

How It Works

Part Three

By

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Chapter Seventeen

Many people view the God of the Bible (especially the Old Testament) as a 'moral monster.' Is that true? Many atheists and other non-Christians use the Bible's stories of how God dealt with the Egyptians and the Canaanites as examples.

I used to think the same thing when I was an atheist more than 55 years ago. However, a Christian asked me an interesting question. If I don't believe in God's existence, why am I so upset about what the Bible says God did or said? Fair question.

Why would an atheist, agnostic, or other unbeliever care about what a non-existent being supposedly did thousands of years ago? Did I care what the ancient Greeks and Romans said their gods did? Did I care what the ancient Assyrians or Babylonians said their gods did? Did I care what the ancient Egyptian said their gods did? Of course not. I didn't believe they ever existed. The same with the God of the Bible. I didn't believe He existed, so why did I get so

upset about what the Bible said He did if He didn't exist? That question bothered me during my investigation into the existence of God.

Is God a Moral Monster?

According to atheist Richard Dawkins, God is a moral monster:

> "The God of the Old Testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction: jealous and proud of it; a petty, unjust, unforgiving control-freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogynistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully."
> — Richard Dawkins, The God Delusion: A Study of Religious Belief and Skepticism

Dawkins wrote that book in 2006. Christian philosopher and professor Paul Copan responded several years later in his book, Is God a Moral Monster? Making Sense of the Old Testament God. [Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2011. 252 pages.] Here are a few quotes from his book:

"The atheist philosopher of science Michael Ruse says that Dawkins's arguments are so bad that he's embarrassed to call himself an atheist. Terry Eagleton, an English literature and cultural theory professor, severely criticizes "Ditchkins"—his composite name for Dawkins and Hitchens. He considers them to be both out of their depth and misrepresenters of the Christian faith: "they invariably come up with vulgar caricatures of religious faith that would make a first-year theology student wince. The more they detest religion, the more ill-informed their criticisms of it tend to be."

"Several years ago my atheist colleague Quentin Smith unceremoniously crowned Stephen Hawking's argument against God in A Brief History of Time as "the worst atheistic argument in the history of Western thought." With the advent of The God Delusion the time has come, I think, to relieve Hawking of this weighty crown and to recognize Richard Dawkins' accession to the throne. Third, the New Atheists aren't willing to own up to atrocities committed in the name

of atheism by Stalin, Pol Pot, or Mao Zedong, yet they expect Christians to own up to all barbarous acts performed in Jesus's name. In one debate, Dennett refused to connect Stalin's brutality and inhumanity with his hard-core atheism. In fact, he claimed that Stalin was a kind of "religious" figure!:

"The Christian takes strength and comfort in the fact that God suffers with us and even enters into our suffering—particularly in the person of Jesus of Nazareth on the shameful, humiliating cross. Indeed, a God who doesn't suffer "would make God a demon." An indifferent God would condemn human beings to indifference as well."

God is Moral

I began an in-depth study into God's 'Essence and Attributes' after becoming a Christian. I learned that God has both 'Non-Moral' and 'Moral' attributes. Non-moral does not mean 'immoral.' It simply identifies His Nature apart from His Morality. Examples of God's Essence and Attributes include:

- God is Self-Existent
- God is Spirit
- God is Immaterial and Incorporeal
- God is Invisible
- God is Alive
- God is Personal
- God is Immense
- God is Eternal
- God is All-Powerful
- God is All-Knowing

- God is Everywhere Present at the Same Time
- God is Unchanging

The 'Moral Attributes' of God include:

- God is Holy
- God is Righteous
- God is Just
- God is Good
- God is Love
- God is Merciful
- God is Compassionate
- God is Gracious
- God is True
- God is Faithful
- God is Longsuffering

When someone makes a 'truth claim,' as do atheists about God's 'morality,' I recommend asking them for 'evidence' for their claim. What atheists tend to do (as do many agnostics and other unbelievers) is give you their 'opinion' about God. Opinions are not 'evidence.' We should insist on evidence to such a claim as God being a 'moral monster.' If they refuse to give you evidence, then you can ask them more questions about why they are relying on an 'opinion' rather than evidence – or you can politely end the conversation and wait for another time to discuss it with them. Pray as you wait. The Holy Spirit is active in this world in bringing unbelievers to Christ.

