

Once Upon a Time in the West

The expression above was the title of an old Western film. It was a box office success, but totally **fictional**. What follows is **factual** all the way, and descriptive of our Western world.

Once upon a time in the West, **moral values** were closely aligned with Biblical principles. Of course there were exceptions; some mocked the Lord Jesus and despised the Word of God; but nowadays these are the majority views.

Once upon a time in the West, things were described either as **bad or good**. Today, bad is often considered good, and when good is upheld, it qualifies, in the minds of many, as not that bad (or at least as narrow-minded or old-fashioned) .

Once upon a time in the West, folks generally believed that the all-powerful God was the **creator of heaven and earth**. Now it is widely taught that we evolved from nothing and to nothing we will eventually return.

Once upon a time in the West, children were taught to **respect authority** at home and in society at large. These days the young are left to make up their own minds about that, and all forms of discipline are relaxed or abandoned.

Once upon a time in the West, **modesty** encouraged self-control on wearing apparel, but the opposite is now the case. Fashion is leading towards more and more exposure, as society at large will tolerate it. And I doubt we have seen the limit yet!

Once upon a time in the West, **movies were censored** to edit out indecency or coarse language. These days there's little restraint. We even hear the name of the Lord Jesus taken in vain. Advisories now only warn potential viewers of violence and inappropriate scenes.

Once upon a time in the West, the basic building block of society was the **family**. Its collapse has left a vacuum the authorities have quickly filled with their own humanist value system.

Once upon a time in the West, the true God, **the God of the Bible**, had an important place in the midst of the Western nations. They now have all become secular and God has become a vague notion where everyone can have his own version.

Once upon a time in the West, the Western nations sent out many **missionaries** to make known the truth of God, but now, its emissaries spread apostasy across the planet.

But soon in the West, God is going to bring all these evil works under **terrible judgment**. Luke 12:48 says: *"Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required."*

And yet still in the West, for a few moments, there is the possibility of avoiding the anger of God by believing on the Lord Jesus. *"He that believes on the Son has everlasting life: and he that believes not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abides on him"* (John 3:36). Those who have heard and not believed God's message are in **great peril**. It's getting very late, hurry and be among those who believe on the Lord Jesus and have eternal life.

Michel for Vision 2020 in 2022

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