# WHY LEFTISM & TIM KELLER ARE SO DANGEROUS

**MARK BAKER** 

# HOPE FOR LIFE BIBLICAL COUNSELING & EQUIPPING

# WHY LEFTISM &TIM KELLER ARE SO DANGEROUS

Why Leftism & Tim Keller Are So Dangerous

© 2021, Mark D. Baker

Equipping Resources Available at HopeForLifeOnline.com

Hope Ink PO Box 26811 Fresno, California 93729 www.hopeink.com

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher, except as provided by USA copyright law.

First printing, 2021
Printed in the United States of America

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture taken from the New King James Version® Copyright ©1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

All italics or special emphasis on Scripture is added by the author, and does not appear in the original manuscripts, unless otherwise noted.

# CONTENTS

1 OUR GREATEST THREAT 1

2 WHAT IS LEFTISM & WOKE-ISM? 5

3 20 SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT TIM KELLER 21

4 REWRITING SCRIPTURE 37

41

TGC & THE MARS HILL SYNDROME

It is the truth which is assailed in any age which tests our fidelity. It is to confess we are called, not merely to profess. If I profess, with the loudest voice and the clearest exposition, every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christianity. Where the battle rages the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and to be steady on all the battle-field besides is mere flight and disgrace to him if he flinches at that one point.

Flizabeth Rundle Charles

# OUR GREATEST THREAT

What is the single greatest threat in the world today?

This is an exceedingly important and possibly life-saving question. Of course, the greatest danger to mankind, now and in eternity, has always been *sin* and *deception*. These twin threats are heavily connected to the Deceiver, the world, and our own sinful nature.

[ For more, see: Our Greatest Danger ]

However, the most pressing and *specific* threat to Christianity right now, and indeed to *all of humanity*, is *LEFTISM* (or "*Woke-ism*"). This is precisely the "point which the world and the devil are at [this] moment attacking," and "test(ing) our fidelity" to God, truth, love, and others. This is also where most individuals are being deceived and destroyed, and it is why our society is being increasingly darkened, divided, and even decimated.

Tommy Nelson, a highly respected pastor, fully agrees regarding the source of this danger, as he actively warns the Church, church leaders, and society in general. At a recent conference entitled "Wokeness & The Gospel," Nelson made this strong statement:

I have been in the ministry almost 50 years, and [wokeness] is the most insidious and dangerous and pervasive ideology that I have ever seen in all of my life, in all of my ministry. And it is dangerous to the Christian church as well as to our culture.

Tommy Nelson<sup>1</sup>

If we want to love and help others, should we not be accurately and painfully aware of, and actively confronting whatever this greatest danger is? And should we not also be arduously protecting and saving others from it? Nothing is more loving to God and our neighbor than to rescue people from the snare of deception and death (Jas 5:19-20).

Deliver those who are **drawn toward death**, and hold back those **stumbling to the slaughter**.

If you say, "Surely we did not know this," does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?

Proverbs 24:11-12

When it comes to delivering "those who are drawn toward death," an absolutely necessary aspect of this supreme act of love is to know and combat the specific ways that the threat—in this case, leftism/woke-ism—is deceiving and crushing those inside and outside of the body of Christ. Of course, this love necessarily includes addressing and exposing the people who are complicit in and enabling this deceit and destruction (Eph 5:6-11; 1 Cor 14:8).

Taking a look at the bigger picture, if there is something that diverse groups should be united on, it is the unparalleled threat that leftism/woke-ism poses. Put simply, leftism is in an all out war against humanity. Which is why every single objective, freedom-loving individual—whether atheist, Christian, liberal, or conservative—should be wholeheartedly fighting against this one thing: the evil tyranny of leftism, while simultaneously defending freedom.

What is more, this dire reality is even more pertinent for people of faith, particularly Christians and Jews. Why? Because, historically and logically, these groups have always been, and always will be, the primary targets of leftists.

Unfortunately, the tentacles of leftism have spread everywhere, including within the Church. Which means, in order to accurately identify and stand against this threat, we must carefully and thoroughly answer the following four questions:

- 1. WHAT is leftism?
- 2. **HOW** did leftist ideology gain such a stronghold, particularly in the Church?
- 3. **WHO** is the most responsible for infecting the body of Christ with "woke-ism"?
- 4. WHAT can and should be done about it?

We will address each of these, including the "what," "how," and "who," along with what we can and should do in response.

And while there are many qualified candidates when it comes to the "who," near or at the top of the list of influencers is the well-known pastor and author Tim Keller. Yes, that is quite a charge, which will be surprising and offensive to some. Yet, with so much at stake, with so many people being profoundly deceived and "drawn toward death" through leftism, and with the Church and society being increasingly decimated and bitterly divided, it is more necessary than ever to hit this danger head on.

Therefore, because we find ourselves in such a dire situation, making such a serious assertion, and because of our calling and need to love others, we will share an abundance of information which will give more than ample evidence, while also equipping the body of Christ to better overcome the wickedness of leftism. However, before we discuss the significant issues with Keller's teachings, we first need to have a better understanding of leftism and, similarly, what it means to be "woke."

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Proverbs 14:12



What, exactly, is leftism and woke-ism?

We will first give a shorter description for leftism and woke-ism, and then a more in-depth explanation of the ideology and practice of leftists. Because leftism is the greatest threat to all of us in today's world, it is critical for everyone to become fully aware of what leftism is, what it does, the true intent of leftists, and how to warn others.

### **LEFTISM**

Under the guise and allure of a utopian society of equality, justice, and freedom, leftism requires everyone to fully trust in and completely submit to an all-powerful, absolute *totalitarian* government—where there is no personal property and *no real personal freedoms* (religion; speech; protecting oneself; etc.). A few may choose to live under this tyrannical structure, at least initially, but *everyone else is forced*.

As a result, in leftism, everything is forfeited to and collectively owned by an all-controlling, sovereign State, which is always run by certain *elites*, who obtained their vast wealth, absolute power, and elite status by condemning elitism, by demanding "economic equality," by promising "social justice," and by preaching "power to the people" and "equality for all." Leftists either fail to see the obvious here, or they refuse to admit this, along with other self-defeating aspects of leftism. This is a key insight to all leftist mindsets (e.g., groupthink; fear of challenging their own constructs).

In short, leftism is an umbrella term that involves Marxism/socialism/communism/fascism and collectivist domination over the entire population (i.e., totalitarianism and tyranny). In other words, leftism is an oppressive religion which is forced upon everyone by leftists, all in the name of freedom, love, compassion, unity, justice, peace, etc.

It is important to understand that not only has leftism horrifically failed *one hundred percent* of the time, it always utterly destroys every country it touches, and always oppresses and decimates the people in these societies—all in the name of justice, freedom, and equality, and under the pretense of saving society.

This misery and harm is especially true for Christians and Jews. Why? Because leftism is, first and foremost, *an anti-Christian religion* (it is also entirely anti-humanity). Nevertheless, people are *still* falling for this flagrant falsehood, including those who claim Christ.

[ For more, see: The Scorecard of Socialism and Jesus Was A Socialist? ]

# **BEING WOKE (WOKE-ISM)**

In general terms, being "woke" means to actively embrace leftism and anti-conservative *activism*, often in the form of the following beliefs or ideologies:

- Critical Theory & Critical Race Theory
- Intersectionality
- · Social justice
- Cultural Marxism
- Social activism (for leftist causes)
- Hostility toward the Bible and conservative Christianity (i.e., the values and teaching that come from a high view of the Bible)
- · Blaming all societal problems on conservatives, and conservative Christians
- Shaming and demonizing anyone who does not yield to leftism
- Political correctness
- · Fomenting bitterness and division, particularly when it comes to race and income
- "Cancel Culture"
- · Economic justice
- · America is evil
- White people are racist
- · Defund the Police
- · Capitalism is evil

The ideology of woke-ism requires that one judge people based on gender, religion, skin color, political affiliation, etc.—and then condemn, punish, or give preferential treatment based on these judgments (usually while *condemning* such things as judging, racism, preferential treatment, etc.).

In reality, to be "woke" is to be deceived, manipulated, and used by leftist elites to achieve their goals of deconstructing and subverting pre-existing Judeo-Christian faith and values (e.g., freedom; morals; the nuclear family; traditional marriage; absolute truth; parental authority of children; etc.) and, thereby, establishing total dominion over a society.

While the term "useful idiot" came about in the Soviet era, perhaps a better term to use today to describe tools of the left would be "(In)justice Warriors" (some would call them "Social Justice Warriors"). Tragically, these woke individuals—those who often have great compassion, but woefully lack discernment, and, therefore, are greatly deceived—end up with an increasingly inverted reality (e.g., good is evil, evil is good; Is 5:20). They become so deluded that they truly believe that they are fighting against injustice, and for justice, yet the exact opposite is true (cp. Acts 9:1-5). As a result, they are zealously creating ongoing injustices, albeit in the name of "justice" (cp. Acts 26:11).

Each of the dots in leftism and woke-ism can be connected to one main thread. Whether they realize it or not, every idea and action of leftists has this goal in common: *The subversion of biblical Christianity and Judeo-Christian values* (e.g., freedom; freedom of thought; freedom of speech; the family; traditional marriage; absolute truth; binary truth; the eternal over what is temporary; the need to be saved from the penalty of sin through Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection from the dead; etc.), *and the replacement of these with leftist ideology and domination* (e.g., the government having full control over you, your body, your money, your children, what you can say and do, and more).

