

## **FREEDOM IN THE CROSSHAIRS #9**

Our nation has fallen into the hands of those who intend to transform America into a socialist nation. They intend to destroy the family, emasculate the Church, and run the government under false flags and ideological propaganda. The great Alexander Solzhenitsyn told us how to respond to such a time as this...

### **Alexander Solzhenitsyn**

**Live not by lies.**

What did he mean?

### **Alexander Solzhenitsyn**

**To live by lies means to accept without protest all the falsehoods and propaganda that the state compelled its citizens to affirm, or at least not to oppose the falsehoods and propaganda. To live by lies is to get along peaceably under totalitarianism.**

The counter-revolution we need is in described in Rod Dreher's book Live Not By Lies with the subtitle: A Manual for Christian Dissidents.

### **"Dissident"**

**A person who opposes official policy, especially that of an authoritarian state. Synonyms: : a protester, revolutionary, independent thinker, disputant, objector**

Christian dissidents can win this war and make America great again if each and everyone one of us, in our own small way, refuses to live by the lies the enemy is using to capture the culture for communism.

With that in mind, I'm going to take the next few weeks in our Freedom Series to hit hell head on with a series of teachings to attack 2 big lies that must be overcome. we must overcome; theI have entitled...

## **Waking Up To Woke Combatting Critical Race Theory**

Buckle your seat belts because this will be a bumpy ride for some of God's people who still have no clue about the demonic nature of the 'Woke' culture or the evil ideology of Critical Race theory that threatens to crumble our country.

The stakes are high. Pastor Voddie Baucham is not exaggerating when he warns...

**Pastor Voddie Baucham**

**"The current cultural moment is precarious. The United States is on the verge of a race war, if not a complete cultural meltdown."**

The cure for this 'current cultural moment' is a Christian Church that knows the truth that makes us free.

**John 8:32**

**You shall know the truth and the truth will make you free.**

It's time for the Church to obey these 2 commands from the Apostle Paul:

**Ephesians 5:11-12**

**And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.**

**Ephesians 5:12-14**

**For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore. He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."**

Notice that God's cure for 'woke' is 'Awake'! Christ will give us light that exposes the works of darkness. *We are living in an hour when God is exposing the works done in darkness!*

**Luke 12:1-3**

**He began to say to His disciples first of all, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.**

Later they understood 'leaven' referred to the doctrine of the Pharisees. **For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. Therefore, whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops.**

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus tells us to take the truth He gives in private and preach it from the housetops...without fear!

**Matthew 10:27-28**

**"Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

I can't read this without thinking about how it applies to our own day and how He calls us to speak the truth in the face of all threats.

The Apostle Peter said it this way:

**1 Peter 3:13-14**

**And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled."**

**1 Peter 3:15-16**

**But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.**

## **I. What Does It Mean to Be 'Woke'?**

### **A. Definitions**

1. The word 'woke' has a new meaning today. It used to be a verb. (I 'woke' up). Now it's an adjective!

### **Woke**

**Woke was officially added into the Oxford English Dictionary as an adjective in June 2017. The dictionary originally defined it as 'well-informed, up-to-date'. Now it chiefly means 'alert to racial or social discrimination and injustice'.**

- a. I spend a lot of time in my teaching on definitions. Words matter!
- b. The meaning of words is changing so fast these days that the online Urban Dictionary of for slang words and phrases has 7 million definitions and is adding 2,000 new entries being added every day!

### **Urban Dictionary**

**Being woke means being aware... knowing what's going on in the community related to racism and social injustice.**

c. Individuals and corporations that are 'woke' claim to have a perceived awareness of issues that concern social justice and racial justice.

2. What 'wokeness' really means is a a perverted view of the world where everything is seen through the lenses of 'race'. Some social commentators have recognized that the woke movement has become something of a new religion.

