

Jesus vs. Critical Theory

January 26, 2025

Big Idea: *The gospel unites where identity politics divides.*

1. The Gospel Alone Is What Changes Hearts

Galatians 3:23–24 "Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith."

The law was exhaustive, and its purpose wasn't to **save** people—it was to show them how far they fall short of God's **standard**.

The flaw in Critical Theory is that it treats power systems as the problem, ignoring the fact that the real issue is the **sinful** people within them.

Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure."

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2. The Gospel Alone Is Where Equality Is Found

Galatians 3:25–28

"Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. So in Christ Jesus, you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

When we are transformed by Jesus, we are defined by the inward **rebirth** of the Holy Spirit. Our identity is no longer shaped by **externals** but by the new life God creates within us.

Most tragically, Critical Theory reduces a person's worth to their external traits, perpetuating the very **inequalities** it claims to fight.

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3. The Gospel Alone Frees Us From the **Bitterness** of Injustice

Galatians 3:29

"If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

The gospel frees us from bitterness, giving us the strength to **forgive**, the security to trust God with the injustices we've faced, and the **peace** to move forward in love.

Imagine a world where **forgiveness** is weakness, bitterness is celebrated, and **vengeance** is a virtue—that is the world Critical Theory creates.

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