So why is the deconstruction of biblical laws and values paramount for leftists? While there are many reasons, which have always existed (e.g., rebellion; hatred of Jesus and His true followers; cp. Jn 3:19-21; 7:7; Lk 6:22), one *chief* reason is this: *biblical principles are the polar opposite and stand in the way of leftism*. Therefore, the undermining of God—and His Word, values, and authority—must occur in order for leftism/totalitarianism to deceive, take over, and rule the masses (cp. Gen 3:1ff; Matt 4:1ff).

This subversion is exactly what we see taking place every day in America, and in much of the world. These attacks on truth and Christianity are even coming from many who claim Christ, yet have adopted much of the world's wisdom. Tragically, these individuals have been seduced or shamed into embracing most, if not all, the lies of the left.

[ For more, see: The Sanity Threshold and The Seven Deadly Errors ]

In every word and deed, leftism is utterly *anti-Christ*, and, as a result, it is *anti-humanity*. That is why all leftist countries are notorious for oppressing and killing untold numbers of people, and for seeking to suppress and destroy anything to do with the Bible and true Christianity.

If it is not clear already, leftism is not merely about economics or governance, it is a full-blown *religion*. In keeping with this, not only does leftism have their own scribes, priests, and prophets —who possess a self-ordained mission and mandate to rule over all of humanity—they have their very own god: *the State* (i.e., the government). As one of its early fathers declared:

The State is the Divine Idea as it exists on earth.

Georg Hegel<sup>2</sup>

What is more, within leftism, everyone is *forced* to worship and obey this god. No one is free to choose otherwise. That is why leftism is always *totalitarian*—and why leftists always hate Judeo-Christian faith and values (and other religions)—and why Christians and Jews (including the nation of Israel) are always demonized by the left.

Naturally, leftism is jealously and zealously adversarial toward *the* God, His true followers, His Word of truth, and the freedom He gives us (cp. Jn 8:31ff; 15:18-21; 1 Jn 4:1-6; 2 Tim 3:8). And we observe this warfare every day. Therefore, it should surprise no one that the chief scribe of leftism, the coauthor of The Communist Manifesto, and the namesake of Marxism openly declared that his life's mission was to subvert the true God and to annihilate the free market.

My object in life is to **dethrone God** and **destroy capitalism**.

Karl Marx<sup>3</sup>

Because it truly is a religion, it makes sense that leftism also has its own "gospel"—which includes its unique versions of evil, sin, sacrifice, salvation, heaven, etc. In a nut shell, here is the "good news" and great commission of leftists:

Humanity is in dire need of being saved from the evil, oppression, and injustices of those who believe in capitalism, freedom, the Bible, the true God, and Christianity (i.e., those "oppressors" and "exploiters" who reject Marxism/socialism/totalitarianism, and, instead, believe in freedom, the free market, Scripture, Jesus, the cross of Christ, etc.). Therefore, mankind will be saved, experience true justice and equality, and live in a paradise on earth *only* when these evil people are destroyed, and their ideas and values are deconstructed and eliminated (e.g., censored, suppressed, and/or deemed illegal), and when everyone sacrifices all their money, power, and freedom to their deity (i.e., the government).

The elite ruling class, however, is always exempted from this, and all other decrees of the left's religion ("Rules for thee, not for me"). Instead, they are the direct beneficiaries of these religious offerings, which further adds to their pre-existing wealth, power, and elite status.

While heralding the "good news" and exalting the deity of the left, one of the more famous devotees to Marxism wonderfully captured the essence of leftism when he summarized the religion in this way:

The *only thing* that brings perfect justice, freedom, and equality, perfect love in all of its beauty and holiness, is *socialism*, *socialism*, *socialism*...

Socialism is God!

Jim Jones<sup>4</sup>

The religion of the left is somewhat unique in that leftist leaders do not merely believe that everyone else is horribly wrong, and that their totalitarian ways are absolutely right—even though leftism has horrifically failed every single time. They actually believe they have a virtuous and righteous mandate to *force* every human being into the mandates of their totalitarianism. *And* they believe that their deadly actions are loving, compassionate, and just. What is more, their coercions, injustices, and crushing of dissent is often done in the name of tolerance, acceptance, inclusivity, equality, peace, and justice.

The left also has their own set of dogmas, which frequently shift, according to the winds of the culture (e.g., Eph 4:14; cp. Ps 1:1; Col 2:8; 1 Cor 1:17ff; 2:12; 3:18-20). Five of the supreme commandments and creeds that leftists live by (at least for the elites) and that drive most of their religion are:

- 1. Divide and conquer
- 2. Constantly criticize and deconstruct Judeo-Christian morals and values (i.e., Critical Theory/Critical Race Theory)
- 3. Demonize and destroy those who do not comply
- 4. It's all for the greater good
- 5. The end justifies the means

As a result, they not only absolve themselves of their heinous sins (e.g., the injustices they commit, the deception, and the evil and harm they do), but these are all more than justified. How? All the wrong they do in the name of leftism is actually good—because their end goal is a utopia of justice, equality, and peace (e.g., the end justifies the means).

Furthermore, leftists are so convinced that their ways are superior—even though these have horrifically failed every single time, and can never, ever work—that anyone who does not agree with and submit to their absolute dominance is obviously evil. An example of this thinking would be: "Who wouldn't fully embrace a society full of peace, equality, and justice? Anyone who disagrees with such high ideals and lofty goals must be dumb and evil!"

Therefore, in the mind of the utopian authoritarian, it is a righteous deed to mock, shame, and punish dissenters. What is more, it is honorable to coerce and compel anyone and everyone into compliance. And, ultimately, it is noble and necessary to *destroy* those who do not submit to leftism (i.e., the end justifies the means, all for the greater good). Roger Kimball gives a wonderful explanation of how leftists arrive at such a dark place and an inverted reality:

The socialist pretends to have glimpsed paradise on earth. Those who decline the invitation to embrace the vision are not just ungrateful: **they are traitors** to the cause of human perfection. Dissent is therefore not mere disagreement but treachery. **Treachery is properly met not with arguments but (as circumstances permit) the guillotine, the concentration camp, the purge**.

Roger Kimball<sup>5</sup>

As if this could not get any worse, all of the founders of leftism—and those who have bought into and implemented this ideology—have always been *exceedingly hostile* to Jesus, Christianity, and biblical Christians. Some, however, are even more diabolical, such as Jim Jones, who used counterfeits and a perverted Christianity to gain adherents to leftism.

[ For more, see the chapter Marxism In History in Jesus Was A Socialist? ]

Jones' diabolical tactic was not new, but it does reveal an increasingly common scheme of leftists: seducing and duping Christians into leftist ways by mimicking and co-opting Christianity (cp. 2 Cor 11:3-4, 13-15). Today's Christianized counterfeits come in various forms: Liberation Theology; the social gospel; social justice; the belief that Jesus was a socialist; Jesus died to

start a revolution of justice on earth, to set the "oppressed" free from "oppressors" (as defined by leftist standards). Sadly, these counterfeits have successfully beguiled many into a woke and world-approved Christianity. And, day by day, it is getting worse.

For this, and many other reasons, leftism always has been and always will be the extreme enemy of the true Christian faith. In fact, *leftism is perfectly anti-Christ*. How so? Because it effectively deceives and ensnares so many individuals, suppresses and destroys so much good, and oppresses and kills so many people. That is why *it is impossible to come up with a more anti-Christ ideology and methodology than leftism* (Jn 15:18-21; 1 Jn 4:1-6; Phil 3:18-19; 2 Thess 2:1-12).

Just as there is the utmost enmity between Christ and Satan, so also is there between the left and Christianity. And, exactly like Lucifer, leftism is in an unrelenting war against *biblical* Christianity, against the true followers of Jesus, and against everyone else. Even more revealing and insidious, Satan and leftist do all of this in the exact same way, with precisely the same schemes (2 Cor 2:11; Gen 3:1ff):

- INFILTRATING the Church, especially among church leaders (2 Cor 11:13-15; Gal 2:4-5; Acts 20:28-29; Matt 7:15ff; 2 Pet 2:1ff; Jude 4ff)
- **UNDERMINING**, minimizing, diluting, distorting, and *changing* God's Word—subtly, gradually, and even overtly (Gen 3:1ff; Matt 4:6ff; 2 Tim 4:3-4; Gal 1:6-9; cp. 2 Tim 2:15; Acts 17:11)
- CONFORMING the Word to the world's wisdom and ways (cp. Col 2:8; Jas 4:4; 1 Jn 4:1-6; 1 Cor 3:18-20)
- SUBVERTING and demonizing biblical Christians and biblical values (Matt 11:18; Acts 6:9ff; 13:45)
- COUNTERFEITING justice, love, Jesus, Christianity, the gospel, etc. (2 Cor 11:3-4, 13-15; 2 Thess 2:9-12)
- **BEGUILING** those who claim Christ, and those who do not (1 Tim 4:1-2; 2 Tim 2:25ff; 3:13; 4:3-4)
- DECEIVING people away from the true faith (Matt 24:10; 1 Tim 1:18-20), many of whom embrace a counterfeit, and/or anti-Christian "Christianity" (e.g., "worldapproved Christianity;" the Woke Church)
- TURNING us against each other (Rom 16:17-18; Jude 19; Matt 24:9ff).

