













"On a tropical island in the South West Pacific, a few dozen men gather in the rainforest. They are wearing long trousers but no shoes or shirts, and red paint marks the initials U.S.A. on their bare chests. Carrying thick bamboo poles painted with red stripes, the men greet each other cordially and muck around for a while. Suddenly, the toll of a bell abruptly changes the mood. Everyone stands upright, looking solemn and purposeful...."

"...A frail-looking older man in a worn-out military jacket several sizes too large shouts something in Bislama, a pidgin language common in Vanuatu, and the men get in formation. They place their bamboo poles on their shoulders like rifles, and at the next command begin marching in lockstep through the jungle. Their destination is a clearing in the forest that looks like a landing strip. But the only airplane present is a full-size wooden replica of a light aircraft...."

"...On one side of the strip lies a control tower made of bamboo. On the other sits a satellite dish built of mud and straw. Undeterred by the apparent lack of any actual aviation technology, some of the men light torches and place them alongside the runway. Others use flags to wave landing signals. Everyone raises their gaze to the sky in anticipation. They wait. But the planes never **come.**" (From Dimitrius Xygalatas' article What Cargo Cult Rituals Reveal about Human Nature at sapiens.org, October 22, 2022)



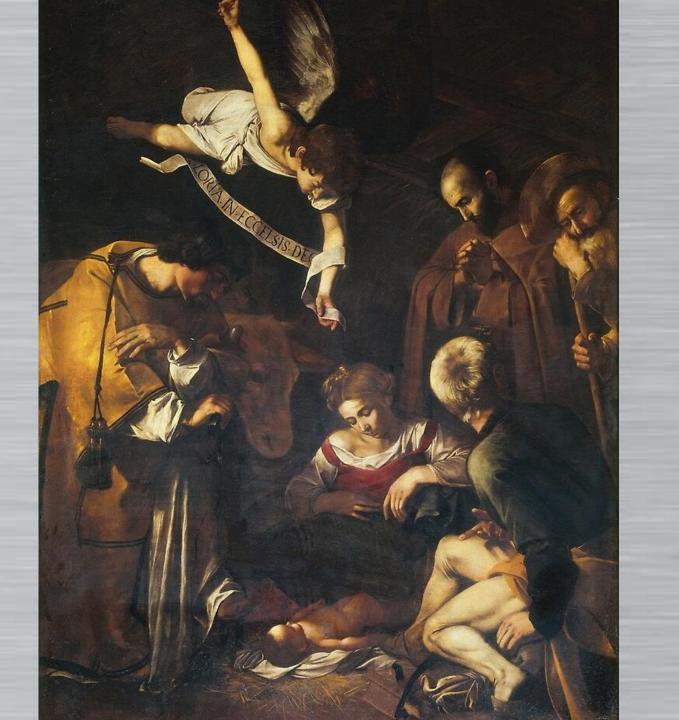


Isaiah 9:1-7 (ESV): "But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those Beand who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone..." Anpa

"...3 You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. 4 For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. 5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult Recond and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire...."

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"...6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it 12COI with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this."



Second BriPt



Second BriPt

MOST RELIGIOUS PEOPLE FAIL TO MAKE THE TRANSITION FROM THE MERELY PHYSICAL TO THE METAPHYSICAL. Main



Luke 17:21 (ESV): "Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, 'The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, 21 nor will they say, "Look, here it is!" or "There!" Beand for behold, the kingdom of Shift God is in the midst of you."

1 Corinthians 2:4 (ESV): "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned."

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Philippians 4:7 (ESV): "The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."



James 1:2 (ESV): "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds."





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SHIFT YOUR FOCUS FROM THE SITUATIONAL TO THE TRANSFORMATIONAL.

Application ation

Romans 12:2 (ESV): "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."



Proverbs 4:23 (NASB): "Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life."





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Busting the 6 Underlying Causes of Angst in America