

Empty Deceptions Vying for Post-Christian Minds

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Host: David Wheaton 00:08

Empty Deceptions Vying for Post Christian Minds. That is the topic we'll discuss today right here on The Christian Worldview Radio Program where the mission is to sharpen the biblical worldview of Christians and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. I'm David Wheaton, the host. The Christian Worldview is a listener-supported radio ministry. You can connect with us by visiting our website, TheChristianWorldview.org or calling toll free 1-888-646-2233 or by writing to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331.

There are only two foundations for thinking and living: the perfect Word of God or the flawed word of man. In running further and further away from the truth of God's word, our leaders and our people run headlong into the fallen and foolish reasonings of man that Paul warned Christians to avoid: *"See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ."* Colossians 2:8. The empty deceptions of our day are seen and felt everywhere now. When one believes the lie that white, male, heterosexual Christians are responsible for victimizing everyone else, causing every kind of conflict and ill; flawed and discriminatory solutions like Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, (DEI) which actually codifies injustice and discrimination against the alleged oppressors. Christians live in this fallen world with all its ungodly philosophies and so we must be informed and prepared when it confronts us in our own workplace, school, church, or even with children in our home who have been taken captive by these empty deceptions.

Darrell Harrison, host of the Just Thinking Podcast and a member of the pastoral staff at Redeemer Bible Church in Gilbert, Arizona, joins us today on The Christian Worldview to provide deeper insight on ideologies like DEI and pejorative terms like "colonization" used toward Americans and Israelis. He will also explain how these deceptions need to be especially resisted, at the door of the church. Now, this departure from truth into foolishness that is taking place right now is nothing new. Listen to the progression in Romans 1:18-22. Paul writes, *The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them.*

In other words, God puts a conscience in us so that we know He exists and have a basic understanding of right and wrong. The passage goes on to say, *For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-His eternal power and divine nature-have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. Verse 21. For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise they became fools.* That's what Scripture calls anyone who believes the empty deceptions based on the words of man, rather than the truth based on the Word of God. And here's where it ends up.

And just as they "did not see fit to acknowledge God" any longer, that's what's going on in our country, God gave them over to a depraved mind to do those things which are not proper. So here you have this

progression that ends in a depraved mind. This explains why the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, empty deception, being jammed down our throats and sold as "justice and equity," includes not just blatant discrimination, but the promotion of the sexual and gender rebellion of the homosexual and transvestite movement.

I didn't read all of Romans 1 there, but this is what that passage describes. So let's get straight to the interview with Darrell Harrison, as we discuss the empty deceptions vying for the minds in our post Christian society.

Darrell, it's so good to have you back on The Christian Worldview Radio Program today. We're going to talk about what Colossians 2 describes as the philosophy and empty deception, taking captive the minds of many people in our, I think what we can classify as a post Christian America. Let's start out with the very prevalent empty deception of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. I would call it the practical application of Critical Race Theory which sees the world as a division between the oppressors, that are considered to be whites, males, Christians, heterosexuals, and other majority groups like that, who victimize oppressed groups, whether non whites, women, homosexuals and the LGBTQ alphabet, or immigrants and so forth. They have this DEI, in order to forcibly equalize outcomes.

This is Marxism at its core. The worldview of Diversity, Equity Inclusion is so pervasive now, Darrell, you're very aware of it. I see you post about it on Twitter and elsewhere and so forth, whether in the government, military, corporations, the educational system. I'll just read a little blurb here from the website, College Fix. The University of Michigan has increased the number of DEI positions to over 500. The article says that there's at least 241 paid employees at the University now focused on diversity, equity and inclusion, and payroll costs exceeding \$30 million annually. Let's start out with having you explain what this invasion of DEI is and why an ideology that blatantly uses partiality, in other words, the biblical word for discrimination, has become so widely accepted in our country.

Guest: Darrell Harrison 07:31

First of all, thanks for having me back on. It's really great to be back with you on The Christian Worldview. It's been a while. It's been too long, my friend, but it's always great to have these conversations with you on The Christian Worldview, one of the most courageous ministries out there if I may say. I'm not meaning to embarrass you when I say that, but The Christian Worldview really is one of the most courageous ministries out there that does not hesitate in tackling some of these issues. So thank you for what you're doing.

