

The Rise of the Demigods, Part 1

I haven't seen so many demigods since the ancient Greeks. What is a demigod? In Greek methodology, demigods were the offspring of the Olympian gods, who took great delight in toying with mere mortals even having offspring by them. Half man, half god, they were renowned for their courage, talent, and strength but also their jumbled chaotic lives. The Greek gods were known to put these demigods to the test, while gleefully watching from afar, but these demigods all had one thing in common, they were mortal. Hercules, the son of Zeus, having been poisoned elected to burn himself to death, while Asclepius, the god of medicine, and the son of Apollo died, even with his advanced knowledge of life-saving medicine.

Our real-life present-day demigods live lives just as chaotic and tragic. They are the result of extreme progressive, unhinged thinking that arises from mankind's accumulation of knowledge over the past 200 years and in the absence of humility, appreciation, and wisdom. We have come a long way from the ancient Greeks who would cower from thunderstorms and other natural phenomena.

WHO ARE THESE DEMIGODS?

We see them as masters of the universe billionaires, politicians, Hollywood types, producers, writers and actors, and singer-songwriters who have achieved fame and fortune beyond all measure.

You can easily identify them by their incoherent worldviews, and complete absence of humility as they defy the laws of nature and man. By their messianic messaging, like saving the world from climate change and directing organizations such as Green Peace or the ACLU, they are like the ancient Babylonians who tried to build a tower to heaven (the story of the tower of Babel) so that they could be like gods.

It all started with the bodybuilders of the '60s and '70s, who aspired to achieve herculean chiseled muscular bodies. In their quest for body perfection, they defied the laws of nature injecting themselves with anabolic steroids, and testosterone, drenching themselves in deer antler's blood all in the quest to achieve a sculptured body of Olympian proportions. Even today old men inject themselves with testosterone in a vain attempt to delay the onset of old age; not realizing that they are playing with fire, kind of like dowsing an overheated engine with gasoline. Many cancers are fueled by hormones.

THEIR SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT AND APPETITES ARE LEGION

Their appetites are virtually limitless. With their fractured incoherent view of the world, social norms mean nothing to them as they chase their next rush of excitement and titillation, taking great delight in engaging in progressive deviant behavior. And just like the gods of Mount Olympus, they think that they are above the laws of man, nature, and the universe.

Not content with the lengthy lifespan offered by modern medicine, they want to toy with life's code itself. We have all witnessed outrageous claims by so-called experts, gerontologist Aubrey de Grey, who claims that future anti-aging therapies would achieve Longevity Escape Velocity (LEV) keeping us above ground for multiple centuries. Why settle for a lifespan of 100 years when one can have a lifespan lasting several centuries? They experiment with so-called life-extension drugs such as metformin, and rapamycin. These are old drugs repurposed for life extension. Having no awareness of just how complex the human body is, they can't appreciate to what degree they are flirting with consequences far beyond their comprehension.

When we first discovered chromosomes and genes, we thought that the genome would prove to be an instruction manual for life, but it turned out not to be the blueprint to the code to life. We know now that talk of doubling or tripling human lifespans based on some future science rewrite of life's code is science fiction.

Gero scientist, Thomas Perls, who's been conducting rigorous studies of centenarians, says that while trying to prevent age-related diseases is a valiant cause, the idea of some momentous LEV taking over and giving us eternal life is silly. He points out that the world's oldest person, Jeanne Calment, lived to age 122 in 1997. No one else has come close to her record in the decades since.

What are the long-term consequences of acting as a demigod? You're bound to lose your way, living an artificial construct. What we learn is those who behave as demigods find themselves at a dead end, childless, friendless, spiteful, and hateful, failing miserably at achieving a composed life of meaning.

Just like the bodybuilders of old, their bodies end up hollowed out and freakishly distorted, dying decades before their time.

They fail to appreciate the obvious, life is to be treasured, something to be savored and lived in moderation, with humility and patience, and that beauty, peace, and solace are found in the little things in life. Even a child knows what they fail to realize in their self-actualizing frenzy, a flame that burns twice as bright, lasts only half as long.