Virtue-Signaling Versus Repentance

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We live at a time when the principles that contributed to strong and functional societies have been exchanged for foolish and fanciful interpretations of how people should live and relate to each other. This "western-driven" phenomenon is fueled by misrepresentations of historical facts, self-serving political agendas, and flat-out lies. An example of this is the recent attempt to remove a statue of David Livingston, who lived a life of service to others,

The statue of David Livingstone, the antislavery missionary and explorer, was
highlighted in the counsel report as one of
eight prominent statues in the city which could
be removed. David Livingston is slated in the
report for once working as a spinner using
West Indian Cotton. He was employed by
Blantyre Mill from age 10, which was owned
by Henry Monteith, who was in a partnership
with two Glasgow-West India merchants. But
Livingston is historically known for publicizing
the horrors of the slave trade (as an adult),
condemning it as the "greatest meanness ever
perpetrated" (https://lbc.co.uk>news>statuedavid-

livingston+removal&oq=statue+of+david+livin gston+removal&aqs=chrome.69i57jOi546...)

So, does this "proposed" statue removal make sense? Not to those who are actually the "adults in the room", but sadly many of these "adults" are frightened to speak up from fear of being canceled by the noisy "woke mob". Therefore, we are living at a time in history where sane and commonsense decisions are a thing of the past. Instead, "woke theology" supersedes the Roman Catholic Church, that

pretended to be the arbiter of truth during the Middle Ages (see: *Spanish Inquisition*), and anyone who disagreed with its tenets was persecuted, some even to death.

Jesus Christ described what we refer to as "the virtue-signaling of woke theology" in a number of parables. He highlighted the fact that these self-righteous people should be retrospectively examining their own sins and short-comings, rather than deflecting attention to people who hold views that these "virtue-signalers" interpret as being erroneous, or evil,

Judge (condemn) not, that you be not judged. ² For with what judgment (condemnation) you judge, you will be judged; and with the same measure (standard/intensity) you use, it will be measured back to you. ³ And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but not consider the plank in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck out of your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck out of your brother's eve (Mt. 7: 1-5; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

The next parable is an excellent definition of a "virtue signaler" because these people hold their values and opinions as being "the epitome of righteousness". Therefore, anyone who contradicts them should be castigated or ignored,

Also, he (Christ) spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed

thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men — extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' ¹³ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God be merciful to me a sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be abased, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Lk. 18:9-14; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

"Virtue-signalers", who claim they would never have done the so-called "bad things" that previous generations did, are described as hypocrites by Jesus Christ,

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, ³⁰ and say, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.' (Mt. 23:29-20).

It was some of these virtue-signaling Pharisees who orchestrated the murder of Jesus Christ! So comparatively-speaking, they were the "woke folk" of Christ's generation. Therefore, it is poetic justice that past generations, currently on the receiving end of "woke condemnation", will be resurrected and judge the "virtual-signalers" of this generation for their many hypocrisies,

The men of Nineveh will rise in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah (Mt. 12:41; emphasis added).

As Christ pointed out, it doesn't matter what you do when it comes to satisfying the self-righteous among us, they will never be assuaged until they have found some "speck" to exploit and weaponize against those who have a different opinion than theirs',

But to what shall I (Christ) liken (compare) this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their companions (those with similar views), 17 and saying: 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance (to our tune/ideology); we mourned to you (faked concern), and you did not lament (sympathize with our position).'18 For John came neither eating or drinking, and they say, 'he has a demon.' 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they (the hypocrites) say, 'Look, a gluttonous man and a wine-drinker, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children (NU; works) (Mt. 11:16-19; Ed. notes in parentheses).

So, virtue-signaling is a great deception on the part of those who are skilled at deflecting from their own sins, and short-comings. This subterfuge allows "wokeists" to continue demonizing the proponents of commonsense solutions that are often based on historical examples/lessons that could help the present generation. Thankfully, this will end when the proponents of "woke dogma" have to face "the planks in their own eyes",

But I (Christ) say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. ³⁷ For by your words you will be justified, and by your words (against others) you will be condemned (Mt. 12:36-37; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Part of this future judgment will include the truth that every human being has sinned at some point, and these sins led to their death,

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23; emphasis added).

For the wages of sin is death... (Rom. 6:23a; emphasis added).

Some among "the woke folk" may attempt to claim their sins are not as egregious as others'. If this occurs, they will be taught that committing one sin is enough to earn them everlasting death. Therefore, this position is futile because God does not view one sin as being somehow better than another,

For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all (Jas. 2:10; emphasis added).

So it will be a rude awakening for those who "dance to the woke agenda" when they finally realize they were "living a lie" by believing they alone have the moral high-ground on any given issue. Once they understand that God views their sins and shortcomings on par with everyone else, they will hopefully repent and be restored in their relationship with Almighty God,

The Lord is..... longsuffering (extremely patient) toward us, **not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance** (2Pet. 3:9; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Thankfully, it is not too late to choose repentance over virtue-signaling, but how many "wokeists" will admit that many of their positions are erroneous and sometimes harmful to others? Let's hope "the woke crowd in

Scotland' repent at the thought of canceling David Livingstone in their self-righteous zeal.

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