

Truth and Consequences
(Subtitle-“If you’re woke, act like you’re woke!”)

Text- Daniel 3: 17-18

The 3 Hebrew boys’ statement of their faith-“*Our God whom we serve is ABLE to deliver us from the burning, fiery furnace and He will deliver us out of your hand, O King. But if not, be it known to you, O King, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image you have set up.*”

QUESTION	MY ANSWER
What is the church definition of “saved?”	
What is the church definition of “born again?”	
What does the term “woke” mean?	
What is the origin of the term “woke?”	
What does “woke” or “awake” really mean?	
What should “awake” mean to the Believer?	
How do Believers practice being awake in the popular era of “being woke?”	
How does “separation of church and state” play into this discussion and how does it impact our Covid-filled epoch?	
Why do Believers struggle with the “woke” culture?	
How should a Believer converse with a representative of the “woke” culture	
What is the two-fold goal, at the end of the day? (Interacting with a “woke” individual.)	

DISCOVERY-Let's read the passage-Daniel 3: 17-18 (ESV) for lesson pages

Consider these passages and their applications:

- Daniel 3: 17-18-"Our God whom we serve is ABLE to deliver us from the burning, fiery furnace and He will deliver us out of your hand, O, King. But if not, be it known to you, O King, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image you have set up."
 - ✓ These guys came to celebrity because of a simple desire not to follow the culturally harmless practice of eating the cuisine, food/drink offerings and diet of the king. No big deal all the other ex-Jerusalem Jews were doing it, right?
 - ✓ Kneeling (in worship) is not really a big deal when everybody else is doing it and it's the law. Jesus says to follow the law.
 - ✓ These young guys are practicing the only real "wokeness" that ultimately matters and they put their own lives at stake to prove their commitment. These guys had HUGE faith because there was no "risen Jesus" as a guide.

- Daniel 6: 10-When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God as he had done previously.
 - ✓ Daniel, aware of his position, power, public perception, purposely took a "stand."
 - ✓ The whole plot was orchestrated to "take Daniel down."
 - ✓ Be aware of the adversary's plot against you.
 - ✓ When you stand well, it gets attention, is noticed and you receive "forever points" in your account.

- Joshua 7:20-21-And Achan answered Joshua, "Truly, I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel and this is what I did: When I saw among the spoil a beautiful cloak from Shinar and 200 shekels of silver and a bar of gold weighing 50 shekels, then I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath."
 - ✓ Achan, aware of his position, family, public perception purposely took a "stand."
 - ✓ The whole plot was orchestrated to "take what nobody would realize was gone."
 - ✓ Be aware of the adversary's plot against you.
 - ✓ When you stand poorly, it gets attention, is noticed and you receive "forever points" in this account, too.

- Acts 7:58-60-Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.
 - ✓ If you know the truth, then do not engage in silly and pointless arguments. This does not mean "avoid speaking the truth" or "avoid correction." This is more evident between a Believer and unbeliever. Believers should be able to avoid this because we know the truth through our studying and being in a constant state of "awakeness."
 - ✓ Stephen, aware of his position, family, public perception purposely took a "stand."
 - ✓ The whole plot was orchestrated to "silence what the leadership did not wish to hear or take responsibility for."
 - ✓ Be aware of the adversary's plot against you.
 - ✓ When you stand grandly, oh, it gets attention, is greatly noticed and you receive bonus "forever points" in your account.

- 2 Timothy 2:24-And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient.

- 2 Timothy 2:26-and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil having been taken captive by him to do his will

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The 3 Hebrew boys’ statement of their faith-(Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah) were renamed Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Belteshazzar. The 3 stated *“Our God whom we serve is ABLE to deliver us from the burning, fiery furnace and He will deliver us out of your hand, O, King. But if not, be it known to you, O King, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image you have set up.”*

QUESTION	MY ANSWER
What is the church definition of “saved?”	Saved from Yahweh God’s wrath through Jesus’ perfect life and murder
What is the church definition of “born again?”	John 3-Although mankind is either a child of Yahweh or a child of the adversary, mankind is actually only either born of Adam (water) or born (again) of the Holy Spirit.
What does the term “woke” mean?	AAVE-Perceived awareness of issues regarding social, racial, civil justice. Used regularly where Liberation theology is taught/espoused.
What is the origin of the term “woke?”	AAVE -African American Vernacular English same as BAE -Black American English which includes Ebonics contrasting sharply with SAE -Standard American English. Consider the following word definitions and usage-cool, hip, foxy, bad, shorty, drib, O.G., old school, a’ight, baby daddy-consider origins from the Gullah culture (West African slaves in Georgia, SC) words like-gumbo, jam, goobers, banjo.
What does “woke” or “awake” really mean?	Literal-stop sleeping, not asleep. Bible-to watch, to attentively watch, to return from being “asleep”
What should “awake” mean to the Believers?	CS Lewis statement about salvation awareness-being awake-Mere Christianity (1952) Lewis described his Salvation experience as going from being asleep and unaware to being awakened and attempting to remain steadfastly awake (discipleship). “You understand sleep when you are awake, not while you are sleeping. You can see mistakes in arithmetic when your mind is working properly: while you are making them you cannot see them. You can understand the nature of drunkenness when you are sober, not when you are drunk. Good people know about both good and evil: bad people do not know about either.”
How should Believers practice being awake in this popular era of “being woke?”	Ready to discuss the “equalizing principles” of Yahweh God, Jesus and the Scriptures: women as equals; wealthy, poor as equals; no reference to race or race inequality; charity/charitable principles; the concept of jubilee; the Bible references to slavery of “their towns”; hospitals, orphanages, food banks-inspired by Scripture
How does “separation of church and state” play into this discussion and how does it impact our Covid-filled epoch?	Believers should feel offense that public schools will not permit teaching of creation, that government meetings do not (truly) permit Jesus mention, that the government regulates marriage <i>versus</i> the government dictating if and how the church can/will operate during a supposed/reported crisis.
Why do Believers struggle with the “woke” culture?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not feeling “with it” enough • Don’t know enough about the culture of “wokeness.” • Not confident enough with our own beliefs and Jesus’ relationship • Caught off guard
How should a Believer converse with a representative of the “woke” culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice sincere Active Listening • Ask probing questions to best understand their concern and issues • Remain calm, patient and inviting • Ask what their hope for society is with all their concerns
What is the two-fold goal, at the end of the day?(Interacting with a “woke” individual.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Simply, calmly, clearly, understandably stating your position, belief and relationship with Jesus. 2. Inviting the opportunity to continue the discussion/conversation.