THE NEW SHOFAR

"God does not work through big battalions, He is not interested in numbers; He is interested in purity, in vessels fit and meet for the Master's use. We must concentrate, not on numbers, but upon doctrine, upon regeneration, upon holiness, upon the realisation that this is a holy temple in the Lord, a habitation of God."

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Is Being Woke Christian or Anti-Christ?

Christians today are in danger of turning away from the purity of the gospel to embrace post-Christian progressive thinking; we must choose God's path, not submission to the world. There is no centre ground here. To the Galatians, Paul describes the beautiful unity of the gospel, eliminating all barriers between believers and removing their former worldly identities, making them one in Christ (**Galatians 3:28**). Everything we need is found in Christ and the problems in society can be resolved by faith and action in Jesus Christ. *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world…and this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world* – **1 John 4:1, 3**

This woke ideology claims it can solve the problems of the world without Christ. In fact, Jesus Christ represents a problem for the spirit behind woke. The Lord's limited definition of male and female, marriage and justice are sinful to the awakened woke warrior because they have '*exchanged the truth of God for a lie*' (**Romans 1:25**).

According to progressive woke ideology, God is hindering true justice. The Bible's precise description of the two sexes is discriminatory for those who identify as one of 68, 69, 70, and counting different gender expressions. The boundaries keep moving in this movement, but Christ remains and continues as the anchor of all truth.

Wokeness exploits a confused person's desire to be perceived as good and compels him or her to obey progressive leaders in pursuit of an empty lie of justice. It's about the leaders' power and wealth, not justice. Christ's sacrifice defines a Christian's identity. It's not our skin colour, wealth, status, history or the injustices our ancestors' experiences that define us – it's Christ's resurrection power. Once we are "right with God", peace enters and we will strive to treat others with the mercy we received from God.

The religion of wokeness generates a fraudulent copy of the faith and replaces it. Wokeness demands total obedience, public confession and contrition; it expects absolute faith in its values and demands public humiliation for those who fail it. Those who sin against the woke religion must publicly confess with tears. Instead of submitting to Jesus in repentance, they must kowtow to the bullying crowds online – this is wokeness.

As wokeness is a faith, it additionally has a demonic inquisition of hatred. The woke belief compels you to hate those who disagree with the 'justice' you are bringing. You can cancel, despise, spit, harm and kill those who disagree with you because they are evil. It provides its servants with a pass to abuse those who think differently. *Jesus said, "The time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service*" – **John 16:2**

In the woke religion, Christian beliefs about justice and truth are supplanted with contemporary doctrines of equality, LGBTQ+, aggressive feminism, anti-capitalism, cultural shame, historical national sin, legacy guilt, claims of privilege, intersectionality, micro-aggression, critical race beliefs, BLM, compelled speech and inclusion of all self-identities

and so the list goes on! At the same time there is no tolerance for those who challenge the woke faith. The woke spirit takes a young person who desires to do good and shifts them into a hating machine, an angry, bitter person (Greta Thunberg).

When woke ideology is confronted by facts, including scientific truths, it is enraged and censors them. To the woke spirit, truth itself is a form of injustice: Burn the facts, throw the books away, cancel our national history, overthrow the rule of law, close the churches, and lock the unwoke sinner out of their social media accounts. The woke faith is bitter, divisive and unaccountable. It hates the truth and cancels its expression.

The Christian faith is different from wokeness; faith in God defines the believer. The woke religion commands people to be defined by the hatred of all that does not bring the 'justice' it believes in. Thus, a woke person can claim to be a feminist, whilst hating biological women because these females do not accept that a man in a dress is also a woman.

Thus, the woke religion empowers ideology, not people. This is why real biological women have to be sacrificed on the altar of the rights of men who feel they are women. A female athlete is therefore a bigoted sinner if she does not celebrate the victory of the man who just stole her rightly earned gold medal…*So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them* – **Genesis 1:27**

In woke ideology, someone else is always to blame. In Christianity, we are responsible before God to repent, work hard, serve and support others. We help heal ourselves by giving and denying self. The woke faith does the opposite, as it demands the spotlight of the world to shine on its suffering and calls for restitution, payment for perceived sins in the past …*Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labour, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need* – **Ephesians 4:28**

Christians must view our history and culture through the eyes of faith. Yes, we have sinned against others and God, but we must not submit to divisive evil spirits and ideologies. We acknowledge injustice, violence, racism and hatred as sins against God and ask for His love and restoration. The Bible declares that it is not our family, heritage, job, claim to victimhood, nation, or the colour of your skin that defines us, but our faith in Jesus. We were created in God's image, therefore we should celebrate His design. We can be free in Christ if we choose to be…*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* – **Galatians 3:28**

Jesus is the Light of the World. He is the Person who awakens us, shines His light into our hearts and commands us to repent of our sins. We can therefore achieve true reconciliation by following Jesus Christ and His pattern of life because in Christ, we are brothers and sisters under God. We are redeemed, saved and are being sanctified because of Jesus. As Isaiah declared *Why spend money on what cannot nourish and your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy*. Only Jesus can satisfy the yearnings of our hearts and feed us with true heavenly manna.