

## **Justice 4 – Justice and Responsibility**

26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### **Introduction**

Critical theory / “woke”.

### **Introducing Critical theory / “Woke”**

Thinking (developed from Marxism):

- > Where there are unjust outcomes – it's due to un\_\_\_\_\_ social structures and systems.
- > These systems – put in place by the powerful to keep their p\_\_\_\_\_
- > “Intersectionality”. Examples of intersections: race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, class. Those who are less p\_\_\_\_\_ / more oppressed have greater moral authority.
- > Victims.

### **Corporate sin and responsibility**

Joshua 7 – Achan

Level of responsibility tied to l\_\_\_\_\_ of connection:

- > Family. Exodus 20:5
- > Nation. 1 Samuel 8; 1 Kings 12:25-33
- > Community. Acts 2:36
- > Institutional. Luke 14:5-14.
- > As a race. Romans 5:12-21.

“To what extent are we responsible for unjust social structures?”

## **Individual sin and responsibility**

- > Ezekiel 18 – Conversation between God and the exiles in B\_\_\_\_\_
- > Complaining they're suffering because of the s\_\_\_\_\_ of their parents (v 1-2)
- > God: “No! Individuals s\_\_\_\_, and will be held responsible.” (v3-4). 3 examples (verses 5-18).
- > When someone changes their ways – verse 27, 26.

### **Bringing them together**

- > Where our main responsibility lies: Our own s\_\_\_\_\_ and decisions.

### **The difference Jesus makes**

- > We are righteous and f\_\_\_\_\_ only because of our corporate responsibility. (Romans 5:12-21).  
None of us is the righteous m\_\_\_ of Ezekiel 18 – only Jesus.
- > None of us is ultimately a v\_\_\_\_\_. Only one ultimate victim - J\_\_\_\_\_
- > Helps us understand p\_\_\_\_\_ differently. Philippians 2:6-8.

### **What does this tell us about Critical theory / woke?**

- > Inconsistent. Aren't the woke also seeking p\_\_\_\_\_?
- > Puts itself a\_\_\_\_\_ criticism. So not a proper theory.
- > Divisive. But – we're equal, and our differences should enhance our l\_\_\_\_\_ relationships (as with the Trinity).
- > No forgiveness.

> Overlooks our individual h\_\_\_\_\_ sinfulness. Ephesians 2:1-3.  
Galatians 5:19-21.

### **So what?**

> What are the biblically unjust social structures?

> Where there is an unjust structure: What is my responsibility?  
How can I respond?

> Praise God for sending J\_\_\_\_\_.  
- Don't use f\_\_\_\_\_ as a cover for acting unjustly.  
- Remember Micah 6:8.  
- Use the power we have to s\_\_\_\_\_ others.

> A word to victims...

### **Taking it further**

#### *Articles*

“Justice in the Bible” - Timothy Keller – at

<https://quarterly.gospelinlife.com/justice-in-the-bible>

“A Biblical Critique of Secular Justice and Critical Theory” - Timothy Keller

– at <https://quarterly.gospelinlife.com/a-biblical-critique-of-secular-justice-and-critical-theory>

#### *Sermons*

Listen at [www.anlabychurches.org.uk](http://www.anlabychurches.org.uk) Go to Resources / Listen again:

The God of justice – 5 September 2021

Article 9 – Inherited corruption – 6 September 2020

#### *Specific Resources – Critical Theory*

“The Great Awakening” - Martyn Iles - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84jng4V3lvQ)

v=84jng4V3lvQ

That Hideous Strength – How the West was lost - Melvin Tinker

The Madness of Crowds – Douglas Murray

### **To reflect on / think about**

> What examples of biblically unjust social structures can you think of? How can you be involved in working against them?

> Why is it good news that people are individually responsible for sin; and that Christ takes corporate responsibility for our sin?

> What questions do you still have? Who could you talk to about them?

> Pray about it.