

**The Gospel
And Racism**



**Exchanging Power vs.
Exchanging Sin For
Righteousness**



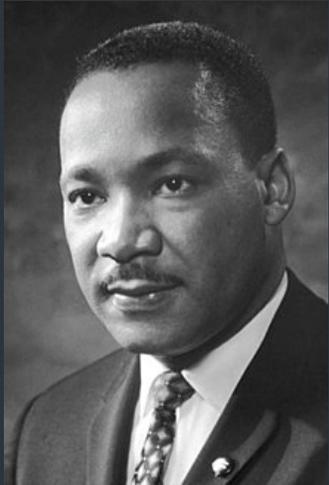
Man Exchanged God's Glory For Man's Power

- **Romans 1:22-23** ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Christ Exchanged Man's Sin For His Righteousness

- **2 Corinthians 5:21** He made Him who knew no sin to be *sin for us*, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Martin Luther King



- “Let us be dissatisfied until that day when nobody will shout '**White Power!**' — when nobody will shout '**Black Power!**' — but everybody will talk about **God's power**”
 - Address to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 8/16/67

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- **The Gospel message is not exchanging power among men but the exchange of our sin for Christ's righteousness!**

Social Injustice vs. God's Justice

- Isaiah 59:14 “*Justice* is turned back, and *righteousness* stands afar off; for *truth* is fallen in the street, and *equity* cannot enter.”





Jeremiah 7:28

- So you shall say to them, “This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the Lord their God nor receive correction. **Truth has perished** and has been cut off from their mouth.”

▶ Pursuing Justice Also Requires Goodness, Kindness And Humility Before God

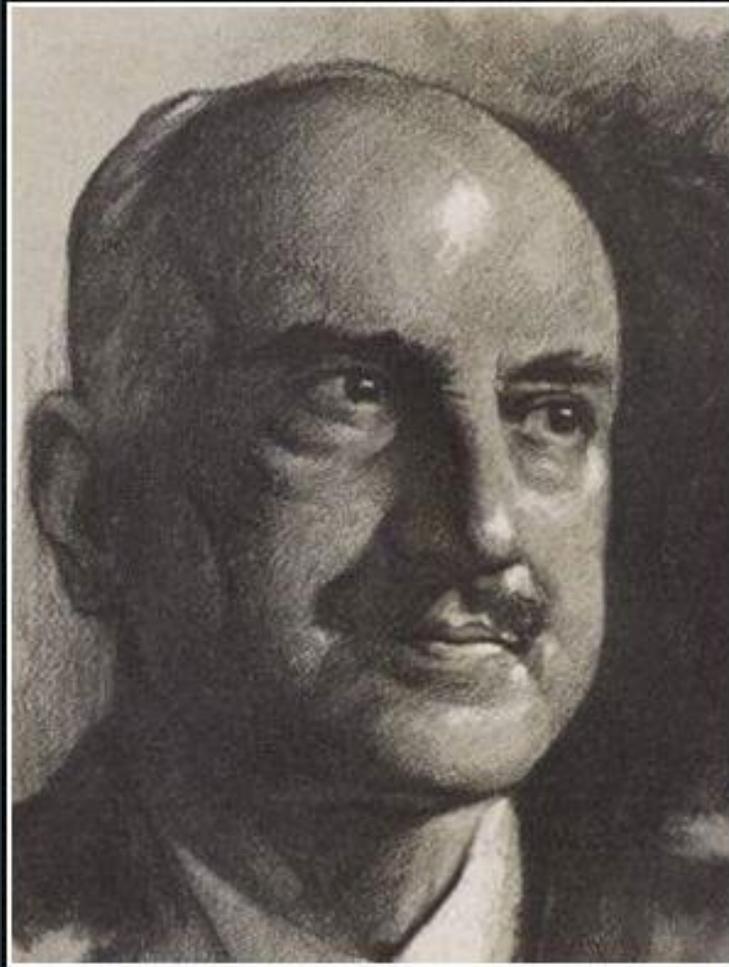
- **Micah 6:8** He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Pursuing Justice Can Only Be Objective When We Conform To God's Justice

- **John 5:24** Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

Canceling Culture vs. Canceling Sin

- **Matthew 7:3-5** ³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.



