

## Critical Race Theory: The Christian Solution #7

I want to take a bit of a turn as we continue our series on Critical Race Theory: The Christian Solution with a message I'm calling...

### When God Seems Silent

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Personal Testimony

1. American Christianity today is falling into 2 camps.

a. The first is the biggest; confessing Christians who, for whatever reason, seem to be oblivious of what's going on in America and the fact that we are in a life and death battle for the soul of America.

- 40% of Christians are not even registered to vote
- 90 million Christians are eligible to vote but 40 million don't vote in Presidential elections (CBN,
- CBN in 2019: 90 million Christians in America are eligible to vote, but as many as **40 million** fail to vote in Presidential election cycles.
- My Faith Votes website: **15 million** are not even registered to vote

b. I'm in the second Christian camp.

- I watch the news; scan the internet; but I recently realized I was spending more time reading blogs than reading my Bible.

2. This message came to me in the midst of feeling overwhelmed by how far we have fallen as a nation and why God seems so silent in the face of the threats. Then I came across something from a Christian rock singer...

**Adam Cappa**

**Don't say God is silent when your Bible is closed. Open it and read it. God will speak.**

3. My Bible fell open to Psalm 83 and learned this...

### **Theme**

**God is at work amidst threatening circumstances,  
even when He seems to be silent.**

## **II. When God Seems Silent**

### **A. A Prayer in the Face of a National Threat**

#### **Psalm 83:1-2**

**Do not keep silent, O God! Do not hold Your peace, and do not be still, O God!  
For behold, Your enemies make a tumult; and those who hate You have lifted  
up their head.**

#### **Charles Spurgeon**

**The reference to tumult in the following verse gives force to the earnest appeal  
in this. Amidst all the tumult of gathering foes, he earnestly calls on God to  
break his silence, and to speak to them in wrath.**

1. We are living in times of tumult!

a. Open borders: 100's of 1000's of illegal aliens are coming into our country; many have COVID, some are murderers, rapists and terrorists. Yet they get free health care and housing and free transportation to their city of choice.

b. Crime in the streets: Murder rates are soaring in many major cities; you can't go to a Target store in San Francisco after 6 p.m. because the employees are afraid to go out at night.

c. And then there's the tumult of "Critical Race Theory", a Marxist ideology of racism being taught to our children.

#### **New York Post**

**The nation's largest teachers union has approved a plan to promote critical race theory in all 50 states and 14,000 local school districts. The union, which represents 3 million public school employees, approved funding to promote CRT in K-12 curricula and to attack opponents of critical race theory, including parent organizations and conservative research centers.**

d. The statement declares that the teachers—not parents—should control what kids learn.

e. Verse 2 says, ‘those who hate You have lifted up their head’.

### **The Treasury of David**

**“And they that hate thee have lifted up the head.”**

**Confident of conquest, they carry themselves proudly and exalt themselves as if their anticipated victories were already obtained. These enemies of Israel were also God's enemies. The adversaries of the church are usually a noisy and a boastful crew. Their pride is a brass which always sounds, a cymbal which is ever tinkling.**

f. The enemies of God are out of the closet!

### **Psalm 12:8**

**The wicked freely parade and prance about while evil is praised throughout the land.**

2. History repeats itself; the enemies of a nation under God are enemies of God Himself. Now, as back then, they do not want to *reform* America as founded; they want to *destroy* America.

### **Psalm 83:3-4**

**They have taken crafty counsel against Your people and consulted together against Your sheltered ones. They have said, "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be remembered no more."**

### **Treasury of David**

**“They have said, Come, and let us cut them of from being a nation”  
Easier said than done. Yet it shows how thorough going are the foes of the church. Theirs was the policy of extermination...that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. They would blot them out of history as well as out of existence because evil is intolerant of good.**

a. This is the attitude of God’s enemies today. Their want to do away with America as founded.

b. This is not just my opinion! Let their own words condemn them.

**Rev. Jeremiah Wright** (Sermon on 4/13/03)

You say 'God bless America'. But I say 'No, God damn America'.

