

## **The Myth of the *Analogia Entis*:**

### **Karl Barth's Doctrine of Secular Misery in Weimar Context**

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**Abstract:**

To understand the content of Barth, one must understand the context of Barth. This paper begins with an effort to effectively tie Barth's doctrine of the *analogia entis* to the realities of Barth's Weimar context. Only by binding these two elements together does a clear picture emerge of Barth's understanding and utilization of the *analogia entis*. Egressing from this picture is that Barth's rejection of the *analogia entis* is not esoteric rhetoric against Roman Catholic theology. It is a theological rejoinder rather born out of engagement with the ethos of National Socialism and connatural ideologies which delivered the Protestant Church and German Society over to a "secular misery" via the myth of the *analogia entis*. This contextual understanding demonstrates that Barth viewed the *analogia entis* as *primarily* a Protestant issue and only *tangentially* as a Protestant-Catholic issue. The study concludes with an examination of the evangelical movement in the United States as a contemporary case study for the need to recover Barth's contextual formulation of the *analogia entis*.