

# Cancelled

## The Age of Outrage! Living in a hostile culture

### Up Front

Rules of engagement:

- We are Brothers and Sisters in Christ – 1 Cor. 12:13 & Romans 8:14-16
- Our words should now and always be spoken in love – Ephesians 4:14-16
- We understand that the Bible is God’s Word (and often is offensive) – 2 Tim. 3:16
- Everything in this Bible Study is intended for you (not your neighbor) – Matt. 7:3
- If you are hurt by what is said respond in love and talk with each other – Matthew 18:15-17

Terms:

- Conservative \_\_\_\_\_
- Liberal \_\_\_\_\_
- Social Media \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. What is it?

a. The idea that if someone does something that is “generally” defined as bad then those people/organizations are ostracized by the “public” either socially or financially

b. It is nothing new:

i. Boycotts \_\_\_\_\_

##### 1. Ethical Consumer Boycotts list

*“We view boycotts as a vitally important extension of our formal democracy.*

*Here is a comprehensive list of current boycott calls from campaigning groups around the world.”*

ii. Censure \_\_\_\_\_

iii. Excommunication \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Shaming \_\_\_\_\_

c. Examples of people or organizations that have been targeted

i. “Cops” – The reality TV show

ii. Gone with the Wind

iii. Huckleberry Fin

iv. Cracker Barrel

v. Chick-Fil-A

vi. Drew Brees

vii. Roseanne Barr

viii. Kylie Jenner

ix. Kathy Griffin

x. Caroline Flack

xi. Amazon

xii. Martin Luther

- d. The internet and the use of social media has given this generally social ostracization more “teeth”
    - i. The internet has opened up (and sped up) global communication
    - ii. People have a general feel of anonymity on social media
      - 1. Leads to a lack of judgement or looser rules
        - a. Would you say this to someone’s face
      - 2. Emboldens people to say things that they wouldn’t say otherwise
    - iii. People have a “louder” more wide ranging “voice” on social media
      - 1. You can talk with people worldwide from the comfort of your living room
      - 2. It is readily available on your phone
    - iv. People tend to align themselves with other like-minded individuals
      - 1. By choice...
        - a. if you “like” a post or ad you will be “fed” more posts and ads that you
        - b. by following people that say the same things as you
        - c. by unfollowing people that say the opposite as you
2. Are the concepts of “cancel culture”, boycotts or excommunications good or bad?
- a. In general, the term “Cancel Culture” has had a largely negative connotation by those who align themselves as politically conservative. While those who have more liberal political tendencies view it as a *“moral obligation to rid society of the evils in society.”*
  - b. What are the positive outcomes of cancelling or boycotting organizations:
    - i. From a strictly utilitarian point of view, if someone is causing trouble or doing something that is causing harm to a society or culture then removing them can be seen as a good thing. But who sets the rules of what is good and bad conduct.
    - ii. While it cannot get rid of evil in the church, excommunication seeks to be another “use” of law in the church used to bring sinners to repentance.
      - 1. Branding someone a heretic was somewhat useful in the early church.
      - 2. In excommunication, someone is exited out of the communion or community of the church, but it is not a popularity vote. As a church people abide by a common faith... We confess that faith in the Apostles, Nicene, Athanasian Creeds. If someone does not adhere to this faith they

voluntarily remove themselves from the community. So it is based on God's Word not man's devices.

c. What are the negative outcomes of the "cancel culture"?

i. It can amplify the sinful nature in mankind.

1. We are sinful creatures and when that sinful nature is encouraged by others we often continue in that sin

2. We often misuse scripture:

a. Twisting them to fit our "needs"

b. Taking God's Word out of context

ii. It generally does not follow scripture in regards to how we handle conflict

1. Matthew 18:15-17

a. If Your Brother Sins Against You

*"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup> But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.*

2. The biggest problem with Cancel Culture et all is that all too often sinful mankind is setting the standard for what is right and wrong good and bad

3. How do we navigate these waters?

a. First and foremost, we need to remember who and whose we are!

i. Romans 8:14-16 - \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Romans 8:23 - \_\_\_\_\_

iii. 1 Peter 1:18-20 & 1 Cor. 12:13

\_\_\_\_\_

b. We need to be in God's Word

i. By studying God's Word we

1. Learn what is sinful and what is not

2. Are reminded of the example of Jesus in our lives

a. Philippians 2:1-11

b. 1 John 3:10-18

c. 1 Peter 3:15

c. We need to reflect whose we are in our daily lives

i. Studying God's Word is great but we need to also reflect that in our daily lives.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

d. Be practical

i. Understand where your brother or sister is coming from

1. Hebrew 2:17-18; 4:15 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Love them \_\_\_\_\_
3. 1 Peter 3:14-16 \_\_\_\_\_

e. Be mindful of how we speak to each other the truth of God's Word.

1. Ephesians 4:11-16 \_\_\_\_\_