What could be more diabolical and evil? And yet, how many of these things do you see happening in the Church today? While these tactics and this hatred are not always obvious to some, the hostility toward God and His ways was openly declared by the left's Bishop of the Bolsheviks (notice how, in similarity to today's leftists, he uses "Social-Democracy," and misuses "scientific"):

Social-Democracy bases its whole world-outlook on scientific socialism, i.e., Marxism. The philosophical basis of Marxism, as Marx and Engels repeatedly declared, is dialectical materialism—a materialism which is *absolutely atheistic and positively hostile to all religion* . . . Marxism has always regarded all modern religions and churches, and each and every religious organization, as instruments of bourgeois reaction that serve to defend exploitation and to befuddle the working class . . . Marxism is materialism. As such, *it is as relentlessly hostile to religion* . . . *We must combat religion*—that is the ABC of all materialism, and consequently of Marxism. But Marxism is not a materialism which has stopped at the ABC. Marxism goes further. It says: We must know how to combat religion.

Vladimir Lenin<sup>6</sup>

This is why, in everyday practice, we see leftists actively striving to subvert freedom and religion, *and* to replace these with their false god of an omnipotent and sovereign State. As a result, they not only persist in shifting people away from freedom, and from a volitional trust in and dependence upon God and His Word, they cajole, coerce, and ultimately *force* every last person into total compliance to and dependence upon leftist ideology and the government (e.g., Rom 1:25; Jer 2:13; 17:5-9). Walter Williams gives us keen insight into the coercive and elitist mindset of Marxists.

People who denounce the free market and voluntary exchange, and *are for control and coercion*, believe they have more intelligence and superior wisdom to the masses. What's more, *they believe they've been ordained to forcibly impose that wisdom on the rest of us*. Of course, they have what they consider good reasons for doing so, but every tyrant that has ever existed has had what he believed were good reasons for restricting the liberty of others.

Dr. Walter E. Williams7

Nevertheless, and despite this painfully obvious reality, there is a growing number of people who claim Christ, yet also embrace this ardently anti-Christ ideology. Making things even more disturbing and destructive, these same individuals increasingly and actively demand—if not shame, coerce, and force—others surrender to the anti-Christ leftism and its totalitarianism. And they do all this in the name of love, Christ, and "for the greater good."

[ For more, see chapters 6 & 7 in <u>Seven Deadly Errors Destroying & Refining The Church</u> ]

While an accurate understanding of Scripture would go a long way in helping them out of this deadly snare, they could simply take the word of one of the chief architects of leftism, coauthor with Karl Marx of *The Communist Manifesto:* 

These good people are not the best Christians, although they style themselves so; because if they were, they would know the bible better, and find that, if some few passages of the bible may be favourable to Communism, the general spirit of its doctrines is, nevertheless, totally opposed to it.

Frederick Engels<sup>8</sup>

It is worth noting that one way to easily spot those on the left, or those duped by the left, is to look for those who deny or minimize the danger and magnitude of leftism/woke-ism. In addition, they often demonize and gaslight those who warn of the dangers of CRT, cultural Marxism, woke-ism, socialism, totalitarianism, etc. Furthermore, they frequently redirect the focus and blame away from the abundant evil of leftism and on to something that is minimal, or is far less pervasive or dangerous (e.g., "Christian Nationalism"; White Supremacy). Worse, they are commonly observed making *false accusations* of others (e.g., "False Summary Judgements"), especially those on the right (e.g., "You're a racist"; "You're a conspiracy theorist"; "White people are evil"; "You're a Bigot"; "You're the reason why people don't go to church"; "You're not loving your neighbor," etc.).

What cancer is to the body, leftism is to truth, freedom, and Christianity (cp. Gal 5:9). The more it is left unchecked, the more it will grow and the more pain and damage it will cause, not to mention the fact that it will ultimately kill its host (cp. Jn 10:10, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy"). This is proven every single time leftism has been tried. And it is killing people and societies all over the world right now (including America).

Furthermore, cancer cannot be addressed passively. Cancer does not go away on its own, and neither does leftism. In the same way as one would treat a serious disease, leftism must be dealt with directly and decisively.

However, if we stay on the trajectory we are currently on, if people do not wake up and start assertively doing something about the ever-escalating destruction of leftism, there will be no more freedoms, no more America. What is more, while the real Church will be fully suppressed and underground, there will be a thriving counterfeit, anti-Christian Church. And, at some point, for those who survive, we will all be under totalitarian rule.

To state it plainly, if we are to overcome this present evil, many Church leaders need to repent. Some need to repent of their "lukewarmness," their failure to be more bold, to stand up against the evil of the left. Others need to repent for their support of leftism and woke-Christianity, both inside and outside of the Church. They also need to come clean about their political support, directly or indirectly, of leftist candidates, and leftist causes (e.g., BLM; social justice), and for their shaming and demonizing of those who stand for freedom and conservative values.

All churches and church leaders have an urgent responsibility to equip themselves, and others, with the Word and with the truth (e.g., 2 Tim 3:15-4:5)—especially regarding the clear and present danger that leftism poses to the Church and to all of humanity (e.g., Acts 20:28-31). If we are to truly love our neighbor—if we are to love and obey God—then we absolutely need to *expose*, warn about, and fight against this pernicious evil that threatens all of us, along with everything that is good and godly.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather **expose** them.

Ephesians 5:6-11

The fact is, leftism has never worked, nor can it ever work. It has resulted in the *mass murder* of *millions* of innocent people, and has unjustly imprisoned and tortured countless more. Leftists have starved to death millions of *their own people*, both *intentionally*, and through applying leftist logic. Leftism continues to oppress billions of people all over the world, as it suppresses every

kind of freedom, especially religious and personal freedoms. Leftism always suppresses Christianity, the gospel, and God's Word (along with other faiths). It is causing bitter division in many societies right now, and in the Church. While some are duped or pressured into socialism, communism, or utopian authoritarianism, the truth is that, ultimately, leftism is not voluntary. Everyone is deceived, shamed, or forced into the assured pain, misery, and destruction that accompanies leftism. Is it any wonder then that it is mankind's greatest threat?

[ For more, see: the chapters *Human Nature* and *The Scorecard of Socialism* in <u>Jesus Was A Socialist? The Life or Death Truth Everyone Needs To Know About Jesus & Socialism</u>]

## 3 CHARACTERISTICS OF LEFTISM

#### 1. NO THINKING FOR YOURSELF

According to Merriam-Webster, groupthink is "a pattern of thought characterized by **self-deception**, **forced manufacture of consent**, and conformity to group values and ethics."

Leftism is groupthink. The left cannot succeed without groupthink. That is why leftism is all about total conformity to leftist ideas—or else.

As a result, the left not only seeks to *fully impose* leftist groupthink on everyone, they do so while punishing all "wrong-think." In other words, leftists will mock, shame, and even crush those who think for themselves, those who disagree with them and refuse to yield to the groupthink of the left (cp. 1 Kgs 22; Dan 3).

Making this worse, leftists see their hurtful and destructive tactics as good, noble, and necessary ("all for the greater good;" cp. Jn 16:2; Acts 26:11)—thus revealing their own self-deceit and disconnection from reality (cp. 2 Tim 3:13).

2. NO QUESTIONS ALLOWED

No one is allowed to ask questions of leftism, including leftists.

Leftists are never critical of leftism (this is due to groupthink, being deeply deceived, and due to copious amounts of fear of leftists). All of this helps to

create and expand their *groupthink*.

Tragically, their criticism is reserved solely for those who are nonconformists.

for those who speak the truth and are for true freedom, for those who point

out the many deadly ways of leftism.

Special ire is reserved for conservatives and their values (e.g., the Bible;

freedom)—thus creating their Totalitarian Echo Chamber.

[ For more, see: Making Sense of The Madness ]

3. NO GENUINE EMPATHY

Even more tragically, leftists, in general, do not demonstrate any real

concern, empathy, or alarm over how the application of true leftism will undeniably and greatly harm and destroy innumerable people—or how it already has profoundly hurt, damaged, and oppressed billions of people, and

murdered millions more. If they did, they would denounce all leftism.

Adding to this egregious problem, leftists woefully lack this concern all while

believing themselves to be far superior in compassion, empathy, love, equality, and matters of justice—thus revealing an inverted reality, and often a

hardened heart (cp. ls 5:20; 1 Tim 4:1-2).

17

To summarize, leftism is, first and foremost, an *ardently anti-Christian religion* that is cloaked in justice, equality, and peace, but one where the true God is dethroned and replaced by the false god of the government, run by wealthy elites who seek total domination of all of society.

This elite class progressively gains power and imposes their totalitarianism through propaganda and the gradual elimination of freedom and demonization of true Christianity. This subversion is often achieved by seducing and deceiving the masses—including many Christians—through various counterfeits (e.g., counterfeit justice, love, Christianity, Jesus, etc.). All of this is accomplished under the pretense of needing to save the world from the free market (e.g., "capitalism"), biblical Christians, and "oppressive" Judeo-Christian beliefs and values (e.g., freedom; traditional marriage; the nuclear family; patriarchy; absolute truth/objective truth; the Bible; the gospel; etc.), and other manufactured or exaggerated problems (e.g., "climate change;" Christian Nationalists).

## REAL WORLD CONSEQUENCES

On a personal note, I recently talked with a good friend whose daughter is part of a ministry that has gradually perverted the gospel and its mission to share the true gospel. How did this happen? In a nut shell, by embracing the world and its wisdom—and by trying to win the world by seeking the approval of the world—they (predictably) exchanged the gospel for a false gospel (e.g., the "social gospel"), and replaced the true Jesus with "another Jesus" (e.g., a woke, socialist Jesus). And, not so coincidently, this coincided with their organization's hard turn to the left, politically.