**Rev. Al Sharpton**

"Tear down this white supremacist nation built on the backs of slave labor!"

**Black Lives Matter Flyer**

This flyer was found after a Black Lives protest march on the CO capital last year

The first items calls for deaths to Republicans; the last item is a poem:

No border, no wall, no USA at all!

Reject whiteness, reject greed, death to America is all we need.

3. The weapon of execution for Black Lives Matter and the Marxists is...

**Critical Race Theory**

Critical Race Theory is a Marxist ideology that is polluting our institutions, poisoning our young people, and putting us on the precipice of a second Civil War.

a. Christopher Rufo confirms that the end-game for CRT is to end America as founded.

**Christopher Rufo**

In their policy prescriptions, critical race theorists such as Cheryl Harris and Ibram Kendi recommend suspending private property rights, installing a federal agency with the power to void any law in the country, replacing the Fourteenth Amendment right to equal protection with race-based 'positive discrimination' and curtailing the right to political speech that is not deemed 'antiracist'. *This isn't a formula for reforming the United States; it's a formula for ending the United States.*

b. In his book "White Guilt", Shelby Steele exposes the Critical Race Theorists as the real racists, using the issue to redefine America...

**Shelby Steele, in his book "White Guilt"**

The socialists seek power by accusing others of the very racism of which they themselves are guilty. They condemn America for 'systemic racism' to justify overturning the nation as founded in favor of a new socialist society.

4. To oppose a nation under God is to oppose God; some may think it to strong to mention God's enemies by name, but the Psalmist says otherwise!

#### **Psalm 83:5-8**

**For they have consulted together with one consent; they form a confederacy against You: The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab and the Hagrites; Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek; Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assyria also has joined with them; they have helped the children of Lot. Selah.**

5. The Psalmist here lists 10 nations (or people groups), by name.

a. The great Charles Spurgeon had much to say about the powerful principle of specifically identifying God's enemies by name.

#### **Charles Spurgeon**

**God might say, 'Who are these that conspire against me, and against my people, and hidden ones?' Lord, saith the prophet, I will tell thee who they are...then He names some ten nations that joined together against God's people.**

#### **Charles Spurgeon**

**It is a thing you should observe, that when the people of God are conspired against, God is not satisfied with general complaints, but He will know who they are.**

#### **Treasury of David**

**As I told you, He is the Lord of Hosts, the great general. When there is mutiny the general asks, what officer, or what corporal, or what sergeant, or who did begin the mutiny? and it is a fearful thing when the poor persecuted saint shall bring thy name as a persecutor before the God of heaven.**

6 The Psalm closes with 10 verses calling on God to break His silence and bring judgment upon all 10 of Israel's enemies.

#### **Psalm 83:9-12**

**Deal with them as with Midian, as with Sisera, as with Jabin at the Brook Kishon, who perished at Endor, who became as refuse on the earth. Make their**

nobles like Oreb and like Zeeb, yes, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna, who said, "Let us take for ourselves the pastures of God for a possession."

**Psalm 83:13-15**

O my God, make them like the whirling dust, like the chaff before the wind! As the fire burns the woods, and as the flame sets the mountains on fire, so pursue them with Your tempest, and frighten them with Your storm.

**Psalm 83:16-18**

Fill their faces with shame, that they may seek Your name, O Lord. Let them be confounded and dismayed forever; yes, let them be put to shame and perish, that they may know that You, whose name alone is the Lord, are the Most High over all the earth.

7. These are proper prayers when a nation under God is under attack. God will eventually bring justice in the land.

8. Meanwhile, we need to know the...

## II. 3 Reasons Why the Lord May Seem to be Silent

### A. First: God is Silent To Test Our Faith

**Charles Spurgeon**

In Scripture there are three reasons why the Lord keeps silence when his people are in danger and sits still when there is most need to give help and assistance. One is, the Lord keeps silence to try men's faith.

1. A primary example is the story of the storms in Matthew 8 and Mark 4. A terrible tempest hits the ship with the disciples on board and Jesus asleep.

**Matthew 8:25**

Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"

a. Mark's version adds a detail...

