

DOES THE BIBLE TEACH THE SOCIAL GOSPEL? Pt. 1

- 1 Thessalonians 5:21

A. BASIC INFORMATION to BE AWARE of Regarding the SOCIAL GOSPEL

1. Definition: The Social Gospel teaches that Christ's _____ has begun on earth through Christ's and the church's efforts to eliminate _____ and achieve _____ now before His physical return.

2. Past: The Social Gospel movement arose in the United States during the _____ of the late 1800s as a _____ to several _____ in American society.

- *What was the theological tendency of Social Gospel proponents?*
- *How did most evangelical Bible teachers of the past respond to the Social Gospel?*

3. Present: The Social Gospel has undergone a resurgence today, particularly in _____ Christianity.

- *Who are some of the primary teachers of this view today & what are they teaching?*
- *How does the Social Gospel compare with the Biblical Gospel of Christ? (1 Cor. 15:3-4; Galatians 1:1-9)*

B. BIBLICAL PROBLEMS to BEWARE of Regarding the SOCIAL GOSPEL

1. The Social Gospel _____ the church's _____ to include social, political, and legal activism.

- *How does this compare to the Great Commission passages? (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-48; Acts 1:8)*
- *Did the early church follow the Social Gospel "mission"? (Acts 11:28-30; 1 Peter 2:18-19)*
- *What does this approach ultimately lead to? (2 Cor. 6:14-18)*

2. The Social Gospel _____ the _____ itself by making social justice type works necessary for eternal life as the inevitable result of “saving” faith.

- *What is James 2 really teaching about justification?*
- *What is Matthew 25:31-46 really teaching?*

3. The Social Gospel mixes the gospel of the _____ with the gospel of _____.

- *If Christ’s kingdom were really present on earth now, how would justice and righteousness appear according to the Bible? (Deut. 28:13; Zech. 8:23; 14:16-17; Rev. 2:27)*

4. The Social Gospel misinterprets the purpose of Jesus’ _____ as acts of social justice instead of identifying _____ of Him being the _____ in whom people must believe. (John 6; 20:30-31; Matt. 11:1-5)

5. The Social Gospel makes social activism a _____ for all Christians by turning _____ giving into a matter of _____. (Gal. 5:1; 6:10)

6. The Social Gospel _____ the church’s resources away from evangelism, discipleship, and church planting; it _____ believers from their real purposes here and now, and it ultimately _____ the church’s lasting impact for Christ in this world.

7. The Social Gospel practically denies the _____ and _____ of the _____ by seeking to make it more attractive and appealing to the world. (Rom. 1:16; 1 Cor. 1:18; 4:9-13)

- *How should you as a believer in Christ respond in light of all this?*