Even though my friend's daughter is an impressive, compassionate, and sweet young woman, she is now, as a result of her connection to this left-approved ministry, seemingly in agreement with thinly veiled Marxism (e.g., CRT; social justice; woke-ism; antifa; socialism), and other anti-Christian ideals.

[ Note: Most, if not all, Christ-followers who fall into woke-ism have one or more of the following underlying problems: Compassion - Discernment; Good Intentions + Bad Ideology; Zeal + Error; Sense of Justice - Objectivity. ]

So, how did a (formerly) respected Christian ministry abandon the gospel and morph into promoting a counterfeit Christianity and a false Christ? And, more personally, how could such a tragic thing happen to such a lovely person? My friend believes his daughter's "conversion" is

primarily due to her embrace of the teachings of Tim Keller, pushed on her and many others by this ministry which heavily endorses him. Sadly, many who are deceived in this way bring this leaven back to their friends and family, and, as a result, infect even more people with leftism.

As tragic as this is, at least on a personal level, this is hardly an isolated incident. In case you haven't noticed, more and more individuals and Christian groups are "going woke" and embracing leftism. As a result, many of us are losing our loved ones to this highly divisive and deadly anti-Christian ideology.

My wife and I have several friends who not only became fully woke—and who, therefore, hold to the self-defeating "world-approved Christianity"—but they now believe the opposite of what they themselves believed five or ten years ago. In a weird, ironic, sad, and funny-yet-not-funny twist, if these friends went back in time, they would utterly disdain and even openly mock their former selves.

We also know multiple ministries which used to be all about spreading the true gospel, yet have fallen into woke-ism and now espouse a "different gospel" (e.g., 2 Cor 11:3-4; Gal 1:6-9). In fact, one is hard pressed today to find a church or ministry that is *not* infiltrated by woke ideology and left-embracing leaders. One simple sign of this is a growing emphasis on "activism" (e.g., social action, which is based on social justice and almost always springs from socialistic ideals). Across the board, there is less and less emphasis on actually sharing the true gospel. This includes many groups which are relatively or seemingly conservative.

What can explain such a shift? And, perhaps more importantly, how did it happen? While it is hardly all the fault of Tim Keller, he does bear a great deal of responsibility for this decline into leftist ideology.

[ For more on why people give up their freedom to leftists, see: <u>Seven Deadly Errors</u> <u>Destroying & Refining The Church</u>]

On a related and dire note, the body of Christ is facing another looming crisis—one that is already creating bitter division, and is only going to get worse. There are a multitude of churches and ministries which are still biblical to some degree, yet also have many people, including in leadership, who are adversarial toward those who have traditional Judeo-Christian values (e.g., freedom; traditional marriage; against socialism/Marxism) and those with a high view of Scripture. These same people think the Christlike and loving thing to do is to embrace some level of woke-ism and that it is "loving our neighbor" and acting "for the greater good" to surrender our personal freedoms and property to the government. Making things worse, most

church leaders are either completely unaware this is happening, or they are doing nothing about it (cp. Gal 5:9; Acts 20:28-29; Jude 4).

As most would agree, especially biblical Christians, our society is becoming increasingly dark, chaotic, and deeply divided—and the Church is mirroring this rapid decline. Even worse, a growing number of people now live in an *inverted reality* where love is hate, hate is love, good is evil, evil is good, socialism is wonderful and necessary, and America is evil and must be destroyed (cp. Is 5:20; Rom 1:25). It is also no coincidence that leftism and many left-adherent individuals declare biblical Christians to be the greatest threat to society.

One major reason for this disconnect and upside down thinking—and at the heart of all the deception that is overtaking so many and pitting us against each other—is the subtle and overt false teachings on things like compassion, love, and justice—especially "social justice." The teachings of Tim Keller (and many like him) have been front and center in all of this, as we will see. It is imperative that the discerning believer be keenly aware of these evil counterfeits.

So knavery *puts on the face of justice*; hypocrisy and superstition wear the vizard [mask] of piety; *deceit and evil are often clothed in the shapes and appearances of truth and goodness*. Now logic helps us to strip off the outward disguise of things, and to behold them and judge them in their own nature.

Isaac Watts9

There is profound irony and colossal deception at work in those who decry injustices and oppression through demands of "social justice." Nothing else has been proven over and over to produce more oppression and *injustice* than "social justice"—which really means socialism; collectivism/communism; Marxism; leftism; "redistribution of wealth," etc.

For further equipping, we have addressed all of this in our last few books, as well as in several articles aimed at helping people understand true justice and how to distinguish it from counterfeit justice, and how to detect those who spread one or more of these deadly imitations. We also wrote an article on how harmful deception is, and why the truth is so important.

[ For more, see: Why The Truth Matters ]

Now the Berean Jews were of **more noble** character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and **examined the Scriptures every day** to see if what Paul said was **true**.

Acts 17:11

# 20 SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT TIM KELLER

Most people agree that Tim Keller is a gifted communicator, that he demonstrates great concern for the poor, and that he seems to be a likable individual overall. And he appeals to many Christians because he is well-known, has sold many books, espouses Reformed theology, is admired by liberals and leftists, writes a great deal about matters of justice, is very intelligent, leads a church in the inner city, and may even have the best of intentions. Along with many others, we continue to pray for him in his current health challenges. Yet, when it comes to the Church, and Church leaders, it is troubling that he has been granted so much credibility—and even given a pass when it comes to his deeply concerning teachings.

# **4 DISCERNING QUESTIONS**

As is the case for all who claim to teach truth, including Paul the Apostle, the questions that need to be asked regarding Keller's teaching are the same. The first one is especially important.

1. How biblically accurate is his teaching?

(ls 8:19-20; Jn 8:31-32; 18:37; Acts 17:11; 2 Tim 2:15)

2. To what degree is he helping or harming others due the level of truth or error in his teaching?

(1 Tim 1:4-20; 2 Tim 3:15-4:5)

3. What significant falsehoods, false teachings, and counterfeits should we be aware of and warn others about?

(Eph 5:6-11; Jas 5:19-20)

4. Are his beliefs and teachings more in line with the Spirit of truth, or "the spirit of the world" (e.g., what is trending in the world today)?

(1 Cor 2:12; 1 Jn 4:5-6; Jas 1:27; 4:4)

Before we address these questions here, let's acknowledge the obvious: mercy and justice are good and necessary, as is helping those less fortunate—provided these things are done in a biblical, loving way. Yet we know that *Satan will always mimic what is good*, and, because of this, *there are countless counterfeits of what is good*, *godly, and loving*.

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

We know that there will always be people who fall for alluring yet lethal counterfeits, especially when it comes to love, justice, Jesus, Christianity, and the gospel. We also know counterfeits are everywhere, so the pivotal questions for each of us should be: Which specific counterfeits do you know of—and in what ways do you warn others about them? Which individuals do you know of in the Church who are spreading these counterfeits, and to what degree are you warning others about those who are teaching falsehoods? What about your church?

God repeatedly cautions, instructs, and exhorts us regarding these things in His Word (Gal 1:6-9; 2 Cor 2:11; 11:3-4; 13-15; 1 Thess 5:21-22; 2 Thess 2:9-12; 2 Tim 4:1-4; 1 Jn 4:5-6). Therefore, we must always be keenly aware of *counterfeits*, and, out of love for God and our neighbors, warn as many people as we can.

[ For more, see: Counterfeits: The Enemy's Greatest Weapon ]

Sadly, Tim Keller, at the very least, is being used by counterfeiters. The reality is, regardless of his motivation, *he is actively spreading several deadly counterfeits, both inside and outside of the Church*. Furthermore, a great number of Christians are enabling this deceit by endorsing him. This is no small error because nothing is more deceptive and deadly than a counterfeit.

With this in mind, what follows is a long, but hardly exhaustive, list of twenty of the most serious concerns about Tim Keller, his methods, and his teachings.

### **20 SERIOUS CONCERNS**

#### 1. TIM KELLER GRANTS HIMSELF AUTHORITY TO CHANGE GOD'S WORD

Keller grants himself the authority to override and change God's Word, as he has himself admitted. When it comes to Scripture, he says: "Sometimes I provide my own translations." Predictably, and as a result, *Keller gives God's people something other than what God gave His people.* Even worse, *Keller gives what is the opposite of and opposed to what God gave us.* 

His perversions of God's Word perfectly illustrate why no individual should ever attempt this, and why God repeatedly gives dire warnings about such sin and folly.

(cp. Jer 5:30-31Deut 4:2; Jer 23:31-32; Rev 22:18; cp. Lk 4:10-11; Gen 3:1ff; Rom 1:25; 2 Pet 2:1-3, 16-17)

[ For more, see: Chapter 4 "Rewriting Scripture" ]

#### 2. TIM KELLER CONFORMS THE WORD OF GOD TO THE WORLD'S WISDOM

Keller conforms the Word of God to the world and its wisdom (i.e., the enemies of God; Jas 4:4; 1 Jn 4:5-6). More specifically, *he replaces God's Word with leftist ideology*. Keller does not merely tweak something here or there, or find a unique meaning in the Hebrew or Greek, or just foolishly mistranslate the Word of God. Rather, he perverts God's Word and inserts a decidedly *political ideology* ("social justice"), which is heavily relied upon by leftists, the "enemies of the cross of Christ," counterfeiters, the Woke Church, and those deceived by these deceivers.

