The Household and the War for the Cosmos (Wiley)

Forward etc

- Fathers far more involved in the past
- Changes happened after the industrial revolution
- Feminism only makes it worse; having kids is lifestyle choice
- Thesis: recover the productive household

1. The Deluge
    1. Household most important institution
    2. Why breakdown of home? Reasons:
        1. Lifestyle choice: In 1980, 91% of Czech women married by 30. Now 26%; 81, 20 for Australia.
        2. Kids expensive: Pets better. In 2017, US department of Agriculture said cost $233,610 to raise a child to 17 years of age.
        3. Socialism: welfare state takes care of you, family now less important.
2. Whatever became of Piety?
    1. Eliminate a word and you eliminate an idea, and, by implication, a way of living that the idea suggests. George Orwell. There is a connection between words and meanings.
3. Aeneas, Abraham and Pietas
    1. Disagreement whether Christians should use pagan lit. What does Athens have to do with Jerusalem? Augustine: all truth is God's truth. So, lets not burn Egyptian libraries. Let's plunder them.
4. Waging Peace
    1. Ephesians is a handbook for guerrilla piety.
    2. Christian life is serious. Marines don't smile in pic for a reason.
5. Lost and found in the cosmos
    1. Homes today largely rec centers. Productivity has moved out. Father was everything in first century. Now, fathers not in charge. He doesn't do anything but watch TV. Dad is buddy. Second mommy. Friendship is goal. Instead, he should say do your duty, not "be you" or "do what makes you happy."
    2. "The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult and left untried."
6. House Stewards
    1. Hermeneutic of suspicion; we assume guys in past were bad.
    2. In past, in honor societies: "A woman physical security depended on the ability of the men in her family or clan to protect her. Forget all that fantasy game nonsense about Xena the Warrior Princess; the story of Dinah in Genesis 34 was the norm." Same with Pride and Prejudice. Would be better if potential rapists said today: better not mess with her. Don't want her family here in middle of night.
    3. Ephesians 3:14-15 - Greek world literally couldn't even say family without saying father.
    4. Slavery: why didn't Paul emancipate slavery on the spot? Progressives love to leverage this.
        1. "Western civilization did not invest slavery. It can't even claim to have perfected it. The only claim that Western civilization can make when it comes to slavery is that it is the first civilization that figured out a way to live without it." (loc. 1173)
        2. Demand issue with slavery:w cheap labor. But what about supply side.
        3. What if you couldn't pay back debt? You have not money or bank. Man stealing is sin, but you could turn to crime, begging. Slavery answered supply issue.
        4. Thus, in the ancient world, most gentle and generous patriarch could come to find himself the master of slaves almost against his wishes.
7. The Cosmos 2.0
    1. "When people believe in the future, they tend to fill it with little copies of themselves. Children are a vote of confidence. Today, the most pampered people in the history of the world can't be bothered. Some of them go so far as to say that having children would be

immoral—a crime against the planter, or something like that. Meanwhile they grow ever more dependent upon the poor immigrants that mow their lawns, and fix their plumbing, and someday will sponge-bathe them in their gated retirement communities." (1287)

2. We're the true progressives. We know we're going somewhere good.

8. Epilogue
    1. Every household should have husband and wife that find ways to be fruitful together. Gives independence. A farm, a trade, a business, property. Productive property. Today, we're just wage earners. Bring proprietorship back to the home.