

What Christians Should Think about Critical Race Theory

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • April 3, In the year of our Lord Christ, 2022

Scripture Reader and Reading: Dominic Meyer – Revelation 7.9–10

Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Phil Joseph – Songs on Loving One Another

Prelude:

I. Finding out what Critical Race Theory is proves difficult, because

- A. as I searched for answers,
- B. I mostly ran across sources refuting it.

II. Critical Race Theory says the most important about you is the color of your skin,

- A. not your behavior,
- B. not your values,
- C. not your environment
 - 1. If you are a minority, you are part of a system that is rigged against you;
 - 2. it does not want you to succeed.
 - a) If you are of the majority, you are an exploiter,
 - b) whether you realize it or not.
 - (1) It says that racism is at the heart of all interactions
 - (2) between people of color and others, especially whites.
- D. They also use gender and sexual orientation to segregate people.

III. Critical Race Theory is changing America.

- A. James Lindsay has said:

“Critical Race Theory begins from the assumption that racism occurs in all interactions. To see how this works, consider this thought experiment: Imagine you own a shop, and two customers enter at the same time—one white and one black. Who do you help first? If you help the black person first, Critical Race Theory would say you did so because you don’t trust black people to be left alone in your store. That’s racist. If you helped the white person first instead, Critical Race Theory would say you did so because you

think blacks are second-class citizens. That's racist, too."

B. He said further:

"Critical Race Theory says all this progress is a mirage: racism never died—never even faded a little bit. It just hid itself better. Critical Race Theory, therefore, is not a continuation of the Civil Rights Movement. It is, in fact, a repudiation of it. To Critical Race theorists, Martin Luther King was both wrong and naïve. White Americans can never judge blacks by the content of their character. They can only judge them, always unfavorably—consciously or unconsciously, by the color of their skin."

C. Furthermore:

"Critical race theorists 'explicitly reject equality—the principle proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence, defended in the Civil War, and codified into law with the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965,' writes Christopher Rufo. 'To them, equality represents "mere nondiscrimination" and provides "camouflage" for white supremacy, patriarchy, and oppression."

IV. Critical Race Theory provides the thinking for

A. the "woke" movement,

B. the social justice movement,

C. the Marxism or communism

1. that unbelievably has captured many college campuses and
2. the thinking of many leading people even in the government, and

D. CRT is the root of the Black Lives Matter organization.

1. All of these things promote the destruction of America because
2. they believe that the United States of America
 - a) is hopelessly and irredeemably racist, and
 - b) must be torn down and rebuilt as a Marxist paradise
 - (1) with people of color in the top positions and

(2) all whites at the bottom and subjugated.

V. My proof of that is just observe what we have seen in the last two years.

VI. What drives Critical Race Theory and

A. many other problematic issues in American society today, and

B. even in some cases in the church,

1. is the teaching of evolution,

2. the belief

a) that there is no God, and

b) that man has arrived on his own

(1) through natural selection and survival of the fittest.

(2) So much of the removal of God and the Scriptures, etc.,

(a) from American society

(b) finds its catalyst in Darwinian Evolution.

VII. Brethren, we all should know the following passage well:

8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. 9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

– Colossians 2.8–10

A. I know that I just covered it recently in my Wednesday class, but

B. remember what Paul taught

1. that the various philosophies not according to Christ, but

2. according to the world and according to man,

a) will cheat us from what we have in Christ.

b) In Christ, we have our fullness or completeness or wholeness, because

- (1) in Christ dwells the fullness of the Godhead.
- (2) Beware of anything that takes you away from him.

Persuasion:

I. By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them

A. In Matthew 7,

1. Jesus showed us how we can discover whether something is bad or good:

15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”

– Matthew 7.15–20

2. I just ask you to observe the fruit of CRT.

B. A bad fruit of CRT: segregation.

1. I went to elementary and junior high schools in the 1960s.
2. Then I went to high school in the first half of the 70s, graduating in 75.
 - a) That should tell some of what I was taught.
 - b) I did not come under the influence of the Scriptures until 1976.
3. That means the Civil Rights Movement formed much of my thinking.
 - a) We have all heard through the past several decades
 - b) that we should be colorblind.
 - (1) Then I became a Christian in late 1976.
 - (2) The teachings of the Bible totally fascinated me.
 - (a) I believe that it is the word of God.
 - (b) Therefore, whatever speaks the truth.

- i) That led me to abandon any false beliefs that I had, and
 - ii) it led me to accept whatever teachings and commands
 - (1) the God of heaven delivered to us in the Scriptures.
4. The Bible reveals even more why there are no distinctions among man.
5. However, CRT pushes segregation that we go rid of a long time ago.
- a) This is why you hear of separate graduation services for blacks.
 - b) Separate housing, etc.
 - (1) Before it was whites pushing it.
 - (2) Now it is blacks pushing it.
6. Not only is this against the Civil Rights Movement,
- a) it is against the word of God, and
 - b) that is my concern.
 - (1) It is the societal rejection of the teaching of Scripture
 - (2) that has lowered us and brought on countless problems.
 - (a) CRT has resulted from the repudiation of the word of God.
 - (b) And it will only get worse.
 - i) Each of us needs to get back to the Bible
 - ii) in our thinking and living.