Why?

One of the best questions a Christian can ask when studying the actions of God as described in the Bible is 'why?'. Why did God do it? We know that God has the power to do anything He wants to do. We know that God has the knowledge that explains why He did what He did. As Moses wrote in the Book of Deuteronomy:

> "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29

God has kept many things 'secret' from humans until He was ready to reveal those things to them. Fortunately for us God has revealed most of what we need to know about His thoughts and actions in His Word. Reading the Bible careful and in context from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 gives us everything God wants us to know about Him. Atheists don't

believe in the existence of God, but still rail against the actions of a God they don't believe exists. Why?

It's important that Christians ask tough questions for their own information. Many people in churches are doubting God's Word for a variety of reasons, including what some well-known atheist, agnostic, or other unbeliever said. Unfortunately, many of people throwing out false claims about God are pastors and denominational leaders. They are the 'wolves in sheep's clothing' that Jesus warned us would come – false teachers and preachers. That's why I say that Christians need to ask the tough questions themselves to get the right answers rather than rely on what other people say or write.

Why would God destroy the earth through flood waters while saving only one family and some of every 'kind' of animal and fowl? Why would God confuse the languages of people who lived after the flood causing them to stop building a 'tower' to Heaven? Why would God destroy much of Egypt's economy and dependence or false gods after their leaders made the

Israelites slaves? Why would God destroy cities in Canaan that included men, women, and children?

God has given us answers to these questions:

> "Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. And the Lord said,"My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in

His heart. So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord … The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth." Genesis 6:1-8, 11-3

"Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, "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. But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth." Genesis 11:1-9

"Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they

> will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete." Genesis 15:12-16

[The Amorites were a prominent group of people who lived in ancient Canaan before the Israelite army defeated them. God delayed the Amorite destruction in Canaan for hundreds of years until their 'iniquity' was complete (שָׁלֵם – full, finished).]

> "And the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. Now

therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt … But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go. And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed. But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians." Exodus 3:7-10, 19-22

[God demonstrated His great power over all the gods of Egypt, then Pharaoh let the Israelites go free. When Pharaoh tried to kill the Israelites leaving Egypt, God worked a great miracle to destroy the Egyptian army. The Israelites were on their way to the 'promised land.']

The time of the destruction of the Amorites that God promised Abraham had come. God had been merciful and longsuffering toward them, but the 'iniquity of the Amorites' was finally complete:

> "So it was, when all the kings of the Amorites who were on the west side of the Jordan, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the Lord had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the children of Israel until we had crossed over, that their heart melted; and there was no spirit in them any longer because of the children of Israel." Joshua 5:1
>
> "So the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout all the country." Joshua 6:27

Joshua and the children of Israel were on the move in obedience to God's command. God judged the wickedness of the people of Canaan. The Book of Joshua records the Israelite victories in detail. The question is whether God was a 'moral monster' in commanding Joshua to destroy the wicked people or if He was holy, righteous, and just.

Holy, Righteous, Just, Merciful, Loving

The Bible makes it clear that God was holy, righteous, and just in His judgment of the wicked people of Canaan. If you study the history of the Canaanites, Amorites, and other 'ites' who lived in the land, you will see what a wicked, corrupt, and violent people they were. They were also sexually immoral, and idolatrous (including ritual sexual acts and sacrificing their children to their gods). Did God have the 'right' to do what He did? He did.

As difficult as that may be for many Christians to accept, it was God's right. Christians today have been misled into thinking that God is only loving and benevolent and that He would never to anything like what is recorded in the Old Testament. They cannot see Jesus involved in anything like that, so they seriously question whether the Bible is true.

