FOREWORD

Standing in the public square today, people are bereft of answers about life. As relativists, we cannot find truth. As Pelagians, we do not assume fallibility. As agnostics, we search in vain for the transcendent.

It is instructive that, as technology produces new wonders of accomplishment, we are deracinated, lost in a maelstrom of facts that make truth’s pursuit elusive. How is it that, at this moment of historical evolution, when science offers so much, confusion is the state of humanity?

Several reasons exist for this condition: (1) historical amnesia, the belief that the past is a false dream from which we must awaken, (2) philosophical ignorance based on a faith in the secular and mechanistic, and (3) belief in misleading ideas.

No coincidence that sophistry is in vogue. Today, words mean whatever authors suggest. An Orwellian logic pervades modern thought. Arguably, René Descartes, the philosopher who turned Aristotle on his head, is modern sophistry’s progenitor.

Cartesian logic applied the Galilean universe of mathematics to philosophical explanation. In the process, the tide of indeterminacy crushed the subtlety of expression, faith in powers beyond the self, and the state of truth itself.

To restore our moral compass, we must understand where we lost our bearings. In the pages that follow, Peter A. Redpath offers this understanding. This book displays rare insight: a prodigious attempt to explain modernity’s metaphysical shortcomings and philosophy’s mistaken detour.

Whether the reader embraces Redpath’s conclusion is less significant than the recognition that his thesis offers an explanation filled with erudition, comprehension, and provocative analysis.

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