Let me start with your earlier comment with respect to DEI. You may be surprised to know David, they've added another alphabet to it. It's now DEIA. They've added the letter A for Accessibility. Now, I would argue that DEI is just another way for Critical Race Theory to bring to fruition their goal of reparations. The thing about DEI, it's not only a practical application of Critical Race Theory, DEI is going one step beyond in that especially when you look at corporate America, and upper academia, the partiality, the discrimination that we're seeing through the application of DEI is being codified into law.

I saw just on Twitter, now X, a statement that came out from the White House on its official diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility policy. Anyone who looks at DEI objectively can see that undergirding regardless of

what an application looks like from the outside. It is an egregious, overt and blatant discriminatory ideology that favors certain people on the basis of their ethnicity or their sex or both, while discriminating against others on those same grounds. Ideologically speaking, this is a blatant violation of Genesis 1:27, where we know that every human being was created in the image of God and that's where equity and equality begin and ends. I treat you fairly, I treat you justly, because you're an image bearer of God.

DEIA discriminates. The D in DEIA shouldn't stand for diversity, it should stand for discriminate, because by definition, when you apply DEIA, you have to make a prejudicial biased determination of an individual based on who they are on the outside. That is the only qualifier that is necessary in DEIA. Merit doesn't matter. Hard work doesn't matter. Accomplishment doesn't matter. Only ethnicity, and maybe some other intersectional qualifiers. Your sex or your gender that you identify as, you check those boxes and those give you subjective advantages under DEIA, which goes totally against the biblical precept of merit and getting what you earn, working for your reward. But the way that DEIA has spread, it is spreading like wildfire, and it is being codified into law, it is being codified into policies under the guise, under the camouflage of equity and equality, and it is anything but that.

Host: David Wheaton 10:57

That's exactly the case. Well described. Darrell Harrison is our guest today. He's on the pastoral staff at Redeemer Bible Church in Gilbert, Arizona, also the host of the very popular Just Thinking Podcast. Let's continue a little more with this discussion of DEI because there's been a very visible demonstration, controversy that underlies this ideology of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion. The former Harvard President, Claudine Gay, was brought along with I believe, the President of University of Pennsylvania and one other before Congress to ask about the purported anti semitic protests and activities going on at their campuses regarding the war in Israel between Israel and Hamas. Here's a brief blurb from a news outlet, Arizona Central. They say,

"36 hours ago, I along with most of campus sought refuge in our rooms as classmates and professors chanted proudly for the genocide of Jews while igniting smoke bombs and defacing school property." That was a statement made by Penn senior Al Jacobi, probably Jewish, said before the hearing. He added, "You're a dirty little jew, you deserve to die, are words said not by Hamas, but by my classmates and professors.

This is a Penn senior saying this. An MIT student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an Israeli student, was "doxxed." In other words, their address given in an effort to intimidate or scare or harm someone and has stayed in his dorm room ever since, due to death threats. Harvard student, Jonathan Frieden, recounted that a mob of 200 people marched into his study room shouting anti semitic chants. Many of my friends ran up to the Dean of Students and DEI office. There's a DEI office at Harvard, but they had locked their doors for their own safety, he said. "We heard nothing from Harvard." Let's listen to a short clip of this congressional hearing, where Claudine Gay is questioned by Elise Stefanik, a House member from New York.

Audio Sound Bite: Dr. Claudine Gay 10:59

Elise Stefanik: Dr. Gay, at Harvard, does calling for the genocide of Jews violate Harvard's rules of bullying and harassment, yes or no?

Claudine Gay: It can be depending on the context.

Elise Stefanik: What's the context?

Claudine Gay: Targeted as an individual. Targeted at an individual?

Elise Stefanik: It's targeted at Jewish students, Jewish individuals. Do you understand your testimony is dehumanizing them? Do you understand that dehumanization is part of anti semitism? I will ask you one more time. Does calling for the genocide of Jews violate Harvard's rules of bullying and harassment? Yes or no?

Claudine Gay: Anti semitic rhetoric, when it crosses into conduct, that amounts to bullying, harassment, intimidation, that is actionable conduct, and we do take action.

Elise Stefanik: So the answer is, Yes, that calling for the genocide of Jews violates Harvard Code of Conduct. Correct?

Claudine Gay: Again, it depends on the context.

Elise Stefanik: It does not depend on the context. The answer is, yes. And this is why you should resign. These are unacceptable answers across the board.

