

A Culture That
We Must
Cancel!
GUILT!

A Phrase That Has Entered Our Societal Lexicon

“Cancel Culture”

- **To be “cancelled” is effectively to be “boycotted” with the idea that the person will be ostracized, and that they will no longer benefit financially, professionally, or personally from their elevated position**
- **The idea is to effectively take away support for an individual, or their popularity, because of something that they have said or done that is considered unacceptable**
- **While this phrase has “OPINIONS,” depending on the subject matter, I believe that there is a disposition that Jesus wants us to live without (cancel), that can improve our walk with Christ**


Look at This Story in the Life of Jesus

Luke 22:33-34; 54-62

“... Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.” Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.”

“Then seizing Him, they led Him away and took Him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. A servant girl saw Him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at Him and said, “This man was with Him.”

But he denied it, “Woman, I don’t know Him,” he said. A little later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.” “Man, I am not.” Peter replied.

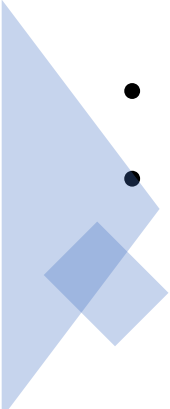


“About an hour later another asserted, “Certainly this fellow was with Him, for He is a Galilean.” Peter replied, “Man, I don’t know what you are talking about!” Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.”

Then, Not Long After Jesus Dies, John’s Gospel Records These Words:

Simon Peter said, “I’m going fishing.” John 21:3

Observations

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- I am sure that this story is familiar to most of you
 - Some in the audience may be “living this story,” right now

Observations

- Peter is full of boldness and resolve, and basically writes a check that he can't cash with his behavior
- He boasts that he is totally committed and “all in” with Jesus
- He boasts to Jesus that he has that “ride or die” mentality
- The problem is, he is not willing to do either one!
- His words of COURAGE, “*fizzle*” into a story of regret
- When Peter is confronted by a girl around a fire, in the moment that Jesus needed him most, he failed miserably, like Jesus had said he would. And he failed again and again!
- The result ultimately is, after that incident involving Jesus, and his subsequent failures, now, he wants to go on a “fishing trip,” which sounds innocent enough

Observations

- But I suggest to you that this “breath of fresh air fishing trip” he plans to take was sinister in reality (*Hiding something*)
- What he was suggesting was, having failed Jesus miserably, he with some regret, was going back to his old life

With this “fishing trip,” he was declaring that all that he had witnessed Jesus do for the past three years was for nothing

Think about all of the miracles Peter witnessed that he was turning his back on (Raising Lazarus, the mountain of transfiguration, feeding the 5,000, healing his mother-in-law)

So, with one simple phrase, “*I’m going fishing,*” he throws in the towel. The man to whom he needed to apologize was now dead. He had betrayed Him.

Peter Couldn’t Cancel His Guilt!

He doesn’t see his worth to God anymore

Observations

- Did you know that satan will use your guilt to keep you glued to the remembrances of your past behavior?
- The problem is that if you don't remove the guilt from your past you will continue to revisit what you can't revise!
- You can revisit every word you've said, you can replay the tape in your mind of what you actually did over and over.

But You Can't Reverse What You've Done!

- You know your behavior led to the divorce
- You know your egregious spending and lack of accountability led to your bankruptcy (so you're trapped in the grief of what could have been)
- Your habits or "influencers" caused your firing from work
- You know that you set a bad example for your kids; and every time you try to correct them, they bring up your example

Jesus Extended Grace to Peter When He Needed It Most

- After Jesus had died and was buried, Mary the Mother of Jesus and Mary Magdalene, along with Salome, went to the tomb of Jesus early on Sunday Morning to bathe his body in spices, Mark 16:1
- As they were travelling, they wondered how they would remove the large stone covering the entrance of the tomb
- When they got there, they noticed the stone already removed, and a man standing at the entrance said this:
“... He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go tell the disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him....’” Mark 16:6-7
- So Jesus still includes Peter in His spiritual family, in spite of his denials, in spite of his failures, and all of his guilt!

Look at What Paul Says About Jesus After His Resurrection, 1 Corinthians 15:3-5

“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scripture:

And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures;

And that He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve;”

- We aren't told in scripture the content of that “one on one” meeting, but I'm sure that it was great for “CANCELLING” Peter's guilt (after the embarrassment of the ages)
- He could revisit every word, and replay the tape over and over, but he couldn't undo what he had done
- It took Jesus to clear Peter's conscience (and we'll need Him for ours too)!

Remember the Conversation Jesus Had With Peter When He Caught Up With That Fishing Trip?

- They had fished all night and caught nothing, John 21:5
- The next day, a man on the shore unrecognized by Peter, told them to cast their fishing nets on the other side of their boat, and they caught more fish than their net could hold
- Then the disciple whom Jesus loved (John), recognized that the man yelling advice to them from the shore was JESUS
- Verse 7 says that as soon as Peter heard him say that, he dives off of the boat to swim to the shore where Jesus was.
- Why did he put on that exaggerated display, when the boat was going to shore in the first place?

A GUILTY CONSCIENCE!



***By Relying On Jesus'
Forgiveness, Peter Moves Past
His Guilt of Lying About Jesus
3 Times in the Same Night
to Preach the First
Gospel Sermon!***



***“Never let the Person You Were, Determine the Person
You Are, And the Person You Will Become!”***

The Hebrew Writer Makes an Interesting Comment About Removing Sin Under the Old Law

“...the gifts and the sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshipper.” Hebrews 9:9

- These sacrifices for the people purified them from their sins, but it didn't address their consciences of guilt and regret
- But the sacrifice of the Blood of Christ addresses what the offering of bulls and goats didn't address, THE CONSCIENCE

“The blood of goats and bulls...sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ.... cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we might serve the living God.” Hebrews 9:13-14

Through Our Obedience, God Cancels Our Debt and Revives Our Consciences

1 Peter 3:20-21

“... the longsuffering of god waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

The like figure (water) whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth from the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

