



How Jesus Changed the World

Galatians 4:4-5 - “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”

How Jesus Changed the World

- Have you ever wondered what kind of world this would be if Jesus had not been born?
- Friedrich Nietzsche, 19th century nihilist German philosopher, declared the world would be a much better place if Jesus had never been born. He point to the excesses of historic Christianity in the crusades, Spanish Inquisition, and Salem witch hunts. According to Nietzsche, more people have been killed in the name of Christ than in any other name, a highly distorted and dishonest assertion.
- Nietzsche and his evil kind always fail, either deliberately or ignorantly, to make the distinction between what Jesus did and taught, and what professed followers of Jesus do and say.

Christ's Impact On The Value Of Life

- Laws that required justice among all people. Before this, power and oppression ruled.
- Dietary and hygiene laws instituted at a time when few practiced them.
- Jesus' life and teachings have transformed all of world history into two periods as A.D. ("Anno Domini," Latin for "in the year of Our Lord") and B.C. (before Christ).
- Christian principles of fairness were the force behind equality at the polls for women and African-Americans.
- Christian principles form the basis of American jurisprudence, economics, and property ownership.

Christ's Impact On The Value Of Life

- Christianity is the force behind fairness for the poor, orphans, widows, and disenfranchised of every age.
- During the great plagues and disasters, Christians cared for the sick and injured. Jesus taught human kind to love enemies, to love everyone regardless, and care for all persons in need. Laws made that require providing for the feeding of the poor.
- Divorce is less than 10% when families pray, attend church, and read the Bible together regularly.

Christ's Impact On The Value Of Life

- “When the French statesman, Alexis de Tocqueville came to this country in the early 1800's, he was startled by the volunteerism that was carried out by associations mostly founded and run by Christians, and said that America's volunteer spirit is its greatest strength. He went on to say that he did not know ten men in all of France who would do what ordinary Americans do every day as a matter of course.”

(<http://www.sciforums.com/threads/impact-of-christianity-on-human-society.4090/>)

Christ's Impact On The Value Of Life

- “Judeo-Christian values have a foundational role in America, beginning with the Declaration of Independence: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.’ Our Founding Fathers separated church from state, but they wisely did not separate God from state; they acknowledged God as the source of our rights, and, in fact, they were careful to place Biblical morality directly into our founding documents and laws, and into our values and culture precisely to help prevent a future of totalitarian or tyrannical rule in America. Our Founding Fathers were religious, deducing that our political and human rights come from a power higher than human government. This spirit is known in political science as American Exceptionalism.”
(http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2007/09/the_judeochristian_values_of_a.html)

Christ's Instructions In Our Culture

- ***Children:*** Oppose infanticide and sacrifice; founds orphanages in society and promotes fostering and adoption among Christians
 - Luke 17:1-2 - "Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come! 2 It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones."

Christ's Instructions In Our Culture

- Matt. 19:13-15 - “Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’ 15 And He laid His hands on them and departed from there.”
- James 1:27 - “Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.”

Christ's Instructions In Our Culture

- ***Women:*** Value her equally as men
 - Gal. 3:28 - “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Christ's Instructions In Our Culture

- ***The Aged***: culture opposes euthanasia and provided income and homes for the elderly; Christians are tenderly attentive to them until they pass from life
 - 1Tim. 5:1-3 - “Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, younger as sisters, with all purity. 3 Honor widows who are really widows.”
 - Eph. 6:2 - “Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise”

Christ's Instructions In Our Culture

- ***Slaves:*** Western Civilization opposes slavery and punishes slavers; Christians learned that they must release their slaves and make them brethren instead
 - Eph. 6:5-9 - "Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; 6 not with eye service, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, 7 with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, 8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free. 9 And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him."

Christ's Instructions In Our Culture

- Philemon 10-17 - "I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten while in my chains, 11 who once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me. 12 I am sending him back. You therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, 13 whom I wished to keep with me, that on your behalf he might minister to me in my chains for the gospel. 14 But without your consent I wanted to do nothing, that your good deed might not be by compulsion, as it were, but voluntary. 15 For perhaps he departed for a while for this purpose, that you might receive him forever, 16 no longer as a slave but more than a slave--a beloved brother, especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. 17 If then you count me as a partner, receive him as you would me."

Christ's Instructions In Our Culture

- ***Gladiators and public violence:*** Western Civilization put a stop to it with the spread of Christianity
 - Matt. 7:12 - “Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them...”
 - James 3:17 - “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.”

Christ's Impact On Western Civilization

- Universal application and purpose of medicine
 - Matt. 12:15 - "...And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all."
- General benevolence by individual citizens
 - Gal. 6:10 - "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."

Christ's Impact On Western Civilization

- Moral structure of civil and criminal laws
 - Prov. 14:34 - “Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.”
 - Rom. 13:3-4 - “For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.”

Christ's Impact On Western Civilization

- Civil liberties
 - John 7:51 - “Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?”
- Scientific understanding of God's creation
 - Gen. 1:28 - “Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

Christ's Impact On Western Civilization

- Personal, individual responsibility and morality
 - Phil. 1:27 - “Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel”

Christ's Impact On Western Civilization

- Education and development
 - Prov. 1:1-5 - “The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: 2 To know wisdom and instruction, To perceive the words of understanding, 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, judgment, and equity; 4 To give prudence to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion-- 5 A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel”

Christ's Impact On Western Civilization

- Transformed lives
 - Col. 3:10 - "...Put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him"
 - 1Peter 1:13-16 - "Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, Be holy, for I am holy."

How Jesus Changed the World

- Jesus lived in this world 2000 years ago so that we could have an abundant life, spiritually supplied with every blessing
 - Eph. 1:3 - “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”
- And, a more pleasant sojourn in this world
 - John 10:10 - “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

How Jesus Changed the World

- Our world would be unrecognizable to us had Jesus never been born.
- But while Jesus' time in this world transformed it until the end of days enriching our lives, His true purpose was to transform our lives throughout all of eternity.