Host: David Wheaton 14:21

Again, that was House member Elise Stefanik questioning the then Harvard President, Claudine Gay. Freedom of speech ends when you are calling for or inciting violence against someone. You can protest Israel and you can be for Hamas winning the war, but the law does not allow you to incite violence against a person or a group. Yes, that can be a fine line. But interestingly, Harvard President, Claudine Gay, never challenges the congresswoman's allegation that genocide of the Jews is being called for on campus. Even if it's a hypothetical situation, her answer should have been, Well, of course he would take action against calls for genocide. Not saying, Well, it depends on the context. Calling for genocide is by definition, calling for violence. And interestingly, Darrell, this answer about genocide of the Jews wasn't the issue that led to her resigning. It was the fact that when she was investigated more, she was found to be a serial plagiarist, explained the story of Claudine Gay. Then the fact that after she resigned, she still has a \$900,000 per year salary at Harvard. So explain the context of this situation with Claudine Gay exemplifying what DEI is all about.

Guest: Darrell Harrison 15:45

This is what you get in Dr. Claudine Gay. It is the byproduct of DEI. DEI by definition, is inherently designed to cause division. DEI operationally, functionally, practically, is an ideology of division. As I was listening to that soundbite it actually reminded me of the obfuscation and the difficulty with which Ketanji Brown Jackson, when she was then a Supreme Court nominee as she was going through the nominee hearings before the Senate, refused to acknowledge that she knew what a biological woman was.

Here you heard Dr. Claudine Gay take that same approach and responding to the question, If direct threats of attack of Jewish students violated Harvard's bullying and harassment policy, she refused to answer yes or no to Senator Stefanik. How do you explain that? When you hear someone like Dr. Gay say, Well, yes, it depends on the context. I mean, what contexts do you need if someone is saying to me, Death to the Jews and I'm Jewish? That's the context right there. It is a death threat.

But this is what DEI does. DEI advances a mindset where people already hate other people. So DEI is a framework that facilitates hatred of one designated group of people by other people. Here you have in a Dr. Claudine Gay, I promise you, she did not recently adopt these attitudes towards Jews. When you look at the landscape of who holds prominent DEI positions, the vast majority of them are black and female. That says something. Because when you look at Ketanji Brown Jackson, or Dr. Claudine Gay, these are all women who are from that generation of the James Cone school of liberation theology; the same group of people who are of that generation that birthed Critical Race Theory.

These people are now the milieu as such now, as we sit here in 2024, that they can openly express their prejudices, their discriminatory attitudes toward others of God's image bearers with impunity. If DEI had anything to do with merit or objective performance, Dr. Claudine Gay number one, would not have been in that position. You alluded to the plagiarism, multiple instances of plagiarism. If DEI had anything to do with merit, Dr. Gay would not have been in that position as President of Harvard, nor would she have taken as long as she did to step down from that position. A person who is in a position like that on merit, is going to be convicted in their soul.

No, I don't deserve this. I am guilty of plagiarism. I don't deserve to be here. Not only do I not deserve to be in this position, I don't deserve to retain a \$900,000 salary because I didn't earn it. I basically lied to the institution to get into this position.

DEI doesn't take account of anything remotely having to do with merit. If you're the right skin color, if you have the right shade of melanin, that's all that matters in DEI. That's all that matters. That is why the vast majority of people who hold DEI positions are black and female. This whole idea that the D in DEI standing for diversity, is a fallacy, because where's the diversity in the fact that the vast majority of these position holders are black and female. What's the diversity in that? There is none.

Darrell Harrison is our guest today. We encourage you to connect with his work and ministry, including the Just Thinking Podcast. We have links to all of it at our website, TheChristianWorldview.org. We'll pause briefly for some ministry announcements. I'm David Wheaton and you're listening to The Christian Worldview.

Christian Worldview Desk Calendar 19:48

To kick off the year, we are offering a listener favorite from our store. The Christian Worldview desktop calendar for a donation of any amount. The calendar is made up of 5 x 7 cards held in a small wood block with each month's card displaying a beautiful landscape or wildlife scene of God's creation from Richard Ganzel photography, who's also a member of our team. Each card has a verse of Scripture and the days of the month.

You can preview the calendar in our store at TheChristianWorldview.org. Normal retail is \$12.99. For a limited time and while supplies last, the desktop calendar is available for a donation of any amount to The Christian Worldview. We encourage you to get one for yourself and gift one to a friend. To order, go to TheChristianWorldview.org or call toll free 1-888-646-2233, or write to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331.

