

CRITICAL RACE THEORY #3

The Christian Response To Critical Race Theory

Introduction

I want to take the next few weeks to continue to teach on the most critical crisis facing our nation since the Civil War. I'm entitling these talks...

Critical Race Theory: The Christian Response

Each message will contain 2 parts:

First, we will continue to define Critical Race Theory and give examples of what it looks like today.

Secondly, we will show you the biblical, or Christian response, to the problem.

I. Defining Critical Race Theory

A. What Is It?

Theme

Critical Race Theory is an ideology that is polluting our institutions, poisoning our young people, and bringing America to the brink of a race war.

1. **Its ideological roots are found in Marxist Socialism** that overthrew nations by creating class warfare between the rich and the poor.

2. But what worked in Eastern Europe did not work in the west.

a. Christian author and filmmaker Christopher Rufo explains...

Christopher Rufo

By the mid-1960's, Marxist intellectuals in the West began to acknowledge their failures. They came to realize that workers' revolutions would never occur in Western Europe or the United States, where there were very large middle classes with rapidly improving standards of living.

Christopher Rufo

But rather than abandon their Leftist political project, Marxist scholars in the West simply adapted their revolutionary theory to the social and racial unrest of the 1960's. Abandoning Marx's economic dialectic of capitalists and workers, they substituted race for class and sought to create a revolutionary coalition of the dispossessed based on racial and ethnic categories

3. The new socialist strategy for overthrowing the United States is called Critical Race Theory. Race is at the center of their worldview.

Jonathan Butcher/Mike Gonzalez Heritage Foundation

Critical Race Theory makes race the prism through which its proponents analyze all aspects of American life. It underpins identity politics, which reimagines the U.S. as a nation riven by groups, each with specific claims on victimization.

4. In Critical Race Theory, ALL white people are racists, ALL black people are victims, and it can never be changed until the nation itself is reconstituted.

Christopher Rufo

Critical race theory is an ideology which maintains that the United States is a fundamentally racist country and that American institutions such as the Constitution, property rights, color blindness, and equal protection under the law are vestiges of white supremacy, patriarchy, and capitalist oppression—all of which must be overthrown in the name of 'antiracism'.

Jonathan Butcher/Mike Gonzalez Heritage Foundation

According to CRT, criminal justice, voting, education, housing are all systemically racist, and America's whites—by just being white—are complicit. Their indictment means that America cannot be fixed; she must be torn down and reimagined.

5. Critical Race Theory's intolerance for whites can be found today in the entertainment sector, our schools, and the workplace. The goal is to normalize belief in systemic racism for the average American.

Christopher Rufo

It has been injected into our government agencies, public school system, teacher training programs and corporate human resource departments 'diversity training' programs, human resources modules, public policy frameworks and school curricula.

6. The most troubling of all is how Critical Race Theory is poisoning our young people in our educational system.

B. What It Looks Like In Action in Education

1. Critical Race Theory takes dead aim on the youth of America and we ignore it to our peril.

2. It was Martin Luther, the father of the Protestant Reformation, who gave a prophetic warning to the Church 600 years ago...

Martin Luther

I am afraid that the schools will prove to be the very gates of hell, unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures and engraving them in the heart of the youth.

3. The government schools in America have become the 'very gates of hell' because Christians have been asleep at the wheel. The cultural Marxists are steering the ship.

Gary DeMar

It's been said that whoever controls the schools rules the world. But it's more fundamental than this. Whoever writes the textbooks supply the information that's used by teachers who teach the students in the schools. It's the content of books and the teachers that teach the material that controls the schools.

4. Parents in America are slowly waking up to what this is all about as they discover what their children are being taught.

Joseph R. Murray II, The Tennessean, 5/10/21

The 'theory' that Critical Race Theory will bring to the classroom is that slavery is America's original sin, and no amount of holy water can cleanse the stain.

Joseph R. Murray II, The Tennessean, 5/10/21

If Critical Race Theorists succeed in their takeover of public education, Western civilization is lost. Generations of students will be taught to hate themselves and their country, while those questioning the orthodoxy will be maligned and dehumanized.

3. Here is what is happening in our schools:

- **A Cupertino, CA** elementary school forced first-graders to deconstruct their racial and sexual identities, and rank themselves according to their 'power and privilege'
- **In Springfield, MO**, a middle school forced teachers to locate themselves on an 'oppression matrix', based on the idea that straight, white, English-speaking Christian males are members of the oppressor class and must atone for their 'white privilege' and 'covert white supremacy'.
- **In Philadelphia, PA**, an elementary school forced fifth-graders to celebrate "Black Communism", and simulate a Black Power rally to free 1960's radical Angela Davis from prison, where she had once been held on charges of murder.
- **In Seattle, WA**, the school district told white teachers that they are guilty of 'spirit murder' against black children and must 'bankrupt their privilege in acknowledgement of the stolen inheritance.

5. Let's make all this up close and personal. Last week, Nashville's own Lipscomb University, a self-proclaimed Christian institution, chose Critical Race Theorist Ibram X. Kendi as the featured speaker for its 2021 Christian Scholars Conference last week.

a. In this video clip, Pastor Voddie Baucham tells us just who he is...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r7sev4VS1Ik>

b. Christian author Rod Dreher sheds more light on this man:

Rod Dreher

Ibram X. Kendi says that Christianity's so-called 'savior theology' goes right in line with racist ideals and racist theology. Why? Because it tells people that the

reason why they are struggling on earth is because of their own sinful deeds, rather than oppressive power structures.