### **Cultural Marxism, Center for Renewing America, 5/12/21**

**What began decades ago with the secularization of American society has evolved, paradoxically, into a new state religion: Wokeness. Those who reject its teachings—identity politics, an ethic of grievance, and explicit racism—now represent America's counterculture. The left is now the ruling class, and it aims to use its newfound power to crush all dissent.**

a. Rock singer Tai Bachman agrees:

### **Tai Bachmann**

**Woke is now our state religion in a country that constitutionally and for good reason is not supposed to have a state religion.**

### **Roger L. Simon**

**Wokism is more than a state religion. It is a mass psychosis similar to many that have arisen throughout history when the masses followed leaders who, in their zeal or self-interest, took them to disastrous ends. This psychosis has a political dimension with the capability of changing a society, which it has already done.**

3. God's people need to wake up to wokeness as a competing religion...and it ain't Christian!

### **Cynical Theories, Helen Pluckrose and James Lindsay**

**'Woke' Americans, or those who describe themselves as Social Justice Warriors, should know they're actually members of a cult.**

## **B. The Woke Cult of Social Justice Warriors**

**1. Woke is a cult; a kind of counterfeit Christianity that has its own set of foundational doctrines.**

2. For example, ‘woke’ has its own doctrine of ‘original sin’.

**a. In Christianity, ‘original sin’ refers to the sin of Adam and Eve** in the Garden of Eden; a crime that systemically contaminated the entire human race; for the ‘Woke Cult’, according to the so-called ‘1619 Project’, original sin refers to the introduction of slavery to America in 1619, a crime that systemically poisoned us as a nation and rendered us hopelessly contaminated with racism!

**b. In Christianity, the doctrine of ‘depravity’ refers to the effects of ‘original sin’** and how we are hopelessly separated from God unless God saves us. In the ‘Woke Cult’, ‘depravity’ refers to the effects of the white man’s ‘original sin’ of slavery, a sin that leaves white people hopelessly contaminated by it.

c. In Christianity, people cannot be cleansed from their sin without help from God; in the ‘Woke Cult’, white people cannot be cleansed from their racism because of their ‘whiteness’.

**Voddie Baucham**

**The Fundamentals of Wokeness**

- Racism is *normal*
- Racism is *systemic*

**White people are *incapable* of change**

3. In the church of ‘wokeness’ there is no way to win if you are white.

a. For example, white people who claim they are not racists do so because of what woke, white author Robin DiAngelo calls ‘white fragility’. She wrote a book about it.

**Robin DiAngelo in “White Fragility”**

**White fragility is the defensive response by a white person when their whiteness is highlighted or mentioned, or their racial worldview is challenged, whether this response is conscious or otherwise.**

b. Notice the last phrase: ‘whether this response is conscious or otherwise’.

c. In other words, if you are white, you are a racist whether you know it or not.

### **The Christian Post 2/8/21**

**Woke ideology is built upon the idea that every individual is either racist or anti-racist. Any reasons one provides to prove he is not a racist is used as evidence for his alleged racism.**

4. In Christianity, you are a sinner whether you know it or not. But at least in Christianity you can confess you're a sinner and receive forgiveness; but in the Woke Cult, there is no redemption for being white.

**a. Wokeness says, You only deny you're a racist because of your 'white fragility' and you are not 'woke'.**

b. On the other hand, if you admit you're a racist then you are also a 'white supremacist'.

c. In Christianity, when a sinner repents they receive forgiveness; in the 'Woke Cult' you can repent of your whiteness but you can never be forgiven for it.

5. In Christianity we are taught to hate our sins. In the Woke Cult we are taught to hate our whiteness.

a. If you don't know how to do that, you can pay \$60,000 a year to send your child to Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, where Assistant Dean Kate Slater will teach them how...

### **Kate Slater, Assistant Dean of Brandeis University**

**Yes, all White people are racist in that all White people have been conditioned in a society where one's racial identity determines life experiences/outcomes and Whiteness is the norm and the default. And that includes me! I don't hate White people. I hate Whiteness.**

6. This is a perfect picture of what our colleges and universities, (including some Christian institutions are teaching the next generation right now. It is a new religion with a new definition of what's wrong with the world.

### **The Bottom Line**

**In Christianity, the source of all that is wrong in the world is sin. In the Woke Cult, the source of all that is wrong in the world is racism.**

7. One more point; the Woke Cult (state church) not only has a doctrine of original sin and a doctrine of depravity, it has its own version of excommunication for those who refuse to believe what they're selling.