Become a Worldview Partner 20:50

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Welcome back to the Christian Worldview. I'm David Wheaton. Be sure to visit our website, TheChristianWorldview.org where you can subscribe to our free weekly email and annual print letter, order resources for adults and children and support the ministry.

Our topic today is, Empty Deceptions Vying for Post Christian Minds. Darrell Harrison, host of the Just Thinking Podcast and a member of the pastoral staff at Redeemer Bible Church in Gilbert, Arizona is our guest. Darrell, a term that's coming up very often, it's not new, but it's been used a lot recently with regard to what's going on in Israel with Hamas. A professor at Yale, Nicholas Christakis, said this. If you do a Harvard online course catalog and you type in the search box the word de-colonize, that word is in the titles of seven courses, and the descriptions of 18 additional courses. Words like oppression and liberation are in the description of more than 80 courses. Social justice, that term, is in the course description of greater than 100 courses.

Let's just focus on one term, this idea of a colonizer or we need to de-colonize America or Israel. Or the idea of an occupier. These are common terms being used now toward America and toward Israel. What do these terms mean? Colonizer. Occupier. There's obviously a negative association with them. But what is the point of these terms?

Guest: Darrell Harrison 23:39

All these terms have their roots in Cultural Marxism. I mean, we're talking about the ideology of Karl Marx now passed down through the 3rd and 4th generation. I think what we need to understand here is that these courses that you alluded to just then, these types of courses should surprise no one that they exist within the upper echelons of academia because some of our most esteemed institutions of higher learning, have deep histories in facilitating communism and Marxism in America under the guise of free speech. That's what's happening here.

This is how we got these courses. We got these courses under the guise of free speech. And that principle is what attracted a lot of these Marxist and communist ideologues to these institutions where now they're professors, administrators, Dean's, presidents, and they're holding these positions because not only do they believe these themselves, they're now attracting young people who think they know what the world is like but who've adopted these ideas as well. A lot of them adopted from their own parents, because their parents are from that generation and their grandparents are from that generation of the 60s, where it was all about free this, free that, free thinking, free ideas, free expression. Well now we're seeing the fruits of that. But those terms are all embedded in Cultural Marxism.

It's interesting, if I could connect this to the DEI conversation that we were talking about earlier. You look at what's happening in Israel and Hamas, DEI being a very ethnocentric ideology and what I mean by that is, an ideology is a subfield and based on the color of a person's skin. You have those same people at these academic institutions who are supportive of DEI supporting Hamas. Why? If I could be very blunt here, they support Hamas, because they are brown skinned people. So yes, I'm going to support them because they look like me. Because they look like me, then that means that their "struggle" is identical to mine. I put struggle in air quotes, because no black person in America is struggling in the context that DEI advocates say they are. This isn't 1964 anymore. This isn't an 1864. This is 2024, but the narrative is, is that over the past 200 years, nothing in America has changed, so the narrative consistently is still today about a struggle.

They know nothing about the historical antagonism that has existed between Israel and Arab nations for centuries. That conflict gives them a convenient excuse to extend their hatred of "white people." Understand in Critical Race Theory meaning in DEI, Jews are white. If you're not black, you're white. Even if you're Asian, you're white. The conflict over in the Middle East is a conflict of black versus white. That's what people have to understand. This is how these people think. So the conflict over there in the Middle East is a Marxist dynamic of the haves and the have nots. The Jews are the haves, Hamas are the have nots. The proletariat versus the bourgeoisie, which is what Marx argued against. The Jews are the bourgeoisie, Hamas are the proletariat. That's really what that boils down to.

Host: David Wheaton 27:02

That's where you get the terms, colonizer or occupier. The Jews have been in the land forever, since millennia ago, but somehow they're occupying this land or colonizing the land. And who really owns land? No one has a title deed to the world. Except if you can hold your own ground or take it over, every region or country has been founded typically through military encounters. If you can take it over and hold it, it's yours. If you can't, then you lose it. That's where that whole colonizer, occupier argument leads.

Guest: Darrell Harrison 27:37

That's why I'm so dogmatic about not buying into the term indigenous. Scripture tells us that the earth and everything in it belongs to God. No one's indigenous, as if to say, Well, I was here first so that means I own this. We have to exegete that term. Indigenous doesn't mean you own it. I will say this, no one's the first person to be anywhere. The only two truly indigenous people, David, were Adam and Eve. Everybody else is a progenitor of that relationship back in the Garden of Eden, so there is no truly indigenous person. But this whole idea of colonization, and what we have to understand, the culture is going to try to convince you that

de-colonization doesn't mean re colonization. It actually means the opposite. De-colonization is re-colonization. That's what people need to understand.