Altering Scripture is a not-so-subtle way that deadly false teachings get into the Church, which then deceives people and destroys their faith. It is also precisely what the serpent did to deceive Eve, which led to death for mankind (Gen 3:1ff). Satan also did this in trying to tempt Christ (Matt 4), and it is likely a chief reason why social justice has gained acceptability in the minds of countless Christians, many of whom

have strayed from, or "shipwrecked their faith" (e.g., 1 Tim 1:18-20; 4:1ff; 6:20-21; 2 Tim 2:15ff).

#### 3. TIM KELLER MISREPRESENTS GOD AND PERVERTS HIS CHARACTER

By changing God's Word Keller misrepresents God, perverts His character, and presents a *counterfeit Jesus*. How so? In so doing he makes it seem as if God is for anti-Christian, leftist political constructs, which have always failed horribly and led to *the mass murder of millions and millions* of innocent souls, *the oppression of billions* of victims of leftism/Marxism, and, ironically, the suppression and hatred of Christianity, Christians, the gospel, and God's Word. This is a counterfeit "Jesus."

Of course, the true God would never be a part of socialism/Marxism. Therefore, to insinuate or declare that God is for this woke notion of "social justice" is to misrepresent the God of the Bible, and is a serious affront to Him.

[ For more, see: Jesus Was A Socialist? ]

#### 4. TIM KELLER GIVES COVER TO AND ENDORSES LIBERATION THEOLOGY

Keller gives cover to and endorses *Liberation Theology*—which could be this generation's deadliest *theology*. Liberation Theology naturally and perfectly coincides with and teaches socialism/Marxism—which could be this generations deadliest *ideology*.

Liberation Theology not only perverts the gospel and the entire Bible, it seeks to subvert all of Christianity and replace it with a Marx-approved counterfeit "Christianity" by de-emphasizing and displacing *eternal* justice (the cross; heaven and hell; the lake of fire; our supreme need to be reconciled with God) with socialism, social activism, the social gospel, and temporal-but-counterfeit "justice." As a result, those who fall for Liberation Theology not only exchange the truth for a lie, they effectively exchange Christianity for leftist politics (cp. Rom 1:25; Jas 4:4).

Liberation Theology is not only deceiving and destroying untold numbers of people, it is also playing a major role in the destruction and division in society and in the Church. Even worse, Liberation Theology could be responsible for hindering millions

of people from knowing God, His love, His forgiveness, and His salvation. What could be more evil than that? Yet Keller, at least indirectly, endorses this very thing. Gustavo Gutierrez is considered to be the father of Liberation Theology, and Keller not only relies on Gutierrez and quotes him favorably, he also, quite revealingly, glosses over the truth of who Gutierrez is and the ugly reality of this deadly ideology. Instead of telling the full truth, or at least giving warnings of the many dangers and the many perversions of God's love and gospel, Keller refers to Gutierrez, the founder of Liberation Theology, merely as a "Latin American theologian." 11

This linguistic sleight of hand is similar to when the Washington Post described Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who was the most wanted terrorist in the world at the time, as an "austere religious scholar." Yet it could easily be argued that Keller's perversion is far worse because Liberation Theology is much more deadly, at least in light of eternity.

#### 5. TIM KELLER PARTNERS WITH THOSE WHO ARE ENEMIES OF THE GOSPEL

Keller partners with and empowers the teachings of those who are enemies of the gospel, Christianity, Christians, the cross of Christ, and Jesus Himself (especially those on the left, *and* those with a counterfeit Christianity, who are pro-abortion, etc.). Whether he does this wittingly or not, it is obviously in violation of common sense as well as several of God's commands (2 Cor 6:14ff; 2 Jn 7-11; Eph 5:6-11).

Those who Keller partners with include some who are overt in their leftism/socialism, and others who might be more subtle in their anti-Christianity (e.g., those who claim Christ, but espouse the social gospel, a socialist Jesus, who deny the substitutionary atonement of Christ, etc.). We could also add to this list other zealous and *overt* anti-Christians from the past (e.g., Marx, Hegel, Darwin, Freud, etc.).

#### 6. TIM KELLER PROMOTES "A DIFFERENT GOSPEL"

Keller promotes "a different gospel" alongside of, in place of, or intertwined with the gospel (2 Cor 11:4; Gal 1:6). As an example, at a minimum, his erroneous "mercy = justice" and "social justice" is not distinct from any truth he may hold about the gospel. And, in one form or another, he preaches the social gospel, all why

discouraging and even mocking conservatives who seek to share the true gospel of salvation.

#### 7. TIM KELLER OFTEN COMMUNICATES IN DOUBLE-SPEAK

Keller often communicates in double-speak by frequently and unnecessarily using cryptic, puzzling, and ambiguous wording (perhaps this is his version of the Hegelian Dialectic), instead of "the simplicity that is in Christ" (2 Cor 11:3).

As a result of Keller's unclear and often confusing communication, what he says is agreeable to those on the left, and many on the right. For example, because of how he speaks, when he uses the term "social justice," some on the right believe he merely means, "helping the poor" and "fighting human trafficking," but those on the left believe he literally means, "social justice!" "redistribution of wealth," "economic equality," "eliminating freedoms," along with some level of socialism and an all-powerful, anti-religious government. Yet what he actually means is, at a minimum, much more along the lines of the latter—which are all leftist ideas.

Even worse, many conservative Christians believe Keller speaks this way to win over liberals/progressives/leftists. In reality, it is the other way around. In other words, it is the exact opposite: he talks this way to win conservatives over to liberal/progressive/leftist ideology—and perhaps no one is better at this than him.

Double-speak not only allows him to affirm and deny something simultaneously (e.g., the social gospel; socialism), it also gives him, and his promoters, plausible deniability. Therefore, he can say he is against something, while also, in reality, being for it—or vice-versa. This is precisely what makes it so hard to change the minds of his admirers, and of those who enable his deceit (e.g., by endorsing his books and ideas).

#### 8. TIM KELLER SUPPORTS CRITICAL RACE THEORY & RACISM

Tim Keller supports *Critical Race Theory (CRT)*—which is deeply *racist*, and a known "agitprop" stratagem of leftists and cultural Marxists used to divide and conquer, and to pit classes against one another, especially by race. *Critical Theory,* the forerunner of CRT, does this in areas other than race—both are evil and schemes of the left. As

you probably know, CRT is presently dividing and greatly damaging our nation, along with much of the world and the Church.

Speaking of *double-speak*, Keller has *stated* that he is against CRT, yet, in his actions (cp. Ti 1:16), he affirms the very tenets of CRT in one form or another. In one example of CRT dogma/falsehoods, Keller says all white people are guilty of racism—whether they did anything racist or not—simply because of the color of their skin:

"A great example of systemic racism is the traditional evangelical approach to fundraising, in which you ask Christian staff workers to raise their own support. I see that as systemic injustice .... it's a version of systemic racism .... most of us, especially as white people, just sort of [say], 'This is the way it's always been done. I'm not a racist, so how could you call that systemic racism?' .... The whole idea that, 'Well, that was in the past, and now, you know, it's a level playing field. Get out there and work hard.' That's gone in my mind."12

"You're a racist, you know." 13

"All white people have white privilege."14

"If you have white skin, it's worth a million dollars over a lifetime over somebody who doesn't have white skin .... if you have that asset of white skin right now .... then you actually have to say ....'I'm the product of and standing on the shoulders of other people who got that through injustice' .... so the Bible actually says, yes, you are involved in injustice .... even if you didn't actually do it."15

Grievously, Keller shames, judges, and falsely condemns people based on their skin color—which, by definition, is racist—but only those with white skin. He also falsely accuses and condemns people for being racist and unjust, even asserting that Scripture makes the same accusation.

In addition to his own words on the subject, Tim Keller promotes, endorses, and is approved by many CRT advocates (cp. Matt 7:15ff).

[ For more, see: The CliffsNotes On Critical Race Theory ]

#### 9. TIM KELLER IS VIRTUALLY SILENT ON ABORTION

Tim Keller claims to be pro-life but, *at best*, he is virtually silent regarding this reality. Therefore—even though he has great power politically, both in the Church and in the world—and has had *millions and millions of dollars* come into his church (*perhaps hundreds of millions*), he has seemingly done essentially nothing for those who are the most vulnerable in our society (if he has, it is hard to find, which is troubling). Nevertheless, many conservatives tout the fact that he is "pro-life," while liberals and progressives are thrilled with his feeble and harmful silence.

If someone was all about justice, righting wrongs, putting faith into action, generously helping orphans and "the least of these"—and was against abortion—then wouldn't it follow that they would put this utmost injustice at the top of their list of priorities (or at least in the top 5)? You would think there would also be zero doubt about their beliefs because we would all see an abundance of tangible ways they were combatting this evil in the world and in the Church.

In stark contrast, Tim Keller *rarely* speaks on our society's greatest shame and most shocking injustice: the open practice of killing unborn babies. Why is that? Furthermore, when the issue of abortion does come up, Keller is quick to divert the attention from this actual injustice to his version of social justice.<sup>16</sup>

#### 10. TIM KELLER EMBRACES THE WORLD'S "WISDOM"

Keller embraces, believes, and teaches the error and folly of the world's "wisdom" — which, again, is in violation of common sense and God's Word (1 Cor 1:17ff; 3:18-20; Col 2:8; Ps 1:1). This, of course, naturally leads to the ongoing deception and destruction of others.