### **C. Cancel Culture is the Woke Cult Version of Excommunication**

1. The New Testament Christian church is commanded to excommunicate unrepentant sinners and doctrinal heretics and refuse them a place of fellowship in the church. *Excommunication in the church of Woke is 'cancel culture'*, defined by Roger L. Simon, writing in the Epoch Times..,

**Roger L. Simon**

**In case you missed it, 'cancel culture' is the term used by the self-anointed 'woke' for boycotting—essentially turning into non-persons and erasing from public life—people who have exhibited what they deem questionable behavior or written something untoward on social media.**

2. The Church of Woke requires everyone to join and excommunicates all dissenters who refuse to go along.

**Roger L. Simon**

**An iron-fisted, ideologically extreme minority has our country under its thumb. Play along or face excommunication. This is stronger than anything in our history and is almost identical to what we have seen in totalitarian countries. It is a psychosis approaching mass hallucination.**

a. Christians aren't the only ones in the cancel culture crosshairs:

- Ellen DeGeneres was nearly cancelled for hobnobbing with former President George Bush in October 2019
- Actor Vince Vaughan was targeted of a video shaking hands and chatting with President Donald Trump and his wife at a football game
- A Bernie Sanders campaign worker recently said that all who voted for Donald Trump should be sent to 'Reeducation Camps' the same way Stalin sent his enemies to the prison camps

3. The cancel culture is a cancer on our culture-and it's spreading.

**The Christian Post 2/8/21**

**It seems as though ‘wokeness’ ideology is taking over our society with everyone from churches to schools to giant corporations seeing who can be the most ‘woke’.**

4. It grieves me so many Christian pastors and churches and Christian schools are embracing the very woke culture that is aiming to destroy us.

**The Christian Post 2/8/21**

**Wokeness sees historic Christianity, and even things like logic and science, as oppressive, racist, and bigoted. Today’s ‘woke’ culture is tearing our society apart and erecting barriers to people considering the true Gospel and the freedom it provides.**

5. How does Woke Culture build barriers to Christian salvation? Because the Woke cult sees man’s problems as a race issue instead of a sin issue!

**The Christian Post 2/8/21**

**Woke ideas remove any personal responsibility and choice from individuals and place guilt on a collective group of people simply because of their skin color. This is the epitome of collectivist and racist thinking.**

6. In Christianity, I must take personal responsibility for my sins which are making me miserable; but in the Woke Church, I am miserable because of the sins of another people group, so the responsibility is on them.

7. Which leads to the question of...

### **III. Close**

#### **A. Who Are the Real Racists?**

1. The age-old tactic of Marxist politics is captured by Adolf Hitler’s diabolical Minister of Propaganda...

**Joseph Goebbels**

**Accuse the other side of that which you are guilty.**

a. Hitler was able to convince the German people that the Jewish race was the cause of the nation’s problems and he exterminated 6 ½ million. In reality, Hitler was the racist.



b. The vast majority of the Woke culture are members of the political left. But...

### **The Political Roots of Racism**

**Even a quick study of history will reveal that the roots of racism in American politics, (including the Ku Klux Klan), are found in the Democrat Party. It was a Republican President that freed the slaves. But how few know this today?**

2. We don't know because the Christian church has not been 'Awake' to 'Woke'!

### **The Christian Post 2/8/21**

**The Church needs to summarily reject the major notions of 'wokeness' ideology, Critical Race Theory, 'white guilt' and 'white fragility'.**

3. We do not reject these things simply because they are wrong; we reject them because they are lies!

## **B. What is God Doing Right Now?**

1. God is raising up His true church to 'live not by lies' and to expose the unfruitful works of darkness. How do we do that?

### **Alexander Solzhenitsyn**

**We are not always called upon to step out into the square and shout out the truth—to say out loud what we think—but let us at least refuse to say what we do not think!**

2. Stop agreeing with the culture, especially in what we say out loud. But there's more...

### **Rod Dreher**

**For Alexander Solzhenitsyn, a man who refuses to live by lies:**

- **Will not say, write, affirm, or distribute anything that distorts the truth**
- **Will not go to a demonstration or participate in a collective action unless he truly believes in the cause**
- **Will not take part in a meeting in which the discussion is forced and no one can speak the truth**

## **Rod Dreher**

### **The man who lives not by lies:**

- **Will not vote for a candidate or proposal he considers to be ‘dubious’ or ‘unworthy’**
- **Will walk out of an event ‘as soon as he hears the speaker utter a lie, ideological drivel, or shameless propaganda**
- **Will not support journalism that distorts or hides the underlying facts**

3. Once we begin to train ourselves to live not by lies, the list will get longer.

## **Rod Dreher**

**This is by no means an exhaustive list of the possible and necessary ways of evading lies, but he who begins to cleanse himself will, with a cleansed eye, easily discern yet other opportunities.**

## **Closing Prayer**

## **Title Slide**