So when these communists and these marxists, who are demonstrating on college campuses, who are blocking highways so that people can't get home, they're holding and waving their Palestinian flags, talking about de-colonize the Middle East, de-colonize the Gaza Strip, they also want to de-colonize America. By the way, they're not arguing for de-colonization, they're arguing for re-colonization. That's what makes this whole thing, David, eschatological.

When you talk eschatology, people usually think end times ,that something is coming to an end. But that's not true. Eschatology is not just something coming to an end, it is something coming to an end, but replacing it with something else. So eschatology is both an end and a new beginning. That's what these folks are arguing when they talk about decolonization. It is not doing away with anything, it is doing away with one thing and replacing it with something else.

Host: David Wheaton 29:26

The battle rages, doesn't it, Darrell. Darrell Harrison is our guest. He's on the pastoral staff at Redeemer Bible Church in Gilbert, Arizona. We've talked about DEI in the broader culture, Darrell, but this has also infiltrated the church as well. We hear terms like social justice. Even gospel centered ministry, I think, is often used as a term to get away from the discovery that social justice is not what we were told it was. The push for elder boards to be made up of a certain diversity of skin color, or women to be on pastoral staffs in churches or even gay Christianity. In a more extreme sense, we drive by a so called church, it's not really a church, every Sunday on the way to our own church that's a Unitarian Universalist building I should say. They have a rainbow flag flying out front. They have the huge letters on the side of the church, Black Lives Matter. They even have a sign that says, powered by solar energy. The parking lot is full on Sundays, by the way. Recently, I saw that you commented on a so called pastor, this woman named Deanna Dudley, up in Toronto, at Metropolitan Community Church. Here's what she said, touching all the key bases of DEI and God rejection.

Audio Sound Bite: Deanna Dudley 30:49

I am just loving Pride Month. I love it every year. I'm loving all the queer events and the human rights work and the celebrations. I'm loving all the rainbows around town and the people who decorate their balconies for pride. So can anyone tell me, what is the point of pride month? What's to be proud about? Awesome! I think I heard about 50 different answers. They're all great. There may even be more.

So when I'm looking for answers, I turn to the Bible. Just kidding, not always. Sometimes, as you know, I turn to bumper stickers and Facebook memes. And if I'm really stuck, I asked my wife. But I digress. So, pride is about a lot of things. But for me, pride is first and foremost about a spirit of freedom. The late to us LGBTQ+ activist, Harvey Milk, famously said, "I have tasted freedom and I will not give up that which I have tasted to be free." We're free because God put a spirit of freedom within us. And we need to nurture that Spirit inside of us and protect it in our world.

As people of faith and as a community of faith, we need to pay attention to our spiritual lives, to nurture and care for ourselves and our own spirits and to care for one another in the faith. To nurture and care for young,

old, cis, trans, single, partnered, straight, gay, inter sex, genderqueer, black and white, and the whole mix of us. As we are willing to be led by the Spirit, we will bear the fruit of the Spirit that Paul speaks of in his letter to the Galatians. Joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. These things will be the hallmarks of us as individuals and as a beloved community as we follow where God's Spirit leads us. And God only knows where her spirit is gonna lead us next.

Host: David Wheaton 32:50

Again, that was Deanna Dudley, the pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church in Toronto. Know, where to start on that one? The celebration of homosexual sin, the mocking of going to the Bible for answers, and instead going to bumper stickers and Facebook memes and listening to, "her wife." Perfect example of basing your worldview on the word of man versus the Word of God.

She mentioned Harvey Milk in there. In case listeners don't know who he is, he was the first open homosexual on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. He is an icon to the LGBTQ movement. He was assassinated along with the mayor back in the day. There's a naval ship named after him. She talks about freedom, but what she's really describing is what the Bible calls enslavement to lust and sin. Romans 6:6. *For we know that our old self [or unsaved self] was crucified with Him so that that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we would no longer be slaves to sin.* In other words, we're either a slave to sin when we're unsaved, or when we're saved, we are slaves to Christ and to righteousness. Finally she concludes by blaspheming the Holy Spirit and blaspheming God, calling God a she or her.