Those who cannot learn from history
are doomed to repeat it.

— *George Santayana* —

AZ QUOTES



...others who have spoken out about this!
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Audrey S. Lee So, is the irony that Pastor Rick compared his staff to the Red Guard as a joke, and that his staff really IS a group of youngsters who stormed through their lives, destroying people and culture without restraint? do they threaten, humiliate and force o... See More
Like · Reply · 🗨️ 1 · 57 minutes ago



Pastor Rick Warren People often miss irony on the Internet. It's a joke people! If you take this seriously, you really shouldn't be following me! Did you know that, using Hebrew ironic humor, Jesus inserted several laugh lines- jokes - in the Sermon on the Mount? The self-righteous missed them all while the disciples were undoubtedly giggling!
Like · Reply · 🗨️ 255 · Yesterday at 8:30am via mobile

🗨️ 37 Replies · 42 minutes ago



Amy Cheshire Pastor Rick, I am married to a pastor with a wicked sense of humor. I love it! It makes ministry bearable when dealing, not with the world, but with other Christians who are always looking for something to complain about and judge. You are an inspiration to so many of us in ministry. Keep up the good work!
Like · Reply · 🗨️ 101 · Yesterday at 8:50am via mobile

🗨️ 10 Replies · 6 hours ago



Sam Mad Doc Tsang some jokes are bad taste, brother. You know many suffered under such Red Guards. It's like joking about the Holocaust. You also have a branch in Hong Kong. Please



Write a comment...

Colossians 2:13b-14

- having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Privilege vs. Stewardship

- **Matthew 25:29** For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

1 Corinthians 9:19-22

- ¹⁹For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; ²⁰and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; ²¹to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; ²²to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some



Redistribution vs. Reconciliation



2 Corinthians 5:14-16

- ¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. ¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

- ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Ephesians 2:14-16

- ¹⁴For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, ¹⁵having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.



- A godless philosophy can at best redistribute political and economic power among sinners. The greater power is in the Gospel that reconciles relationships destroyed by sin.



Systemic Injustice Vs. Individual Sin

- **Romans 5:6-9** ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but ¹God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.



Color Blindness vs. Nation Celebration



- **Acts 17:26** And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,

- **Acts 10:34-35** ³⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

- **Revelation 5:9** ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,

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- **1 Corinthians 9:19** For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;

Conclusion

- Godless theories (e.g. CRT) may address real problems that are caused by sin. Oppression and injustice destroys our love for God and people (the 2 greatest commandments). Only the Gospel properly addresses and ultimately repairs the damage of sin that has offended God and hurt others.
- But it begins with one person at a time addressing our sin before God. Have you repented of your sin and trusted Christ as your Savior?

Conclusion

- Understand the horrible impact of sin on its victims. But instead of placing blame on a culture, a race or a corporate representation, know that each individual sin is accountable before God. Have we taken accountability for our sin?

Conclusion

- Guard ourselves from the easy way of “cancelling” what we don’t like in our world. Identify what God says is virtuous and identify how fallen men have come short. But beware of self-righteousness that blinds us from our own shortcomings. Then rejoice that Christ mercifully saved us who didn’t deserve it.

Conclusion

- The ultimate goal is not shifting power but sacrificial service as Paul emulates Christ giving up freedom and authority to win people to Christ.

Conclusion

- Who has hurt you, used you or mistreated you?
- Will you pray for that person to repent of his/her sin and receive Christ as Savior?

Discussion

- What are the dangers of trying to solve the problems of racism and injustice without the Gospel?
- How does the Gospel ultimately bring justice personally and across the world?
- How does the Gospel bring racial harmony?