That's not a new idea. Read the history of the early Church and you'll come across a theologian named Marcion of Sinope. He was born toward the end of the 1st century AD. He founded 'Marcionism' in the 2nd century. He taught that the God of the Old Testament was vengeful creator (Demiurge) who was nothing like the loving and benevolent God that Jesus Christ revealed in the New Testament. Church leaders eventually excommunicated Marcion, but not before the early Church fathers responded to Marcion's false teaching thus helping to strengthen the young Church's theology and understanding that the Old Testament God and New Testament God were one and the same.

Read the Old and New Testaments and you will see that God does not change:

> "For I am the Lord, I do not change." Malachi 3:6

> "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." James 1:17

> "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. " Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is God. He is Holy. He is Righteous. He is Just. He is Merciful. He is Loving. Christians should not be confused by those who attempt to detract God's people from the truth. Rightly divide the Word of truth and you will find a God who always does the right thing – whether it's today or thousands of years ago. God always does the right thing.

Chapter Eighteen

Jesus Christ is quite popular in today's world. He is viewed as an important figure in many religions, and even the non-religious see Him as an example of love, compassion, forgiveness, and a supporter of social justice. Is that true?

If you look at many of today's 'social movements,' they often use the name of Jesus as part of their cause. Some view Him as a radical revolutionary. Many 'Christians' agree. Here's a brief look at the history of Christian Socialism:

> "Christian Socialism, movement of the mid-19th century that attempted to apply the social principles of Christianity to modern industrial life. The term was generally associated with the demands of Christian activists for a social program of political and economic action on behalf of all individuals, impoverished or wealthy, and the term was used in contradistinction to laissez-faire individualism. Later, Christian Socialism came to be applied in a general

> sense to any movement that attempted to combine the fundamental aims of socialism with the religious and ethical convictions of Christianity." Britannica

Christian Socialism is still alive today in the United States, the United Kingdom, and other parts of the world. Some of the groups that use Jesus Christ and His words and deeds to promote their cause include:

- Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) Religious Socialism
- Christian Socialist Movement (Christians on the Left)
- Institute for Christian Socialism
- Christian Communism
- Liberation Theology
- Christian Anarchism
- Labor Churches

Here is some background about what these groups believe about Jesus, Christianity, and Socialism:

> "The quests for the historical Jesus uncover a revolutionary, an insurgent, a creative, witty, working-class organizer, the spark for a poor people's movement.
>
> Eugene Debs kept a single picture of Jesus in his prison cell. He wrote, "Pure communism was the economic and social gospel preached by Jesus Christ… Private property was to his elevated mind a sacrilege." Debs saw what many on today's Left overlook: Jesus' teachings give us tools to make us better organizers. " Jesus, Our Comrade

"Proponents of Christian socialism advocate for gradual social reform rather than revolutionary change, emphasizing the importance of individual ownership alongside communal responsibility. Various organizations and political parties arose from this philosophy, such as the Catholic People's Party and the Christian Socialist Workers' Union, which have influenced political landscapes in Europe." Christian Socialism

"Christians on the Left exists primarily to support, resource and network Christians involved on the left of politics in the UK, but we now also have members all over the world. We are renewing politics on the Left, fighting injustice, campaigning, praying and supporting Christians involved in politics in the UK.

The last four years have been an exciting time of rapid growth with well over 2400 members, including 30+ MPs, peers and mayors, not to mention scores of local, borough and county councillors. One in Nine MPs are now CotL members.

We believe it is vital for Christians to be involved in politics. It is only by showing up that we will change our world to better reflect the values of God's kingdom." Christians on the Left, Speaking Truth to Power

"The Institute for Christian Socialism (ICS), founded in the late 2010s by scholars and activists, is one of a growing number of left Christian organizations to emerge or be revived over the past decade, from radical Black churches to LGBTQ-affirming congregations. Stridently opposed to the right-wing approach to the Gospels, Christian leftists and socialists profess a radical faith centered on our duties to the least among us.