#### 11. TIM KELLER REPEATEDLY VIOLATES GOD'S WORD

Keller frequently violates God's Word (and logic)—to the great harm of many people—by twisting societal maladies (being orphaned, widowed, poor, etc.) into an "injustice."<sup>17</sup> This, in itself, and in great irony, is a serious injustice. This lie and injustice is then leveraged into a demand for "justice" from others. All of which is, not-so-coincidently, the precise rhetoric, scheme, and faulty rationale that socialists and leftists use, which predictably "perverts justice" (cp. Ex 23:1-3). Making this worse, this perversion of justice is done in the name of justice.

So, for example, when a woman becomes a widow, who specifically does Keller judge to be guilty of this "injustice"? Is this an injustice for only widows, and not widowers? If so, isn't that misogynistic, and/or misogynistic? What crime has been committed and how exactly is this "injustice" rectified? By finding a new husband? Taking money from married people and giving it to the widow?

Logically and biblically, all this breaks down on so many levels, which is always the case with leftist ideas (e.g. economic justice; social justice). Even worse, this error has led to yet more error and perversions of the gospel, which is usually the case when people declare that various problems in our world are "a gospel issue"—a refrain often heard from *The Gospel Coalition*, which Keller co-founded.

#### 12. TIM KELLER SHAMES & FALSELY CONDEMNS INNOCENT PEOPLE

Keller shames, judges, and condemns people for counterfeit injustices (cp. Prov 17:15). Predictably, his harmful fallacy makes innocent people criminals—erroneously condemning them as "robber(s)"—and guilty of repeated sins. What is more, according to Keller, these sinners/criminals—in order "to do justice"—need to right these sins/crimes/injustices by giving money to those who deserve "justice." In other words, everyone, especially if you are a Christian, is required—under the demand for justice—to give money to certain people who have lost loved ones, who have less than you do, etc. (all with no stated or objective standard for this "justice").

Making things worse, these falsehoods wrongly support the error-filled and deadly constructs of "economic justice," "social justice," and socialism, all of which come from the far left. Notice how Keller subtly twists and perverts compassion, mercy, giving, and generosity (i.e., what is *un*deserved) into a matter of justice (what is deserved), all to fit into leftist ideology:

"If you do not actively and generously share your resources with the poor, you are a robber. You are not living justly." 18

"To fail to share what you have is not just uncompassionate, but unfair, unjust." 19

#### 13. TIM KELLER PERVERTS THE GOSPEL & SALVATION

According to Keller, the primary purpose of salvation is not saving souls from hell, so that they can be reconciled with God, to know His love and mercy, and to live with Him forever in heaven. No, the main purpose, he believes and teaches, is *cultural renewal* (e.g., to make this world a better place). In his own words: "The purpose of salvation is to renew creation."<sup>20</sup>

This, of course, fits perfectly with the social gospel, social justice, socialism, and environmentalism, but not the actual gospel or God's Word. Notice how Keller's proclamation about the single most important need for mankind (i.e., salvation from hell, through the gospel)—and "the simplicity that is in Christ"—is also unclear and confusing, at best (e.g., double-speak), as well as woke-friendly, if not fully approved by the left. Why is Keller not abundantly clear about the most important message ever? Why, instead, does he give such a peculiar, nebulous, and erroneous statement?

### 14. TIM KELLER FALSELY ACCUSES CONSERVATIVE EVANGELICALS

Keller shames, falsely accuses, and undermines conservative evangelicals for their emphasis on the gospel, evangelizing, saving souls from eternal damnation, and for valuing what is everlasting far more than what is fleeting. In other words, Keller falsely condemns, belittles, and even opposes conservative Christians (cp. 2 Tim 3:8) for following Christ and His supreme directives (e.g., Matt 28:18-20; Jn 6:27; Acts 1:8). Even worse, he proclaims an inverted version of God's ways:

"Conservative churches say 'this world is not our home—it's gonna burn up eventually and what really matters is saving souls ... so evangelism and discipleship and saving souls are what is important'. And we try to say that it's the other way around almost. That the purpose of salvation is to renew creation. That this world is a good in itself ... And if you see it that way, then the old paradigm if you're going to put your money and your time and your effort as a Christian into doing God's work in the world, you wanna save souls which means the only purpose of

your ministry and your effort is to increase the tribe, increase the number of Christians."21

Keller maligns and misrepresents conservative Christians by distorting their beliefs and ascribing faulty, selfish motives to them (e.g., "... which means *the only* purpose of your ministry ..."). As a result, he not only shames and falsely accuses "conservative" believers of serious sins, but he twists the great commission and this supreme act of love—sharing the gospel, seeking to save souls from death and hell, and making disciples (cp. Jn 3:16-18, 36; 2 Cor 5:15-21; Jas 5:19-20)—into a selfish act of "increas(ing) the tribe."

Christians are, by definition, those who follow Christ, who know God and His salvation, and, therefore, will avoid hell and spend eternity with God in heaven. In what way then is it bad, wrong, harmful, or self-centered to "increase the number" of people who are reconciled with God, pardoned from eternal torment in hell, and will spend eternity in heaven with Jesus?

Again, Keller finds himself in direct opposition to God's Word and biblical Christians (e.g., Matt 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2:47; 5:14), as well as operating out of an *inverted reality*—which goes hand-in-hand with leftism and is evidenced by the following ...

#### 15. TIM KELLER HAS WORLD-APPROVED THEOLOGY

Keller's teachings about Christianity are largely approved by the world. In other words, those who reject, if not *hate* God and His Word, also accept, approve of, and even adore Keller's theology, all while *still* rejecting and perhaps hating God and His Word of life, not to mention hating those who seek to faithfully follow His Word (1 Jn 4:1-6; Rom 12:2; Jas 1:27; 4:4; cp. Jn 17:14; 2 Cor 2:15-16; 2 Tim 3:12-13).

Sadly, many who hold to world-approved Christianity fell for and continue to practice the fatal foolishness of the following nonsensical and erroneous mindset: "We want to shape the culture for Jesus and reach the world for Christ, but the world doesn't like Christians, Christianity, or God's Word. Therefore, the less we talk about the Bible, truth, personal responsibility, sin, and its solution (the gospel)—and the more Christians become like the world—the more the world will like us, and want to become like us ... even though we have already become like them."

[ For more, see: Seven Deadly Errors Destroying & Refining The Church ]

#### 16. TIM KELLER BELIEVES AND TEACHES EVOLUTION

Keller believes and teaches evolution, which is not merely wrong and unbiblical (1 Tim 6:20-21), but in so doing, also *undermines all of Scripture* and leads to countless other serious errors. This, in turn, deceives and harms untold numbers of people.<sup>22</sup>

Theistic evolution is not a secondary issue, as some try to make it out to be. It is supremely vital to all of God's Word, and to the gospel, and it undercuts both. Stephen Davey, the president of Shepherd's Theological Seminary, agrees with its primacy when he writes:

God's creation is not some incidental paragraph in a creed—creationism is a vital part of Christianity. In fact, it is absolutely connected to the gospel and to the believer's future hope.<sup>23</sup>

Keller also joined and strongly supports *BioLogos*—and founder Francis Collins—who believes things like: Adam and Eve were not real; humans evolved from apes; death did not enter the world when God said it did (Gen 3); and creation is not compatible with science. While they subtly scold and falsely accuse Christians with the mantra that "none of us should ignore clear scientific evidence," *they* ignore clear scientific evidence, even while evading and distorting the clear evidence found in Scripture.

#### 17. TIM KELLER HAS A FAULTY VIEW OF OUR HUMAN SINFUL NATURE

Keller holds to a highly erroneous view of our human and sinful nature, which is likely due to his belief in evolution, his embrace of the world's wisdom, and his mishandling of Scripture. Also, in order for leftist ideas to work (e.g., socialism; social justice) man needs to be basically good. So perhaps his perversion of the truth regarding our nature is wishful thinking on Keller's part, and that of all social justice proponents.

"Obviously, Keller's view of sin is warped by his theistic evolutionary beliefs; in fact, he identifies 'original sin' not as due to Adam's disobedience in Eden (as the Apostle Paul does in Romans 5), but as 'humanity's inherent pride and self-centeredness."<sup>24</sup> Here is another example of Keller's puzzling, unbiblical view of our sinful nature:

"The main problem in our heart is not so much desires for bad things, but our over-desires for good things."<sup>25</sup>

(cp. Rom 3:11-18; Gen 6:21)

#### 18. TIM KELLER CO-FOUNDED THE GOSPEL COALITION

Keller co-founded *The Gospel Coalition*—which, although it does have some good here or there, has been a very effective conduit for bringing ideas and values of the left into the Church. TGC is a mixture of a little truth with a lot of falsehoods.

In an irony of ironies, The *Gospel* Coalition is responsible for undermining the actual gospel, at least in subtle ways, and replacing it with more of a social gospel and woke politics (cp. Prov 25:26; Ps 1:1; Col 2:8). Overall and taken as a whole, TGC has been gradually undermining and subverting biblical Christianity for years, and is getting worse by the day.

## 19. TIM KELLER ENDORSES AND PROMOTES MYSTICISM

Keller endorses and promotes mysticism, which is guaranteed to deceive, and has already deceived and greatly harmed countless people, including many who claim Christ.<sup>26</sup> He and his church have taught and promoted several mystical practices, including: "The Way of the Monk," centering prayer, "Prayer Rope," "Chaplet of the Divine Mercy," contemplative prayer, and Lectio Divina, among others.<sup>27</sup>

[ For more, see: Seven Deadly Errors Destroying & Refining The Church ]

#### 20. TIM KELLER TEACHES A DISTORTED VERSION OF JUSTICE & MERCY

Keller teaches the confusing and obvious error of **mercy = justice** or, stated another way, **undeserved = deserved**. So, according to his self-defeating construct, what is undeserved (mercy) becomes what is deserved (justice).

