

“Spiritual Autonomy, Deconstructionism, and Critical Race Theory:
The War Against Christian Discipleship” (Part 3)
Deuteronomy 19:15-21; James 2:1-9

“Nor is He (God) served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth...” (Acts 17:25-26)

“So God created them in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Genesis 1:27). “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in His own image.” (Genesis 9:6)

- What is the goal of “Traditional Civil Rights”?
 - *“To judge (have an objective standard) a man (or woman) not by the color of his skin (we are all image bearers of God, a part of the human race), but by the content of his character (an objective standard).” (Martin Luther King Jr.)*
 - *“The reason why the Lady Of Justice is wearing blindfolds is to represent objectivity and impartiality in matters of law and justice. In other words, this means, justice is objective. When you’re blind, you cannot see an individual’s skin color, identity, beauty, race, power, wealth, poverty, etc. Thus, you are unbiased in your decisions.”*
- What is the goal of “Critical Race Theory”?
 - *“It is a point of view that is based upon economics, history, setting, environment, self-interest, emotions, and the unconscious, to deal with the issues of race, justice, and society.” (Richard Delgado)*
 - *Critical Theory* which is the basis of *Critical Race Theory* holds to these realities: 1) There are no universal principles of right and wrong to evaluate culture from. 2) History should be viewed through oppression and give no credence to progress or improvements in tackling social issues. 3) Those in authority are all powerful and responsible for all social problems and behaviors. There is no individual responsibility for our actions. 4) It promotes freedom, but only encourages struggle between classes and ethnicities. 5) Western civilization is viewed as harsh and oppressive but other societies are not to be evaluated or scrutinized. 6) Critical Theory emerged from a Marxist and Freudian (Atheistic) ideology known as the Frankfurt School.
 - *Critical Race Theory* believes: 1) That motives of those in power can be assumed without any proof. 2) That minorities should have pride in their ethnicity before unity in our humanity. 3) That humanity's sin issue can be cured by legislation instead of the gospel. 4) That America has an issue with systemic racism instead of systemic sin. 5) That CRT should not be scrutinized, have to use logic, or provide evidence for any of its claims, but if you question anything that is said by CRT you are racist.
 - *“Naziism and Communism have led to the slaughter of millions upon millions by using dogmas (a point of view or tenet put forth as authoritative without adequate grounds) that are not able to be scrutinized or questioned, but accepted, under the name of “authority” and appeal to emotions, such as fear, instead of verifiable facts. Any one who questions this line of thinking publicly, will be silenced by severe accusations (racist, homophobic, manipulator, science denier, conspiracy theorist) or viewed as dangerous, as opposed to those presenting the information having to take on a burden of proof that can be scrutinized. Truth has no issue being objectively scrutinized.” (Darrell Harrison)*

(continued →)

Worship: So I Will Trust You (Sovereign Grace Music) God Omniscient, God All Knowing (Matt Boswell)
Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted (Fernando Ortega) **Closing Song:** Rock of Ages (The Modern Post)

Service Times: Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- What is the Biblical take on this issue?
 - *“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor.” (Leviticus 19:15)*
 - Deuteronomy 19:15-21:
 - 1) A single witness shall not suffice in an accusation. 2) A charge is established by empirical (the information obtained through observation and documentation of certain behavior and patterns of behavior) evidence of two or three witnesses. 3) The judge shall inquire of the witnesses and the accused diligently. 4) If the accusation is found to be false, the false witness will take on the punishment of the crime. 5) To falsely accuse someone is a severe offense.
 - All of these situations require multiple witnesses for accusation and still need to be handled by leadership properly: Church Discipline (Matthew 18:15-17); Charges against Elders (1 Timothy 5:19-20); Crimes that have the death penalty associated with them (Deuteronomy 17:6); Simply as a general principle (2 Corinthians 13:1).
 - *“People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry, but if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold; he will give all the goods of his house.” (Proverbs 6:30-31)*
 - God has provided a means for the poor to be taken care of biblically (Leviticus 19:9-10; 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12). Because of sin, there will always be poverty in the world (Matthew 26:11). Christians have been called to specifically take care of the poor saints in the world (Galatians 2:10; Romans 15:25-27).
 - In Christ we have been called to be reconciled with one another: *“For He (Christ) Himself is our peace, who has made us both (Jew and Gentile) one and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility” (Ephesians 2:14)*. We are not responsible for the sins of our fathers: *“The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself” (Ezekiel 18:20; cf. Deuteronomy 24:16)*. But we should repent for our own sins (1 John 1:5-10) and freely offer forgiveness towards those who have sinned against us: *“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you” (Ephesians 4:32)*. We ought to expect sinners to sin (Romans 8:7-8) and expect saints to fight for unity (Ephesians 4:1-3). The gospel is the solution to the sin problem: *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16)*.
 - Closing thoughts....Don't be a respecter of persons with the gospel (James 2:1-9). God delights in biblical justice, love, and righteousness (Jeremiah 9:23-24). A fool takes no pleasure in the truth (Proverbs 18:2) and hastily accuses someone (Proverbs 25:8). We need to be critical thinkers (Proverbs 18:17).

Announcements:

- ★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of April we are collecting donations for Heartbeats. For the list of the items needed, please look at the board on the back table. There is a tote in front of the back table to put your donations in.
- ★**CHURCH DAY OF PRAYER:** Our monthly day of prayer as a church body will be on Wednesday, April 27. This is a day that we are asking the members of this church body to spend time praying specifically for your leaders and the ministries within this church. Please mark your calendars for this day of prayer!
- ★**LADIES SPRING BRUNCH:** Attention ladies!! Mark your calendars! We will be having a Spring Brunch together on Saturday, May 7th, at 10am. This will be held at Jen Kasson's house (4390 Canyon Road, Granville). We will be putting out a sign-up list soon for everyone who is able to attend to bring a sweet or savory food item to the brunch.
- ★**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The days and times have been set for the Children's Catechism Class and we now are asking for volunteers to help with childcare for those times. The dates are Saturday, May 28th, and Saturday June 4th, at 6pm, at the Sapp Residence (1796 Reddington Road). We are looking for 6 volunteers for each of those days. There is a sign-up list on the back table for those who are willing to volunteer their time to serve the parents by caring for their children on those dates.
- ★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay and enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!