When Jesus declared that it's easier for a camel to pass through the eye of the needle than for a rich man to enter heaven, or insisted that God stands with the "wretched of the earth," he laid the groundwork for Christian socialism." Christian Socialists Are Reclaiming Faith from the Right

"I believe in God, the Master most mighty, stirrer-up of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus, the Carpenter of Nazareth, born of the proletarian Mary, toiled at the work bench, descended into labor's hell, suffered under Roman tyranny at the hands of Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. The power not of ourselves which makes for freedom, he rose again from the dead to be lord of the democratic advance, sworn foe of stagnancy, maker of folk upheavals. I believe in work, the self-respecting toiler, the holiness of beauty, freeborn producers, the communion of comrades, the resurrection of workers, and the industrial commonwealth, the cooperative kingdom eternal." Congregationalist minister Bouck White of New York City, Wealth, socialism, and Jesus

"Liberation theology is a vital reflection centered on the historical praxis of freedom in a complex circumstance of subjugation and prejudice; it is a radical Christian movement based on a new thought of Christian theology, projecting Jesus as the redeemer and liberator of the oppressed. Establishments of liberation theology, in general, were to prepare Christians to be a dynamic champion for socio-economic and political transformation for the poor the downtrodden." Liberation Theology | Definition, Founder & Examples

"Anarchism is a way of understanding the dynamics of power and how they relate to justice; it is an enlightenment response to an enlightenment problem – the nation state. Anarchism gives greater importance to social organisation than state-promoting theories like democratic liberalism, or Marxism. The literal meaning of the word anarchy is 'without ruler'. Most forms of anarchism emphasise the importance of voluntary association as opposed to imposed nationalism.

A workable model of Christian anarchism must go beyond the selfishness of individualism, thus avoiding Western doctrines of salvation as well as rejecting nihilism. However, it must not fall into the impersonal restrictions of some forms of Collectivism that would oppress the individual. Christian anarchism rejects the violent anti-intellectualism of some forms of anarcho-syndicalism and the violence inherent in the Liberation Theology motif of 'Exodus', whilst celebrating non-literate societies as potentially self-governing, regardless of formal education. " Understanding Christian Anarchism

Christian communism is a form of religious communism based on Christianity. It is a theological and political theory based upon the view that the teachings of Jesus Christ compel Christians to support communism as the ideal social system. Although there is no universal agreement on the exact date when Christian communism was founded, many Christian communists assert that evidence from the Bible suggests that the first Christians, including the Apostles, created their own small communist society in the years following Jesus' death and resurrection. As such, many advocates of Christian common ism argue that it was taught by Jesus and practiced by the Apostles themselves.

Christian communism can be seen as a radical form of Christian socialism. Christian communists may or may not agree with various parts of Marxism. They generally do not agree with the anti religious views held by secular Marxists, but do agree with many of the economic and existential aspects of Marxist theory, such as the idea that capitalism exploits the

working class by extracting surplus value from the workers in the form of profits and that wage-labor is a tool of human alienation that promotes arbitrary and unjust authority. Christian communism, like Marxism, also holds that capitalism encourages the negative aspects of human nature, supplanting values such as mercy, kindness, justice and compassion in favor of greed, selfishness and blind ambition.

Christian communists also share some of the political goals of Marxists, for example replacing capitalism with socialism, which should in turn be followed by communism at a later point in the future. However, Christian communists sometimes disagree with Marxists (and particularly with Leninists) on the way a socialist or communist society should be organized. In general, Christian communism evolved independently of Marxism, and most Christian communists share the conclusions but not the underlying premises of Marxist communists." Christian Communism

Other Religious Socialist Groups

- Episcopal Church Socialist League
- League of Religious Socialists of Germany
- Christian Social Workers' Party
- Church of the Carpenter
- Sandinista National Liberation Front
- Christian Anarchism
- Jesus Radicals

Watch Out!