**Mark 4:38**

**But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"**

b. When God seems silent or asleep, we wonder if He really cares about us; but it was not a real emergency, it was only a test.

**Mark 4:39-40**

**Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"**

c. When God seems silent or asleep, will we be in fear or in faith?

**Charles Spurgeon**

**Truly, the Lord will not suffer his people to be overwhelmed, that is certain, but he will suffer them to come very near, that the waves cover them, and fear and horror shall cover their souls, and all to try their faith.**

2. I remember something I learned early on from one of my favorite Bible teachers...

**Bob Mumford**

**The teacher is always silent when the test is given. When God is silent you are being tested.**

a. This has helped me so much over the years; never more than when surrounded by serious threats.

3. I think about Job-a man who suffered many months in many ways-yet never knowing why!

**Tim Keller**

**Job never saw why he suffered, but he saw God and that was enough.**

4. So we see the first reason God may seem to be silent is to test our faith.

**B. Second: The Lord is Silent When Testing the Hearts of Men**

1. America almost never made it through the birth canal; everything was against it. In the darkest days, Thomas Paine penned these famous words...

**Thomas Paine**

**These are the times that try men's souls.**

**The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it NOW, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman.**

2. While revival tarries and God seems silent, yet He is at work exposing the hearts of men; namely, the 'summer soldiers' and the 'sunshine patriots'

a. Testimony: For most of my lifetime, it's been easy to be a Christian in America; at least, to 'wear the badge'.

b. In good times, no one knows who's who. But that's all changed today.

3. God is not only exposing the hearts of His enemies, He is exposing the hearts of His so-called friends. Who will pay the price? Who is up for the fight?

**Thomas Paine**

**Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; 'tis dearness only that gives everything its value.**

**Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated."**

4. God may seem silent; but He is at work; testing our faith, testing the hearts of men, and one more 3<sup>rd</sup> thing...

**C. God is Silent As He Gathers the Wicked Together For Destruction**

**Charles Spurgeon**

**There is a third reason: God keeps silence in the midst of the greatest troubles, that He may, as it were, gather the wicked into one faggot, into one bundle, that they may be destroyed together.**



1. The current climate of anti-Americanism has united God's enemies as never before.

a. Have you noticed how they gather together; they stick together; they say the same thing.

2. But God may be gathering them unto destruction.

### **The Treasury of David**

**The world thinks God has abandoned the nation; so the wicked come together and insult. But it is so that God may come upon them at once, and destroy them, as He did the ten nations in this Psalm; as He did destroy the 10 nations that came against Abraham in the Book of Genesis.**

### **Treasury of David**

**Those that burn stubble have rakes, and they gather it in heaps, and then they set it on fire. This is the way of God's keeping silence among his people and sitting still in the midst of their miseries; thus God gathers their enemies in heaps as stubble, that he may burn them together.**

3. God may seem silent; but He is always at work, especially in the midst of a national crisis.

## **III. Conclusion**

I have been meditating on the wise words of an old saint...

### **Saint John of the Cross**

**Silence is God's first language.**

I believe he means that even when He seems silent, God is 'speaking', if we can understand what He is saying in His silence.

#### **A. Review: When God Seems Silent:**

1. He is testing our faith.
2. He is testing and exposing the hearts of men.

3. He is gathering His enemies together unto destruction.

### **B. So What Are We To Do?**

1. We have work to do. We can speak the truth. Live not by lies.
2. But we must also call out to God. Open our Bibles where He is always speaking.
3. And never mistake silence as insignificant!

Let me leave you with the encouraging words of English theologian John Gill's comments on Psalm 83.

**John Gill**

(1697-1771)

**Their enemies thought to make the name of Israel be no more in remembrance. Their desperate and dreadful scheme and wretched design took no effect; but, on the contrary, the ten nations mentioned, who were in this conspiracy, are no more, and have not had a name in the world for many hundreds of years; whilst the Jews are still a people and are preserved, in order to be called and saved, as all of true Israel will be in the latter day.**

The Critical Race Theory Marxists think to do away with America; but America will remain; it is their name that will soon be forgotten!

### **Closing Prayer**

**Title**