Now, of course, Darrell, this is not an evangelical church, but where are we in the West as a civilization when so called churches are flying rainbow flags, they're preaching transgender ideologies, bragging about pride month, and joking about the Bible? You can't predict the future, Darrell, I know. But where are we on the continuum?

Guest: Darrell Harrison 34:30

Earlier on in our conversation, David, you mentioned the term post-Christian. I think we're worse than that. I think at a minimum we're post-Christian, but I think what we're seeing is a new neo-pagan milieu come to the forefront. A prime example is Deanna Dudley. I refuse to call her Reverend or pastor. You're seeing increasing numbers of mainline churches especially, where these women, and men, but now we're seeing increasing numbers of women occupying pulpits or not, wearing these rainbow sachets over themselves as if those sachets carry with it some sort of authority in terms of the Word being delivered by the person wearing it.

I mean, it used to be in old school evangelical churches where the Reverend, who was a man, would step into the pulpit, he'd be dressed in his black pastors regalia with his sash over his shoulder hanging down in front of his chest and it represented a certain authority that was stepping into the pulpit. The person was speaking with the authority of the Word of God, but now that's not the case. Rainbows are increasingly replacing crosses in churches, you alluded earlier to the messages that are the marquees outside of some of these mainline churches. Black Lives Matters flags hang side by side with the rainbow flag. Now there are even some churches, they have hanging the Palestinian flag next to those two flags.

The church in America, and again, I'm pausing here, even as I speak in real time to you, David, it's getting tougher to even be able to use that word, church, because in the case of people like Deanna Douglas, that's not a church. When you can stand up there and openly mock the Word of God, openly mock it, and then call yourself a church at the same time, that's not a church. I said to someone on X when I was commenting on that video that she says, "Well, when I'm searching for answers, I go to the Bible." Then she pauses and says, "Well, just kidding, not always." My question to her would be, and I said this on X, If you don't go to the Bible always, why do you go to it at all? Now, the Bible is not going to tell you how to make a cheeseburger. So if someone's listening to this and says, Well, the Bible doesn't have all the answers. I don't mean that in a literal sense, but in the context of the answers of life, the answers of substance, the answers of meaning and purpose, you can go to Scripture and find those answers.

When she says that, she mocks the scriptures and says, "No, just kidding. Not always do I go to the Bible." Why do you go to the Bible for anything? That would be my question to her, but this is where we are, David. We are in a neo-pagan, ecclesiastical climate within the church to where Christ is just Mr. Kumbaya. He's just a good teacher. He shows us how to love one another. We should all come together. So the rainbow flag now not only represents different sexual identities, it now represents universalism, where everybody can come together and we just commiserate with one another, regardless of truth, we just get together, each of us expresses our particular perspective of religion, who God is, who God isn't, and then at the end of that soundbite, she identifies God as a female pronoun, as a she.

This is the kind of disrespect, the kind of low level view of God that is beginning to permeate the church, to where we so brought God down to our level that we can joke in His house about His Word. I commented on that video on X that it is easier for people like her to mock God, to mock His work when she's on this side of hell. When you're on this side of eternity, it's easy for her to crack jokes, and get laughter from her congregants. There's going to come a moment, unless God grants her repentance, there's going to come a moment where she's going to remember, she's going to recall how she mocked God in that pulpit. She will live eternally in a state of regret. But by God's grace, He's letting her breathe. He's letting her heartbeat. It's like the scripture says. It says we should count the kindness of God as an opportunity to repent. I pray she repents. But here's where we are. The LGBTQ agenda has become so pervasive within the culture, there's nowhere you can go. It's not just Starbucks anymore where you see the gay pride flags. It's in churches, so called churches, and that's because churches for decades have preached a soft Jesus. They preach the soft gospel, they preach nothing but love, love, love, love, love. Nothing about God's wrath His holiness and judgment. This is what you get when you preach a soft gospel with a soft Jesus.

Host: David Wheaton 39:32

Yes, you're exactly right. I was thinking that this "non-pastor," we can't even call our pastor, goes to the Bible to really use it for her own leftist, godless, ideological ends, and because people were made with a spiritual desire, the religious aspect of this is effective at persuading people to your side. There's a veneer of religiosity here. Very obviously not true religion, but you're right, she needs to repent and believe in the gospel. Otherwise she's going to face the Holy and Just God on Judgment Day. We'll pause briefly for some ministry announcements. Stay tuned. There's more coming up with Darrell Harrison. I'm David Wheaton and you're listening to The Christian Worldview Radio Program.