Unfortunately, I've seen many Christian denominations, leaders, pastors, and church members get fooled by so-called 'Christian socialism.' These social justice groups take the words of Jesus Christ out of context to present a false view of who He is. Most of these groups do not believe the core tenants of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Most do not believe Jesus Christ is the Eternal Son of God.

That's a big problem, so watch out the next time you see a news story showing social justice protestors holding up signs and wearing shirts that quote Jesus Christ. Also, watch out when you see your pastor or a denominational leader supporting one of these so-called 'Christian' social justice groups. Don't be fooled like so many other Christians have been fooled into thinking that these groups represent the Word of God 'rightly divided' – because they don't.

Chapter Nineteen

If 'Christian' socialists are wrong and Jesus Christ is not a radical revolutionary, then what is He? Does He believe in social justice? If so, what kind? Where do we go to find out?

The answer is simple: the Word of God 'rightly divided.' That's what 'Christian' socialists don't do. They cherry-pick the words of Jesus out of context so that it serves their purpose. They quote the 'parts' of what Jesus said while leaving out the other parts – the parts that explain what Jesus said. What they don't do is handle God's Word correctly. That has led to many errors within the larger Christian movement across the world and through the centuries. How do we put that right?

The 'Real' Jesus Justice

In order to understand the 'Real Jesus Justice,' we have to know the 'Real Jesus.' Unfortunately, many people, including a large number of people who claim to be Christians, do not know the 'Real Jesus.' As I've reported in many previous articles:

- A 2020 Lifeway Research project found that '30 percent of evangelicals now agree with the statement, 'Jesus was a great teacher, but he was not God.'
- A 2020 Probe Research project found that 70% of 'born-again Christians disagree with the biblical position that Jesus is the only way to God.' Many of them agreed that Buddha and Muhammad also taught valid ways to God (even though Jesus said He was the only Way to God).
- A 2025 Lifeway Research project found that 47% of Evangelical Christians affirm that 'God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.'

- A 2017 BBC/ComRes survey of Christians in Great Britain found that about 25% of people who described themselves as Christians did not believe in Jesus' resurrection. Research of Christians in the United States found a similar number (26%) of Christians believed Jesus did not rise from the dead (even though the entire New Testament affirms that He did). That same research found that 31% of Christians do not believe in life after death.
- A 2017 Pew Research survey found that the number of Christians who believed Jesus was born of a virgin had decreased significantly since a similar survey just three years earlier (a drop of 12% – from 83% to 71%).

I could go on with various research findings that show how little Christians know about Jesus and how much they get wrong about Him. Keep in mind that some of these research projects are seven-to-ten years old, which means the numbers now are even worse since the trends have been downward for decades. The numbers for non-Christians are worse. While many people want to quote what Jesus said about 'social justice' and hold those words out as statements of fact, they don't want to affirm what the New Testament claims are the basic 'facts' concerning Jesus Christ. They pick and choose what works for them while taking Jesus' words out of context. They also don't tell the entire story about what Jesus Christ believes about 'social justice.'

Jesus Christ does believe in social justice, but it's not the same justice 'social justice warriors' promote. Jesus came from Heaven to earth to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14) and to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8). How often have you heard that from a so-called 'Christian justice warrior?' I haven't. Bottom-line – I put no stock in what social justice warrior say about Jesus. They

don't know Him. I hope they will, but they don't know Him now – not with what they're saying He said.

What does 'Real' Jesus Justice look like? Since Jesus is the Son of God, no matter how these people try to deny it, we could begin in the Old Testament and see what God's 'justice' looks like. However, I'll give these people a break and just look at the New Testament for now.

Social justice warrior love to quote these words from Jesus:

> "Judge not, that you be not judged." Matthew 7:1

What they don't do is quote is what follows in the same chapter, same sermon by Jesus. Have you ever heard a 'social justice warrior' quote these words?

> "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad

> tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them." Matthew 7:15-20

How about these words of Jesus in the same context?

> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" Matthew 7:21-23

Now that sounds like justice! Or how about this? Same context – same sermon:

> "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes."
> Matthew 7:24-29

Read the rest of the Gospels and you'll discover that modern-day 'social justice warriors' have done their best to hold Jesus up as their hero while hiding the truth about what He really said and meant while He was on earth.

The 'Truth' About Justice

Jesus told His apostles that after He returned to Heaven He would send them 'another comforter' who would 'guide them into all truth.' That 'other comforter' is the Holy Spirit. We know from what's written in God's Word that the Holy Spirit inspired the prophets and apostles to preach the truth and write it clearly in various books and letters. Did the apostles who were under the 'inspiration' of the Holy Spirit ever mention what Jesus claimed about 'social justice?' Yes, He did. Here are several examples:

> "We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; since it is a

righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed." 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10

"For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;

and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)— then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable

souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet. These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage. For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from

the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire." 2 Peter 2:4-22

"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND
LORD OF LORDS.

Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great." And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh."
Revelation 19:11-21

"Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:11-15

In Summary

To call Jesus Christ a 'radical social justice warrior' is blasphemy and complete nonsense. Jesus Christ is God. He is not like us. His ways are not our ways. His thoughts are higher and greater than our thoughts. His plans for our planet and those who live on it are His Eternal Plans – not our puny mortal plans that appear for a moment only to vanish away. No human being ever had any input into what Jesus planned from eternity. They also cannot comprehend what He's doing:

> "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." John 1:1-5

> "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' "And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." John 1:14-18

The fact that the Son of God became flesh and lived among His creatures has confused people for two millennia. They read what He said while He was on earth and try to fit Him into an image of their own making. What they don't understand is that the Spirit of Christ wants to fit us into the image of Christ that is of His making. That means massive changes will happen in the lives of those who believe in Him – spiritually, morally, and physically. As a former atheist I understand that.

Life on earth is not – as many people would like it to be – what they want to make of it. Life is what God says it is and what it is going to be. His Power is Unlimited. The so-called 'power' of social justice warriors on earth is definitely limited. They cannot fight against the All-Powerful God. They cannot thwart His plans for Planet Earth. They are just 'dust in the wind.'

> "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away." James 4:14

That's why serious, contextual, rightly dividing Bible study is necessary for Christians to undertake. Otherwise they will be blown around by the winds of human wisdom rather than Divine Wisdom. Non-Christians have to become Christians to even begin understanding what God has been and is doing now on earth. I used to be a non-Christian, so I'm not speaking from a perspective of pride. I deal in facts, not fantasies. Truth is truth, and the truth is that a non-Christian has no way to understand the Ways of God:

> "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others." Ephesians 2:1-3

Fortunately, there is an answer to the dilemma non-Christians experience:

> "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of

> yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:4-10

We see several very important things about life in these verses:

1. God is rich in mercy
2. God loves people, even when they are spiritually dead
3. God made some people 'alive together with Christ' through His Grace
4. God raised us up together and 'made us sit together in the heavenly place in Christ Jesus'
5. God will demonstrate His great Grace and Love in 'the ages to come' through His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus
6. God saved some of us by grace through faith, 'and that not of yourselves'

7. God gave some of us eternal life by way of a gift rather than our having to work for it .. it is impossible to work for or deserve eternal life .. if it was we'd boast about it
8. God created us in Christ Jesus for the purpose of (a view toward) 'good works' .. good works that God prepared beforehand that we should live our lives doing them

That is 'Real Jesus Justice.' Make no mistake about it. The 'social justice warriors' we see on our streets around the world today can make all the claims they want about what Jesus said and meant, but they are just like their father the devil who was a liar from the beginning. They know 'nothing' about our Lord and nothing about real justice. They are nothing more than empty vessels doing the will of their doomed god.

The only way that this world will ever know 'real social justice' is when Jesus Christ sits on His Throne in Jerusalem and rules the world with righteousness and truth.

"Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Luke 1:30-33

God's Justice eBooks

Book One

Book Two

Book Three

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