II. CRT Advocates Discrimination Against Whites

A. One man said:

“The only remedy to racist discrimination is anti-racist discrimination. The only remedy to past discrimination is present discrimination. The only remedy to present discrimination is future discrimination.”

– Ibram X. Kendi

B. One woman prayed:

“Dear God, Please help me to hate White people. Or at least want to hate them. At least, I want to stop caring about them, individually and collectively. I want to stop caring about their misguided, racist souls, to stop believing that they can be better, that they can stop being racist.”

– Chanequa Walker-Barnes

1. What would happen if I wrote out that same prayer, and
 - a) this is only part of her prayer, but
 - b) what if I wrote it and substituted “white,” with, “black”?
2. This woman is a Mercer University *theology* professor.

III. There Is Only One Race

- A. Technically, you cannot have racism at all, because
 1. we are all the same race,
 2. the human race, for
 - a) we have all descended from Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve,
 - b) or even closer in time, from Father Noah and Mother Noah.
- B. However, it is my judgment that the teaching of evolution
 1. has promoted the belief that there are different races of people.
 2. Just think of the full title of Charles Darwin’s book,
 - a) which most people know as, *The Origin of Species*.
 - b) The full title actually reads,

The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life

- C. You will see that Acts 17 affirms that we have all come from one man.

26 “And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, 27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from

each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' 29 Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising."

– Acts 17.26–29

1. First, Paul revealed that every nation of people on all the face of the earth.
 - a) have come from one,
 - b) a way of referring to Adam.
2. Second, the Lord let each nation have its own time and boundaries.
3. Third, the Lord so arranged the history of every nation that the people in that nation might seek him.
4. Fourth, every nation
 - a) has the capability to find God, because
 - (1) he is not far from us,
 - (2) we live in him,
 - (3) we move in him,
 - (4) we have our being in him.
 - b) Paul quoted a non-Hebrew poet, since a Grecian poet saw this truth.
5. Fifth, we are like God.

D. Evolutionists and creationists have competing narratives:

1. Evolutionists say: Out of Africa.
2. Creationists say: Out of Mesopotamia.

E. My point is this:

1. There is not a black race and a white race,
2. nor all the alleged races in between.
 - a) Every single male on this earth is my brother.

- b) Every single female on this earth is my sister.
- F. At the Tower of Babel humanity did something that it should not have done.
- 1. After the Flood,
 - a) God told Noah and the successive generations
 - b) these words, which later generations rebelled against,

1 So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.”

– Genesis 9.1

- 2. In Genesis 11,
 - a) Moses said that everyone spoke the same language.
 - b) They decided to dwell in the area we now known as Babylon.
 - (1) Then they made a decision
 - (2) that cursed the world with multiple languages,

“Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

– Genesis 11.4

- 3. God prevented humanity from ever doing that again
 - a) by dividing the people up into language groups.
 - b) Then people migrated all over the earth and
 - (1) we are still migrating.
 - (a) Genesis 10.5 makes sense now,

5 From these the coastland peoples of the Gentiles were separated into their lands, everyone according to his language, according to their families, into their nations.

– **Genesis 10.5**

(b) Genesis 11 explained why this happened.

(2) Moses by the Holy Spirit never referred to them as races, but

(3) languages, families, and nations.

G. In Matthew 24.30 Jesus referred to the tribes of the earth.

1. Compare that with the references to the twelve tribes of Israel.

2. The tribes of Israel were all of one so-called, “race.”

H. Revelation 7.9 says

1. that the numbers in heaven saved from the earth

2. will consist of all

a) nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues.

b) The record says nothing of races.

IV. The Church and Different People

A. The Bible recognizes these different groups and

1. while they wanted to stay as one in their own way,

2. disregarding the Lord’s instructions on spreading over the earth,

a) the Lord still seeks to bring people together in *his* way.

b) He is the Creator, he can bring it about as he pleases.

1 Now the LORD had said to Abram:

**“Get out of your country,
From your family
And from your father’s house,
To a land that I will show you.
2 I will make you a great nation;
I will bless you
And make your name great;
And you shall be a blessing.
3 I will bless those who bless you,**

**And I will curse him who curses you;
And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."**

– Genesis 12.1–3

- (1) In Abram, or the nation that would arise from him,
- (2) God would bless all the families of the earth.

B. When you come to the New Testament,

1. you discover that Jesus of Nazareth and
2. all that he brings is the promised blessing:

26 For you are *all* sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as *many of you* as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is *neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one* in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

– Galatians 3.26–29