Kenid says, “That type of theology breeds bigotry.”

c. . The Tennessee Star website reached out to Lipscomb leadership to ask why a Christian University would pay \$20-40,000 to promote Critical Race Theory- no one responded. (The University has also blocked public access to the speech he delivered.)

6. The ripples of Critical Race Theory are not limited to race; it not only requires whites to admit that they are racists; they also demand teachers to accept the concepts of transgenderism.

a. The School Board in Loudon County, Virginia suspended grade school gym teacher Tanner Cross for refusing to accept that a biological boy could become a girl.

Tanner Cross

I love all my students, but I will never lie to them regardless of the consequences. I’m a teacher but I serve God first and I will not affirm that a biological boy can be a girl and vice-versa because it’s against my religion. It’s lying to child, abusive to a child, and it’s sinning against God.

b. The School Board also suspended Cross because he refused to stop using personal pronouns that referred to boys and ‘him’ and girls as ‘her’! One leaped to his defense...

Tyson Langhofer

Director of the ADF Center for Academic Freedom

“This isn’t just about a pronoun; this is about endorsing an ideology. The school favors certain beliefs, and it wants to force Tanner to cry uncle and endorse them as well. That’s neither legal nor constitutional, and neither was the school’s move to place Tanner on leave.”

7. The good news is that a Judge overruled the School Board and Tanner Cross is back in the classroom; the bad news is that Critical Race Theory is still out there indoctrinating our children with its fundamental teachings...

Voddie Baucham

Fundamentals of CRT/Wokeness

- Racism is *normal*
 - Racism is *systemic*
 - White people are *incapable* of change
- Voddie Baucham

8. Conservative radio commentator Glenn Beck sums it up...

Glenn Beck

Critical Race Theory is the knockout punch to America. If this continues and is taught to our children, there is no freedom left in America. We will become a very, very dangerous nation.

9. Now that we have defined Critical Race Theory and shown what it looks like in institutions like our schools, let's switch gears and look at...

II. The Christian Response to Critical Race Theory

A. Personal Testimony: My History With Racism

1. I'm a child of the Deep South; I was born in Victoria, Texas. My family moved back and forth between south Texas and south Louisiana through my high school years.

2. My earliest memories of racism go back to when I was just 7 or 8 years old and remember asking my Mother why there were different restrooms and drinking fountains for whites and blacks in the department store.

a. My brother and I rode the city buses and I remember wondering why black people had to sit in the back.

b. I heard the 'N' word on a regular basis.

3. I did not become a Christian until age 27 but all through my growing up years I knew all of this was not right!

4. I remember making up my mind that I would not be a person who participated in any kind of racism, especially toward black people.

- I was very careful to be respectful; I would go out of my way to be kind to black people.
- I was raised to say 'sir' and 'mam' to my mom and dad and to all adults; but I made sure I extended that same respect to people of color, especially if they were serving me: the porter at the train station, the man who shined my shoes or parked my car.

5. I remember grieving over how blacks were treated during the civil rights demonstrations of the 1960's; watching blacks doused with firehoses on the streets, attacked by police dogs and beaten by policemen. It hurt me to watch Governor George Wallace physically preventing 2 black students from entering the doors at the University of Alabama.

a. I remember being thrilled when Dr. Martin Luther King's gave his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Capitol in 1963.

6. I was drafted into the Army in 1967 during the Viet Nam war and spent a lot of around people of color and counted many of them as friends.

7. Over those same years I remember being disgusted by militant black groups like the 'Black Panthers' who advocated violence against white people.

8. I remember being grieved when an African American named Malcom Little converted to Islam, took the name Malcolm X, and repudiated the non-violent message of Dr. King in favor of Black Supremacy and violence against whites. But I also remember being sad when he was assassinated in 1965.

9. I tell you all this so you will know how I have a lifetime of personal experience regarding the evils of racism and why it continued to be something I cared about deeply after I became a Christian in 1971.

10. That was when I did a deep dive into what the Bible says about race and how it applies to the challenges of Critical Race Theory today.

11. We will be looking at many scriptures over the next few weeks, but for time's sake let me share my favorite...

2 Corinthians 5:15-16

Christ died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh.

2 Corinthians 5:16

New American Standard Bible

We recognize no man according to the flesh.

New Living Translation

We have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view.

The Message Bible

We don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look.

a. This verses gives us the first Christian response to racism and Critical Race Theory...

B. Recognize No Man According to the Flesh

1. Christians are commanded to 'stop evaluating others from a human point of view'; we 'recognize no man according to the flesh'.

a. Christianity is color blind; Christians see as God sees!

1 Samuel 16:7

For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

2. This was the great truth behind the most famous line in Dr. King's speech

Martin Luther King, Jr.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

3. Critical Race Theory preaches just the opposite; everything is judged on the basis of race.

- a. If you are black you're a victim
- b. If you are white you are an oppressor

4. Critical Race Theory is the mortal enemy of Christianity-the 2 cannot coexist. The battle is on.

III. Conclusion

A. Review

1. We have defined Critical Race Theory.
2. We have shown what it looks like, specifically in our schools.
3. We have given the first step to overcome it. To 'judge no one according to the flesh'.

4. Let me close by looking at the rest of the passage:

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

4. Let us not lose our way in the midst of political chaos: Our job is not to reconcile blacks to whites and whites to blacks; it is to reconcile sinners of all colors to God!

Closing Prayer

Title