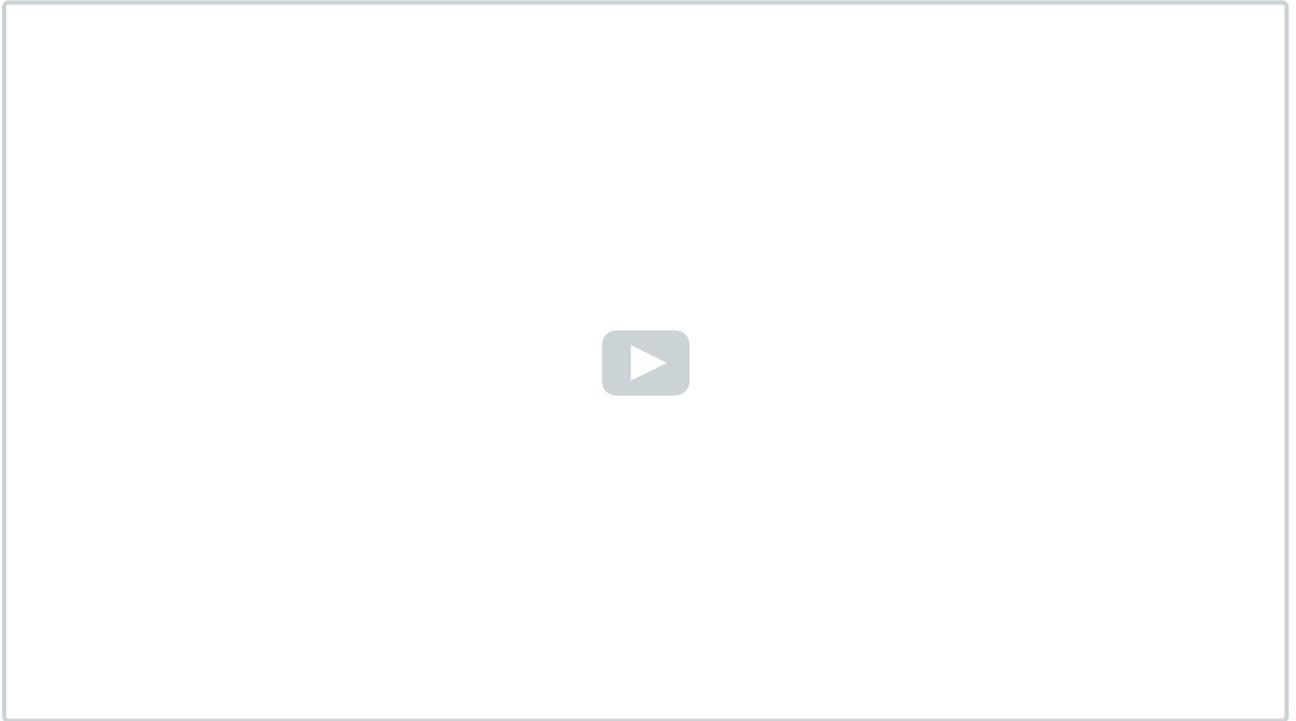
He can't. "Steady State" assumes a variety of screen names, but the unsubstantiated animus to St. JP II is always the same. Let us pray for him.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**LMG** · a day ago

Your excellency, Jordan Peterson addresses the issue of the historicity of the mythical archetypes, your exact reservations here:



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**Hans-Georg Lundahl** · 4 days ago

<http://nov9blogg9.blogspot...>

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**Let Me Recover My Sight -Mk 10** · 14 days ago

How can Bishop Barron "warmly recommend" a philosopher whom Bishop Barron correctly identifies as teaching a serious and dangerous heresy, Gnosticism?

The open and persistent teaching of Gnosticism has always been an excommunication-worthy offense in the Church.

Gnosticism is a heresy against which the Church fought long, hard, seriously, and desperately in her early centuries.

Would Bishop also "warmly recommend" the writings of the great heretic Arius?

Has Bishop Barron never read St. Irenaeus' book "On the Detection and Overthrow of the

Has Bishop Barron ever read St. Irenaeus' book "On the Detection and Overthrow of the So-Called Gnosis" from the year 180 A.D.?

Given the overflowing abundance of the writings of solid Catholic authors, why invite an author who teaches a notorious and dangerous heresy into the lives and minds of Catholics?

What is going on here?

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**Andrew Y.** → Let Me Recover My Sight -Mk 10 · 14 days ago

Peterson is not a philosopher, he's a clinical psychologist. Bishop Barron suggested that Peterson's psychological reading of the Bible is a "Gnosticizing tendency"—not that he is teaching the Gnostic heresy. There is nothing heretical about this book.

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Let Me Recover My Sight -Mk 10** → Andrew Y. · 13 days ago

What if Bishop Barron had detected in Peterson an Islamicizing tendency?

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**Derrellyn Yates** → Let Me Recover My Sight -Mk 10 · 11 days ago

What is gained by that particular hypothetical question?

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**Let Me Recover My Sight -Mk 10** → Derrellyn Yates · 10 days ago

Bishop Barron "warmly recommends" Peterson despite the fact that Bishop Barron recognizes in Peterson a "Gnosticizing tendency."

Would Bishop Barron "warmly recommend" Peterson if Bishop Barron had detected in Peterson an Islamicizing tendency? I think not.