Featured Resource: One Day Nearer 40:19

With every rising and setting of the sun, we draw one day nearer to the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. So writes Steve Miller in the opening line of his new book, *One Day Nearer Daily Devotions in Anticipation of Jesus' Glorious Return*. Steve goes on to say, As we grow in our knowledge of the Lord and his plans for our future, may our desires for the things of earth diminish and be replaced by increasingly fervent longings for the things of heaven.

One Day Nearer is a soft covered, 365 Day devotional that retails for \$19.99. For a limited time, you can order it for a donation of any amount to The Christian Worldview. This is an excellent supplement to Bible reading, or to give to a friend. To order go to TheChristianWorldview.org or call toll free 1-888-646-2233 or write to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331.

Featured Resource: The War on Men 41:18

We've largely lost the honor and the nobility and the glory of biblical manhood and so many young men are not trained to be a leader, a protector and a provider in a Christ like way. That then, creates the actual end product of young men who don't know how to be a man.

That was Owen Strachan, author of the excellent book, *The War on Men*. This is a book for the entire family to read, understand, and then pursue what biblical manhood is. *The War on Men* is hardcover, 256 pages and retails for \$29.99. For a limited time, you can get a copy for a donation of any amount to The Christian Worldview. To order, go to [The ChristianWorldview.org](http://TheChristianWorldview.org) or call toll free 1-888-646-2233 or write to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331. T

Host: David Wheaton 42:26

Welcome back to The Christian Worldview. I'm David Wheaton. Be sure to visit our website, TheChristianWorldview.org where you can subscribe to our free weekly email and annual print letter, order resources for adults and children, and support the ministry. Our topic today is, Empty Deceptions Vying for Post-Christian Minds. Darrell Harrison, host of the Just Thinking Podcast and a member of the pastoral staff at Redeemer Bible Church in Gilbert, Arizona is our guest.

Darrell, the audio clip we played in the last segment about the church in Toronto, that was an extreme example of the mainline denominations. We all know that they're not true biblical New Testament churches. They're really leftist social clubs. But the evangelical church is still a professing biblical movement. I think many believe that they can thread the needle on these issues of DEI, social justice. They can be, All Are Welcome Here, and somehow still be faithful to what Scripture teaches in the Bible. What are your thoughts on mainstream evangelicalism trying to find a third way in the midst of this clash between what you called it, not even post Christian America but neo-pagan America and Biblical Christianity?

Guest: Darrell Harrison 43:43

I would say, Third Way-ism is escapism. Third-Way-ism within the church is ecclesiastical escapism. What I mean by that is that the whole, All Are Welcome, is just vernacular gymnastics to avoid the church being and fulfilling its true mission, which is to first lovingly confront people about their sin, lovingly confront people that they have sinned against a holy God and here's where you can come to hear the message about how you can

be in a right relationship with that Holy God, whom you've offended by virtue of your sin. That's how I would summarize what these mainline churches are doing by opening up this big tent and what I call offering a kumbaya gospel. That's really not a gospel at all, because a gospel that doesn't confront you about your sin is not the gospel.

We just came out of Christmas a few weeks ago, and I'm always reminded of Matthew 1:21, where the angel tells Mary that, *"You shall name Him Jesus, for He will save his people from their sins."* That's literally what Matthew 1:21 says. So a Jesus that is preached in these mainline churches or any church for that matter, that does not introduce Jesus as the Messiah, as the Son of God who came into the earth, died on the cross to redeem sinful mankind from their sins, is not the true Jesus of the Bible. This is what you will not hear in those mainline churches. So that's why I call that escapism. It's ecclesiastical escapism, where people can come, remain in their sin, not hear a single syllable about repentance or confession, but they all congregate under the guise, that God loves us all. God loves everybody. God's not going to judge us. He's not an angry God. He's not a God of wrath anymore, and they're just loving.

They're not even loving people, but they're lying people straight to hell. David, I'm reminded of one of my favorite texts in the book of James. James 5:19-20. I think these two verses completely belie the soundbite that we just heard, and the myth that these mainline churches are presenting. James writes this. He says, *My brother's, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.*

I would argue that those two verses in James 5:19-20 are what the evangelical church should be up to. But that's not what they're doing. They will not confront an individual. Tell them no, you have wandered from the truth. You are living in sin, and I want you to come back. I want you to turn. I want you to repent. That's what that word means. I want you to turn around, come back to the truth, because you are risking an eternal death of your soul.

