

## Introduction

“ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἡμῖν ἡ πάλη πρὸς αἷμα καὶ σάρκα, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὰς ἀρχάς, πρὸς τὰς ἐξουσίας, πρὸς τοὺς κοσμοκράτορας τοῦ σκότους τούτου, πρὸς τὰ πνευματικὰ τῆς πονηρίας ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις.”

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”

There are several groups of people who will be interested in this version of history. Actually, anyone who usually finds history boring might like this, not due to exceptional communication skills, but because I embrace a fundamental metanarrative. I give an overview of history as a progression toward Literacy, Good, Truth, non-violence, Joy, Love, and... Jesus Christ. The simplest way to describe this is that the telos/end is Christ, but the vehicle is that of literacy.

I recognize there are many ways to present history, metanarratives and overarching themes were all but forbidden until recently, where even now the majority are those by materialistic evolutionists. I will doubtless make mistakes, however, I attempt to provide an alternative, as I do not know of any history who really makes the point I am making here.

I divide the history of the world up into the rough categories below. These are chosen based roughly on the principle and commonness of literacy. This exact set of divisions have probably never been seen before. They are of course, intended to be flexible. These periods often line up well with roughly equivalent names of eras used in standard histories, but these have been chosen to accentuate the growth of literacy.

- Mythical Antedeluvian(- 10000BC) After the Fall of Man, humanity is oppressed by the Watchers. God wipes them out. Archeologically ended with the Younger Dryas.
- Oral(10000BC - 1200BC ) Post flood mythology is reborn. It's mostly based on the mythological remembrance of the Watchers. Human leaders imitate them and blur the lines as much as possible. Literacy is primarily priestly, and possibly, intentionally so, to restrict the deeper knowledge of the masses, maintaining control. Predates the phonetic alphabet. Logographic script of the Sumerians, Akkadians, Egyptians and Chinese for whatever reason or process they were designed are not conducive to mass literacy.
- Phonetic(1200BC-800BC) The development of alphabet, necessary for widespread literacy. The Bronze Age Collapse wipes out a large proportion of the worlds population. This results in more sparsely populated areas, but still very distributed. This opens the world up to the proliferation of writing. Many movements and migrations makes phonetic script more common, necessary for mass literacy.
- Axial(800BC-400BC) Renaissance of thinkers, seemingly coming from nowhere, but likely due to the proliferation of Phonetic script combined with change in demographics and economy. This explains Western, and Near Eastern thought, and possibly Indian Devanagari through Aramaic, Although, this does not explain China. In China, the Zhou dynasty had liberated the Shang Dynasty, citing a loss of the Mandate of heaven(Shang generally acknowledged to be extremely cruel).
- Classical(400BC-3BC) Literature matured, but took on a lot more formal, bureaucratic, and legal qualities, which are more important for maintaining State control.
- Christian(3BC-400AD) Jesus born. The new King, the Logos. The goal of literature is to explain Him. He was put to death as he was opposed to the principalities and powers holding the world in ignorance. He is the truth, so was opposed by all those who are anti Truth.
- Monastic(400-1550AD) Christianity grows, but is also politicized. There is still a lot of openness, increased freedom and civil rights.

- Print(1550AD-1850AD) The Printing press contributes to the proliferation of literature and free thought. Of course, this was accompanied by the Protestant Reformation, which made this at least partially morally comprehensible. Scientific Revolution also develops. Counter-Reformation springs up skepticism to counter Protestant optimism. Skepticism turns into the Enlightenment, the basis of modern Atheism and Agnosticism.
- Electronic(1850-1980AD) Revolutions in communication and travel shortens the distance of communication, encouraging literacy further. State Education is there to retard this effort, replacing literacy with education. There is a marked difference between learning skill and thinking. Nietzsche hated the Prussian school model.
- Digital(1980-2019AD) Computers develop, storage systems, networking. Communication becomes lightning fast. Web 1,2,3.
- 2nd Literacy/Orality(2019-) 2nd Orality is the natural state of lightning fast video, audio and AI technology, we lose the ability to read and critique texts, oral and video become more normalized, even if virtualized. 2nd Literacy is the disciplined skill of maintaining analytic ability/consciousness in a post literate world.

This is of course a break from the classic Rock and Metal based categorizations. I think that this categorization of history into divisions of literacy has only really been made possible for a hundred or so years. And this is due

1. World literature and history being more widely known and compared, such as those of the Vedas, Greek, Mesopotamian, etc which enabled
  1. the discovery of the “Axial Age”, ie. *that* there was a sudden spike in literacy worldwide
  2. many advances into the content of comparative religion, especially when it comes to the nature of God, authority and epistemology/revelation.
2. Researches into archeology, paleoclimatology etc which reveals the nature of the Bronze Age Collapse.

We live in a time with high literacy, however, metanarratives and teleology are usually frowned upon, or at the very least expected to be materialist and evolutionary. In the absence of such a work, I offer this as one attempt to trace history’s arc toward its Logos.