

Fundamental Fears of Fundamentalists (and many Evangelicals)

- Secularism (Reason-based; religion—particularly Christian faith—is not dominant)
- Atheism (no belief in a god, esp. Jesus—the anti-religious threat)
- Communism (and Socialism, and any “ism” not Capitalism / Americanism)
- Ecumenism (non-Christian religions given equal status and voice)
- Feminism (women’s independence, threat to male-dominance)
- Liberalism (too inclusive and justice-oriented, aims to destroy religion and morality)
- LGBTQ people (the “gay agenda and lifestyle”—destruction of the family and “family values”)
- Integration (racial equality and mixing of ethnicities)
- Immigrants (brown-skinned invaders are “replacing” us—the dwindling White majority)
- Immorality (sexuality without strict moral guidance)
- The Bible not honored as “God’s Word” and the central rule of life (loss of “Judeo-Christian” principles)
- Science (“the religion of science”—evolution, naturalistic view of the universe, etc)
- Critical Race Theory (“anti-White”—taking responsibility for systemic racism)
- For the “Unborn” (abortion is murder and should have severe consequences to “protect children”)
- Disobeying or disappointing God (deserving discipline or hell)
- Losing power (Christian faith only one of many, not given preference or privilege)
- America will not be a “Christian Nation” (without “biblically-based” laws and legislators)
- Education (“secular humanists” throwing God, prayer and Bible out of public schools)
- Not reaching the whole world with the Gospel of Christ (according to them)
- Not being prepared for the Second Coming of Christ (the coming apocalypse, imminent End Times)
- “The World and the Flesh” (First Letter of John, 2: “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”)
- The Devil/Satan (First Letter of Peter, 5: “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”)

Notes: Many of these fears are based on myths and misconceptions propagated by politicized preachers espousing a very fear-based faith perspective. Fundamentalists of faiths other than Christian may also harbor similar fears. What fears do secular people have?

{inspired by Anthea Butler, *White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America*}