

Hollywood Star Says 'Denial of God' is Driving Cynicism of Modern Culture

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Not only are Americans increasingly cynical about their government, they're also trusting one another less and less. In 2019, nearly 80% of Americans said they had "too little" trust in each other—a trend one Hollywood star believes is the result of a cultural "denial of God" and the rise of the "New Age."

Harry Lennix, known for his recurring role in the NBC crime drama "The Blacklist," recently told CBN's Faithwire the "real issue" plaguing society is "the cynicism of modernity," which finds its origin, he said, in the "insistence that there be an abdication of God, denial of God in the name of whatever this is, the New Age, the computer age, of intelligence, of our own humanism."

"I think there has to be a willingness and a modeling of humility," he continued. "That's really what I think the answer to [our cultural problem] is."

That belief served as the motivation for Lennix's decision to portray "Coach Russell Banks" in the new Pure Flix movie, "Nothing Is Impossible," which debuted on the streaming platform Oct. 6. The faith-based film tells the story of Scott Beck (David A.R. White), a one-time NBA hopeful whose mistakes and missteps sabotaged his chances at love and playing professional basketball, until he received the opportunity to right his wrongs.

To make his case, Lennix referenced 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV), which states:

“If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land”.

“I think that it is the humbling [that changes things],” Lennix explained. “But we can really only do that through modeling. We have to look at people, we have to look at these characters in these movies. We have to go to the example of Christ Himself, who came in the flesh to be our perfect guide and our perfect example of the benefits of humility.”

“By providing this entertainment,” the celebrity continued, “we are actually giving a living example of this.”

A reflective person by nature, it’s fitting Lennix’s earlier plans in life were to pursue ministry. In fact, it was during his time in seminary he first tried his hand at playacting. The 57-year-old star said he sees a “symbiotic relationship” between his early years studying to go into the priesthood and his ultimate decision to pursue a career in Hollywood—two lifestyles most would probably see as polar opposites.

“Theater as we know it—acting as we know it—all of these things arose out of religious festivals back in ancient Greece, somewhere around there,” he explained. “So I think to separate those two is actually the real radical act. Trying to reunite them in some way is actually, I think, the thing to do.”

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