Therefore, I think the logical conclusion is that in Bishop Barron's mind the Heresy of Gnosticism (formally declared by the Catholic Church to be a deadly and serious heresy) is not as bad as the Heresy of Islam.

Of course, it wasn't Gnosticism that motivated terrorists to attack on 9/11.

Yet, scholars of modern Gnosticism, such as Dr. Peter Jones, say that modern Gnosticism has caused tremendous destruction to culture and religion and to the people who absorb Gnosticism-influenced culture and religion.

I urge Bishop Barron to review the warning that Pope Francis gave in 2013 about the Heresy of Gnosticism.

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**Derrellyn Yates** → Let Me Recover My Sight -Mk 10 · 11 days ago

I believe Bishop Barron may recommend it because there are so many young people who have outright and absolutely rejected Catholicism, Christianity, anything that has the odor of what they have been taught is "unscientific" (remember, they are not educated in whole truth, but in science which is only part of the truth). Peterson speaks to the intellect, to reasoning out the deep needs of the self from his observations of them, as a scientist (which is the popular religion). In so doing, he slowly peels back the cataracts that cloud his human vision and, by so doing, inspires the same in the young people who listen to him. If you watch him closely for any amount of time, you can actually SEE his profound struggle to reason a way past the obstacles that are thrown in the path of people who want with all their hearts to understand this life and yet cannot just leap into Christianity. It is good to remember that even St. Paul did not demand unreasoning faith. In Romans 12: 2, St. Paul tells us "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God." Peterson certainly pushes aside the politically correct "wisdom" of the world and is trying with all his might to discern what is good, pleasing, and perfect. When he finds that, he will have found God who has been there in the good, the true, and the beautiful all along.

It is good to remember that Jesus loved Thomas even though the apostle demanded proof before belief.

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**Louise Clara** · 16 days ago

Bishop Barren it would be great to see you and Prof. Peterson having a discussion on the early biblical texts, or nature of truth or anything at all, I'd just love to see two people that inspire me greatly build something great.

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**Walter Oleg** · 17 days ago

I swear on the Bible that I'm serious about what I now write.

The Roman Catholic Church should offer Jordan B. Peterson the Papacy after a year and a day training period. This is a condensed, expedited formation period but Peterson is smart and probably learns quickly. He preaches the way of Logos. Here is the formation path.

2 months basic training in a monastery in Europe (Monte Casino?). 1 month deacon at parish. 4 months parish priest. =7 months. Then be a Bishop 2 months, Hermitage retreat 1 month. = 10 months. Then be made Cardinal and sit in the consistory for 1 month.

Family visitation 2 weeks. Retreat for 2 weeks. 1 day crowned Pope.

He needs to be put into an RCIA program ASAP and enter the Church Easter 2018. His first communion should be given to him by the Pope. Peterson would then hug his family and then be driven to the monastery for the 2 month basic training. Next Easter (2019) he'll be crowned Pope.

This would be world changing for the better and prove that the Roman Catholic Church is truly open minded and ecumenical. I literally believe that this would change history in ways unfathomable and I have faith it would make the world a better place.

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**Christopher Lake** → Walter Oleg · 16 days ago

Walter, I like Jordan Peterson's thinking in many ways, and I share at least some of your enthusiasm for him, but the hard reality is that, according to his own words, Jordan is not yet even convinced of the physical reality of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jordan has addressed this issue in one of his Youtube interviews, and it is clear that he is not yet a believer in Christ in the sense of traditional, historical Christianity. No man who is unconvinced about the Resurrection should be anywhere close to being a year and a half away from the Papacy.

Moreover, the Catholic Church cannot simply "put" Jordan Peterson into an RCIA program. To do so, against his own desire, would be a violation of his personal choice, and that would be a serious sin on the part of Church leaders. Jordan needs to approach a local parish and actually express interest in going through RCIA himself.

The Church cannot force anyone to convert or to go through RCIA. Conversion is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit, and RCIA is a process which must be freely chosen.

Jordan has incredible insight in many ways. One could accurately call me a "fan," with some reservations. I do think that, if he does come to an acceptance of the Resurrection, and of other non-negotiables of the Faith, he will, Lord willing, make a great Catholic. He's not there yet though, according to his own words... and no man who cannot affirm the Resurrection and the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist should be a year and a half away from the Papacy.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Walter Oleg** → Christopher Lake · 9 days ago

"No man who is unconvinced about the Resurrection should be anywhere close to being a year and a half away from the Papacy."

I believe his reply to the Resurrection was that although there was no good reason to believe it, he still does for reasons he can't explain. This is good enough for me.

And I know he can't be forced into RCIA. I'm saying Pope Francis should go to him or some other high church officials and offer him the Papacy after a year and a day intense formation period.

The Church needs to do something bold. This would be world shaking.

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teo · 19 days ago

i was reading along and BAM outta somewhere he explains original sin. Interesting.

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Pierre Farrugia — Dear father Barron, did Jesus cleanse the temple twice? St. Thomas Aquinas, Saint Augustine, Saint ...

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Michael Bodell — don't quit your day job kid

The Paradox of Manliness

1 comment · 19 days ago

Eben — This could be such a big discussion, but you nailed the core principle: we are to be instruments of and

The Gospel Call to Christian Unity

2 comments · 14 days ago

anonymous — I don't know what being "in complete union with the Roman Catholic Church" means.

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