

THE MYSTERY OF HISTORY
“Sneak Peek of Volume IV”
with author, Linda Lacour Hobar

SESSION I: “GOOD SEED – BAD SEED”

I. The Great Awakening (1734-1760)

- A. Jonathan Edwards
- B. George Whitefield
- C. Spiritual union of the colonies

II. Voltaire and the Enlightenment (1750-1778)

- A. *philosophes* (FILL uh sofs) - a sophisticated term for “students of society”
- B. *Deists* - someone who believes that God created the universe; abandoned it; and is waiting to return for the Last Judgment. A deist does *not* believe that God is still involved with man or that man can have a personal relationship with Him.
- C. *Candide*
- D. “Pronounce that name (Voltaire) in the presence of a clergyman, and you will find that you have made a declaration of war. . . And yet Voltaire was the greatest man of his century, and did more to free the human race than any other of the sons of men.” (Stangroom. *The Great Philosophers*, p. 65. Parentheses mine.)

III. The French Revolution (1789-99)

- A. Louis XVI calls into session the Estates General (the French Parlement)

Estates General	First Estate	Clergy (church officials)	Exempt from paying taxes
	Second Estate	Nobility (king, queen, lords, and wealthy landowners)	Paid only a little tax
	Third Estate	Middle Class (or <i>bourgeoisie</i> – businessmen and merchants) and the poor (peasants and serfs)	Paid almost 50% of their income to taxes

B. National Assembly

C. Marie Antoinette

D. Robespierre and The Reign of Terror

IV. Karl Marx and *The Communist Manifesto* (1848)

A. Breakdown of Karl Marx's plan to achieve communism

1. Marx believed that all conflict was rooted in an economic class struggle between the poor proletariat and the rich bourgeoisie.
2. To settle conflict *between* the classes, Marx wished to abolish one of the classes - the bourgeoisie or the system of capitalism.
3. To abolish capitalism, Marx sought to deprive the bourgeoisie of private property.
4. To take away private property, Marx encouraged the proletariat to revolt (He called this the "dictatorship of the proletariat.")
5. According to Marx, once the proletariat achieved revolt, it would need a transitional government in the form of socialism (which is government owned property and industry.)
6. Last, it was believed by Marx that once socialism balanced out the haves with the have-nots (by the redistribution of wealth), then classless, stateless, pure communism would be achieved and mankind would exist in a freely developed "association."

B. In *The Communist Manifesto*, Marx put his main idea this way, ". . . the theory of the Communists may be summed up in the single sentence: Abolition of private property." (Marx, p. 68)

C. Failure of communism: According to the Bible, man can not reconcile his sin. He can not overcome it on his own nor by his works. (See Rom 3:23 and Eph 2:8-9.) For that reason, God sent Jesus Christ as a perfect sacrifice to atone for man's sin. (Rom 5:6-8)

D. Communism kills: Marx wrote, "The idea of God is the keynote of a perverted civilization. It must be destroyed." (Richard Wurmbrand *Marx and Satan*, cited in *Grave Influences* p. 241.)