This, in turn, means Christians *owe money* to other people due to the "injustice" of the latter group having less than the former (i.e socialism). Apparently, the facts, details, logic, biblical support, and objective standard to judge and condemn others for this injustice are not overly important.

Keller also uses this flagrant falsehood to bolster his false teaching of social justice, along with preaching multiple deadly forms of counterfeit justice (e.g., social justice; economic justice; economic redistribution; which includes various levels of socialism and leftism).

[ For more, see the chapter *Justice & Mercy* in **Jesus Was A Socialist?** ]

Overall, by the biblical standards and reasons outlined above, we can see that Tim Keller is fully disqualified to teach on justice—which, sadly and ironically, happens to be his primary subject. Yet, also ironically, his teachings on justice are why he is adored by the left, as well as the main reason those who are not liberal or left-leaning are often duped into leftist causes. However, in spite of his clear disqualification, Tim Keller continues to be front-and-center when it comes to matters of justice (both real and counterfeit).

[For more, see: True Justice: Who Should Judge and Who Should NOT Judge]

If you or I had just a handful of the above problems on our resume, we would be quickly discounted by true Bible-believing Christians. When our name, teachings, or books came up in conversation, others would be quick to warn about us—and rightfully so. Yet, for some reason, Tim Keller not only gets a pass, he is praised, quoted, and promoted around the world.

Making matters worse, this enabling of error does not occur in aberrant fringe groups or only with the woke crowd, but in countless churches and among people who *claim a high view of Scripture*. Why is that? At the very least, it reveals *the massive decline of discernment* in the body of Christ, the inroads the left has already made into the Church, and the great weakness in Church leadership when it comes to teaching truth and making a stand against error and deceivers (cp. Gal 2:4-5; Eph 4:14; 5:11; 1 Thess 5:21-22; 1 Tim 6:20-21; 2 Tim 2:15; Ti 1:9; 2 Jn 1:7-11).

Yes, Keller may hold to some biblical truths (mixed with a lot of error). Yes, he is very intelligent. And yes, he displays great compassion for others, which is admirable. However, when it comes to answering our four pivotal questions of discernment, Tim Keller fails miserably. Given his popularity, this has led to the deception and harm of thousands, if not millions, of people.

On another note, Tim Keller goes out of his way to appear balanced (e.g., between progressivism/leftism and conservative ideals; the world's wisdom and biblical truths), but is that a good thing? Actually, no. That approach is foolish and misleading, which is proved by his fruit (Lk 7:35; Matt 7:15ff). All who attempt this folly are forced to compromise one principle after another (Gal 5:9), and, at best, often end up lukewarm (Rev 3:16). Keller is no exception. More importantly, his mixture of truth and error does not make things better, it actually makes him *far* more dangerous.

Error is like leaven of which we read, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump."

Truth mixed with error is equivalent to all error, except that it is more innocent looking and, therefore, more dangerous. God hates such a mixture! Any error, or any truth-and-error mixture, calls for definite exposure and repudiation.

To condone such is to be unfaithful to God and His Word and treacherous to imperiled souls for whom Christ died.

Dr. Harry Ironside (1876-1951)

# REWRITING SCRIPTURE

Because it is so vital to truth, life, and to God, this must be stated again: *Tim Keller, in defiance of God's Word, changes God's Word.* 

Furthermore, while Keller might say he has a high view of Scripture, his actions, and his theology show otherwise. No one who highly esteems the written Word alters the written Word (cp. ls 66:2; Jer 8:8; 2 Tim 2:15; Ps 138:2).

Not only that, Keller unquestionably changes the Word of God *in order to fit his social justice beliefs*, which also coincides with the agenda of all leftists. Making matters worse, *leftism is the greatest specific threat the world faces right now* (e.g., totalitarianism).

As we have seen, Keller casually justifies changing Scripture by saying, "Sometimes I provide my own translations."<sup>28</sup> We know there have been many who have granted themselves the right to alter God's Word, yet who does this and is still praised as a Christian leader? And the far bigger question is: Why do so many conservative believers continue to adore and promote Tim Keller, enabling this destruction in the body of Christ and the world?

As egregious as changing Scripture is, perhaps the most perplexing aspect of it all is that Keller has not been called out on it, nor held accountable—at least to the degree that he should be. How many people have read his books, including *Generous Justice*, and have warned about this serious issue? You would think thousands, tens of thousands, or more, right? Yet, the reality is likely less than a hundred.

Worse still, in a sad sign of our times, Tim Keller continues to be lauded as a wonderful Bible teacher and a "leader of leaders," even by conservative pastors. And herein lies much of the problem for today's Church. These same individuals and leaders are also the most responsible for promoting the world-approved theology of Tim Keller. Our hope is that those who have promoted him will now—even as much of the world and the Church succumbs to leftism—confess this sin and warn others, saving them from serious error and destruction (Prov 24:11-12; 1 Tim 4:16; Jas 5:19-20).

Here are a few clear examples of Keller changing the word of God:

	GOD'S WORD	TIM KELLER
Psalm 33:5	He loves <b>righteousness and justice</b> ; The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.	The Lord loves <b>social justice</b> ; the earth is full of his unfailing love.
Jeremiah 9:23-24	"That I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the Lord.	"I am the LORD, who exercises kindness and <b>social justice</b> on earth, for in these I delight."

Because this is truly so appalling and harmful, it must be clearly stated again:

- · Tim Keller changes God's Word.
- Tim Keller alters God's Word to conform it to leftist ideals.

Who has the freedom to do that? No one. This is especially true for faithful Bible teachers, (e.g., Deut 4:2; Jer 23:31-32; Rev 22:18; Lk 4:10-11; Gen 3:1ff; Rom 1:25; 2 Tim 2:15ff; Ti 1:9; 2 Pet 2:1-3, 16-17) and for people who revere God's Word (Ps 138:2; Is 66:2; Acts 17:11; cp. Matt 4:4-11). Yet we still find Keller and his erroneous theology frequently and eagerly promoted by much of the Church.

Obviously, no one has the right to change God's Word, at all, ever. Yet what Keller does is not a minor tweak or happenstance alteration of the holy Scriptures. Nor is it simply a matter of finding a better definition from the Hebrew or Greek. Instead, he adds the Marxian "social justice," which is the language of the left, and which is always anti-Christian and anti-Christ.

What is more, this term—social justice—is often just socialism cloaked in a less offensive, more alluring and palatable phrase—all to deceive the undiscerning. Overall, social justice is the "gospel" and rallying cry of the left, particularly for those who abhor and actively try to destroy Christianity. Nevertheless, Tim Keller personally cuts out God's own words from God's Word, and then replaces God's Word with *this* particular ideology? It would be like removing the word "created" in Scripture and replacing it with the word "evolved," *and* not getting called out for doing so.

As we have seen, leftism always has, and always will hate, and seek to subvert, *biblical* Christianity. This is happening every single day all over the world. Yet many Christians are still mixing this leftist ideology with their theology, often with the help of Keller, through his teachings and books. This is precisely how and why so many are deceived and won over to the left and to the Woke Church.

However, history itself reveals that, in order to win converts and gain power, instead of appealing to truth and reason, leftism always relies on the seven deadly sins (Prov 6:16-19). This is especially true when it comes to false accusations (as we have seen with both the left and Tim Keller toward biblical Christians). All of this has fed the fire of animosity toward true Christianity, the gospel, and genuine believers (which has put their freedoms, livelihoods, and even lives at risk). And is tied directly or indirectly to Tim Keller's teachings.

As a result of employing these schemes, not only have many current (and former) self-proclaimed Christ-followers been deceived, but they then increasingly look to and even zealously embrace the deadly politics of the left (e.g., Critical Race Theory; cancel culture; agitprop; BLM; Marxism; antifa; all white people are racist; abortion; Christianity is evil). Worse, because leftism hates all things biblical, these deceived individuals also end up being increasingly adversarial toward those with a high view of Scripture, truth, the gospel, freedom, America, etc. Not only do we see this happening more and more each day, as prophesied in God's Word, we see "the way of truth" being "blasphemed" everywhere, both inside and outside the Church.

But there were also *false prophets among the people*, even as **there will be false teachers among you**, **who will secretly bring in destructive heresies**, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And **many** will follow their destructive ways, **because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed**.

2 Peter 2:1-2

Given his profound and undeniable influence, Tim Keller is assuredly at the top of the list of Christians responsible for bringing the anti-Christ ideals of the left into the Church. He is, therefore, along with all who promote him, also largely responsible for causing this deadly ideology to flourish in our society as well. As believers, we truly do need to pray that he will "come to [his] senses" (2 Tim 2:26), repent, and be responsible for leading many back to the truth (e.g., Jas 5:19-20).

We also need to keep in mind that, to the degree Christians accept the world's anti-Christian ideology—whatever it might be—such teaching will grow in acceptance by the world *and* the Church (Lev 18:1-5; Matt 5:13-16; 2 Tim 3:1ff; cp. Deut 4:6-8). As a result, those who do so are greatly harming believers *and* non-believers, as well as defying and grieving God.

Therefore, in order to truly love God and our neighbor—to love believers, non-believers, and even our "enemies"—we must wholeheartedly hate error, evil, and false teachings, and lovingly and accurately warn others, as we "expose" the lies that cause so much deception, darkness, and damage.