But instead, nope! Let's just get together, and Kumbaya around our campfire. Let's roast marshmallows so to speak. We hang our rainbow flags, we hang our Black Lives Matter flags, we hang our Palestinian flags, and let's enjoy each other on our way to hell. But no, this is ecclesiastical neo-paganism, where we have made gods of ourselves and then reduce God to our level and think He's okay with this. He's not.

Host: David Wheaton 47:26

He's certainly not. Darrell, thank you so much for your sound and sobering words based on Scripture today on the program. All of God's best and grace to you.

Guest: Darrell Harrison 47:36

Thank you, David.

Host: David Wheaton 47:38

Darrell Harrison gave us a lot to think about today. We actually ran out of time getting into some other examples of empty deception, or as he calls it, Neo paganism in our society. We were supposed to talk about

the Enneagram, the sort of spiritual personality typing and the satanic display that was put up in the Iowa State House. We didn't have time today, but we'll try to get him back on for those topics. I would encourage you to follow Darrell's work and ministry. All the links to him, including his Twitter or X account, are at our website, TheChristianWorldview.org.

Some of you might even recall, he was our keynote speaker at a Christian Worldview conference several years ago. I don't want to fail to say in response to his very kind words in the beginning of the interview about this program, To God be the glory for anything we are, or this program is. We would be part of the neo-pagans ourselves without God's grace and salvation. A couple of comments that he made that I thought were particularly good.

He said DEI, diversity, equity and inclusion, sees Hamas as black or dark skinned, and the Israelis as white. They're the white oppressors. That's why they side with Hamas, an overtly terrorist brutal organization that killed 1300 civilians, Jewish civilians on that October 7 attack. He also said DEI is just another way to bring about reparations, not only a blatantly discriminatory ideology, but the point is to transfer wealth to the supposed oppressed groups. This is done by giving high paying jobs to those based on their skin color instead of their merit.

He also said something interesting early in the interview what the Bible advocates merit. He said getting what you earn, working for your reward. Now he wasn't referring to justification by works. The Bible does not teach that. We're justified by grace through faith. But the Bible does say that we work as believers for rewards in heaven. So whether it's the parable of the talents, and there's resultant rewards or a worker being worthy of his wage, or if a man doesn't work, neither let him eat. The Bible enjoins the principle of working for reward and not committing the sin partiality based on their skin color to hire them.

Let's close today being reminded of what the Apostle Paul said to the pagans or the idol worshipers in Athens, which was one of the leading cities of its day. Many of the most acclaimed writers and thinkers and schools were in Athens, Greece. But the people of Athens were just educated pagans, as our most prominent thinkers and leaders are today.

Listen to how the apostle Paul goes directly to their real need, which is salvation and reconciliation to God in Acts 17:22-31:

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription: To the unknown god. What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward Him and find Him. Yet He is actually not far from each one of us, for in Him we live and move and have our being. [Here's his call.] "The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people

everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead."

That is the message for those who have been taken captive by the foolishness and empty deception of our day. To repent, and believe in this Jesus Christ who came and died for your sin on the cross so that you might be forgiven and reconciled to God. Do that today. Jesus said, "You must be born again." If you have questions, give us a call, or go to our website, TheChristianWorldview.org and click on the page, "What must I do to be saved?" Thank you for joining us today on The Christian Worldview. In just a moment, there will be information on how you can hear a replay of today's program, order transcripts and resources, and support this nonprofit radio ministry.

Let's anchor ourselves not in the word of man, but in the Word of God which says, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today and forever. Until next time, Think biblically, live accordingly, and stand firm!

The mission of The Christian Worldview is to sharpen the biblical worldview of Christians and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. We hope today's broadcast encouraged you toward that end. To hear a replay of today's program, order a transcript or find out, "What must I do to be saved?" Go to TheChristianWorldview.org or call toll free 1-888-646-2233. The Christian Worldview is a listener supported nonprofit radio ministry furnished by the Overcomer Foundation. To make a donation, become a Christian Worldview Partner, or order resources, subscribe to our free newsletter or contact us. Visit TheChristianWorldview.org, call 1-888-646-2233. or write to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331. That's Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331. Thanks for listening to The Christian Worldview.