Let no one deceive you with empty words,

for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore **do not be partakers with them** .... and **have no fellowship** with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather **expose them**.

Ephesians 5:6-7, 11



By way of an historical illustration and invaluable lesson, there were a great many people who initially and fiercely defended the popular pastors Rob Bell and Mark Driscoll before each of their highly public falls from grace. This, in spite of the fact that huge red flags were present all along, and there was no shortage of voices sounding the alarm.

As time went on, and these issues were not sufficiently addressed, the problems with their respective churches and teachings got worse and worse. And, eventually, the true colors of Bell and Driscoll came more into the light. However, prior to this, those who attempted to faithfully warn others about both of these men were discounted, minimized, shunned, and even attacked.

In the same way, this has been the pattern when people warn about Tim Keller's concerning ideology and teachings.

In the case of Rob Bell (as well as Driscoll), it was only after the existing problems and error became more and more apparent—after untold amounts of *avoidable* damage occurred—that many of the defenders finally and naively asked, "Wow, what happened to Rob Bell?" Of course, nothing new had happened. The problems were there all along. Instead, the questions that should have been asked were, "Why didn't we see the obvious signs that so many others saw?"; "Why didn't we listen to those who raised warning after warning about these issues?"; as well as, "What do we need to change so that this doesn't happen again?"; and, "What do I need to do now, who do I need to warn?"

We call this sadly predictable pattern the *Mars Hill Syndrome* (both Bell's and Driscoll's churches were named "Mars Hill"). Of course, this pattern of error and enabling error (e.g., defending; minimizing; mocking and attacking the confronter) is not unique to these two leaders, but is evident with many other Christian "celebrities" like Jen Hatmaker, Beth Moore, Sarah Young, Russell Moore, William Paul Young, etc. In spite of countless red flags and warning signs, these individuals (and many more) are still promoted and fiercely defended by those within the Church. Which begs the question: what will it take, and how much damage must happen before Tim Keller, and others like him, are properly confronted, exposed, and turned away from by biblical Christians?

Error and false teaching do not merely deceive, they also do great harm to untold numbers of individuals. And Keller's erroneous teaching in particular has much to do with the specific, and greatest, danger facing our society today: leftism. Which means that there is not only a huge opportunity but also a solemn responsibility to warn others about this.

Furthermore, examples such as Rob Bell and Mark Driscoll should serve as sobering lessons for the Church regarding our need to esteem truth and discernment far more, and to more faithfully equip the body of Christ in these pivotal areas. We desperately need a greater love of the truth, combined with a hatred of falsehood and false teachings.

We simply must learn to not trust people or their books for the faulty reasons we may have done so in the past. Just because someone is popular, appears to be doing a lot of good works, has some decent things to say, or is recommended by a certain ministry or organization does not automatically mean we should have confidence in them or their teachings. As believers, we are called to "test all things" (1 Thess 5:21, Acts 17:11). We are also commanded to *avoid* and *expose* all error and false teachings (e.g., Eph 5:11; 2 Jn 7:11).

In keeping with this—along with loving God and others according to the truth—it really is past time to cut ties with *The Gospel Coalition*. And, in great irony, this must be done *for the sake of the gospel*, for society, and for all things God-related.

Why must this be done? For many reasons, but, to put it simply: because *The Gospel Coalition mirrors Keller, his ways, and his beliefs*. Yes, there are some good people in TGC, but the seeds of false teachings and compromise were sown a long time ago. Now TGC is a group that is beyond contaminated with leaven, and is heavily influenced and led by left-leaning, left-embracing individuals who continue to lead people away from a "sincere and pure devotion to Christ" (2 Cor 11:3). Not only is much of its leftist ideology bearing devastating fruit in the Church, our country, and the world, but the eternal consequences are even more serious.

Adding to this, for years there has been a mindset among a large number of Christians, including many with a high esteem for truth and God's Word, along the lines of: "My leaders at church and the people I follow promote Tim Keller and TGC; so if The Gospel Coalition says something is good, then it must be good."

In other words, these people looked to and relied upon a left-approving group for direction, and to approve what was right and true. Why? Mainly because their leaders endorsed Tim Keller and TGC. As a result, God's Word and their own discernment took a back seat to TGC. Sadly, rather than the Word, this error-filled group became their measure of truth—for what was helpful, wise, and biblical.

Tragically and predictably, even if it was just a little leaven, TGC has led so many otherwise wonderful people down the road of woke-ism, false teachings, world-approved Christianity, and all sorts of other anti-biblical ideas. For others, they may not be fully woke, but they are subtly deceived, and the seeds have been planted.

To state it plainly, the sooner we and our churches expose The Gospel Coalition (collectively) for what it is, and does, the safer and better off we will all be, including those we know and love. It is up to each of us to speak the truth in love—to our families, friends, churches, and leaders about the serious concerns we and others have raised. What is more, it is not nearly enough to merely cut ties. Instead, there are some churches and individuals who need to *openly* confess, repent, and warn others about Keller and TGC—and, hopefully, bring people back to the truth.

So, by answering our four discernment questions, not only can we learn more about the errors and biblical inaccuracy of Tim Keller, we can also see how deadly leftism is overall—to the Church, and to society in general. When it comes to Keller specifically, while he may have good intentions and even espouse some admirable things, if we judge him by his fruit and his actual

teachings, he is more in line with the trending "spirit of the world" and spirit of this age (leftism/ socialism) than the Spirit of truth (cp. 1 Cor 2:12; 1 Jn 4:1-6). Therefore, all biblical believers have a godly responsibility to sound the alarm regarding leftism, including the many errors of Tim Keller, and to help others avoid these deadly ideas. As followers of Christ, we are called to this—out of love for God and others.

But even while our world grows darker—as a direct result of the growth of leftism—we can still see a silver lining. Because our hope is always in the supreme God and His sufficient Word, our desire is that in the midst of this diabolical madness, more and more people will not only see leftism for what it is, but they will also be willing to confront this evil, both in the world and in the Church. More specifically, we pray they will expose and repudiate those who brought leftism into the body of Christ so that others might be saved (Jas 5:19-20; Prov 24:11-12).

Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that **he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will** save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

James 5:19-20

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

<sup>1</sup> Tommy Nelson, https://churchleaders.com/news/399546-denton-bible-church-wokeness-conference.html, (emphasis added)
<sup>2</sup> Georg Hegel, https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/hegel/works/hi/history4.htm
<sup>3</sup> Karl Marx, https://www.forbes.com/sites/billflax/2011/05/12/do-marxism-and-christianity-have-anything-in-common/?sh=554729206877
<sup>4</sup> Jim Jones, https://www.getreligion.org/getreligion/2018/11/18/thinking-about-the-rev-jim-jones-classic-example-of-why-religion-reporters-are-important (emphasis added)
<sup>5</sup> Roger Kimball, https://newcriterion.com/issues/2002/4/the-death-of-socialism
<sup>6</sup> Vladimir Lenin, https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1905/oct/10.htm
<sup>7</sup> Dr. Walter E. Williams, https://www.capitalismmagazine.com/2007/07/economists-on-the-loose/ emphasis added)
<sup>8</sup> Frederick Engels, https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1843/10/23.htm
<sup>9</sup> Isaac Watts, https://www.hopeforlifeonline.com/true-justice-who-should-not-judge/
<sup>10</sup> Tim Keller, <i>Generous Justice</i> , p. 193
<sup>11</sup> Tim Keller, <i>Generous Justice</i> , pp. 7, 194
<sup>12</sup> Tim Keller, <i>Online Discussion</i> , Redeemer Presbyterian Church, June 2021, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YkyXQ5vlzs&ab_channel=WokePreacherClips
<sup>13</sup> Tim Keller, <i>Generous Justice</i> , pp. xvi-xvii

- <sup>14</sup> Tim Keller, Generous Justice, p. 211
- <sup>15</sup> Tim Keller, https://twitter.com/WokePreacherTV/status/1306604750188818432
- <sup>16</sup> Toni Brown, *Tim Keller: Closet Pro-lifer?*, https://biblethumpingwingnut.com/2019/02/05/tim-keller-closet-pro-lifer/
- 17 Tim Keller, Generous Justice, p. 5
- <sup>18</sup> Tim Keller, *Generous Justice*, p. 17
- <sup>19</sup> Tim Keller, *The Gospel and the Poor*, TGC, https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/themelios/article/the-gospel-and-the-poor/
- <sup>20</sup> Tim Keller, *Entrepreneur's Initiative*, Redeemer Presbyterian, 2006
- <sup>21</sup> Tim Keller, *Entrepreneur's Initiative*, Redeemer Presbyterian, 2006 (emphasis added)
- <sup>22</sup> Tim Keller, *Biologos*, https://biologos.org/articles/creation-evolution-and-christian-laypeople/
- <sup>23</sup> John Upchurch, The Danger of BioLogos, Answers In Genesis, https://answersingenesis.org/theistic-evolution/the-danger-of-biologos/
- <sup>24</sup> Lita Sanders, *Journal of Creation*, https://creation.com/review-timothy-keller-reason-for-god
- <sup>25</sup> Tim Keller, *Twitter*, https://twitter.com/DailyKeller/status/717419217746845696
- <sup>26</sup> Denise, Surph's Side, http://surphside.blogspot.com/2009/06/tim-kellers-redeemer-presbyterian.html
- <sup>27</sup> The New Calvinists, https://www.newcalvinist.com/kellers-affinity-with-rome/kellers-mysticism/
- <sup>28</sup> Tim Keller, Generous Justice, p. 193