

Is CT compatible with biblical Christianity?

CT is pervasive in our culture. So what? Why is CT the topic of a Sunday School class? Why should Christians care about CT? Biblical Christianity and CT represent incompatible worldviews. They offer different answers to fundamental questions of life that define a “worldview.”

Worldview Questions	Christianity	Critical Theory
Who are we? What gives us meaning?	God. Created in the image of God	The position in society of the groups we belong to: oppressor vs. oppressed
What is our fundamental problem?	Sin : All individuals have sinned	Systemic power : Groups oppress other groups
What is our ultimate hope?	Redemption through faith in Jesus Christ	Social liberation, freedom from oppression
What is our ultimate moral responsibility?	To love God and to love others	Activism : to dismantle structures of power & oppression
What is our ultimate purpose?	To glorify God	To create a utopian society free of oppression

1. Who are we? What gives us meaning?

Christianity: We are each **unique individuals** with a **binding commonality** that we were created in the image of God. We each have a personal identity that is uniquely our own. We each have meaning and value because God made us.

CT: CT answers this question in a way that denies our unique individuality. What defines us and gives us meaning is not our *personal* identity but rather our **social identity**, the social groups we belong to and the position of those groups in larger society. So, for Critical Race Theorists, a person’s race is his or her defining trait; nothing is more important than your race. Further, a racial group’s status as oppressor or oppressed is at the core of what it means to be you as a White person or Hispanic person, etc.

Furthermore, CT makes shared, binding **commonality** impossible by defining people by inherent conflict: systemic power and oppression.

2. What is our fundamental problem?

Christianity: Our fundamental problem is that we, as **individuals** have sinned. We have broken God's law and broken our relationship with God. We are lost. Our fundamental problem is spiritual and lies in our *personal identities as sinners*.

CT: Our fundamental problem is **political**. Government creates opportunities for some social groups to oppress others.

3. What is our ultimate hope?

Christianity: Our problem is **spiritual** and **eternal**, so our solution is spiritual and eternal. As an **individual**, we must each repent of our sin and place our faith for salvation in Jesus Christ.

CT: The problem is **political** and **temporal**, so our hope is political and temporal: we place our hope in **government and in activism** to liberate oppressed groups from oppression.

4. What is our ultimate moral responsibility?

Christianity: To love God and to love others. Everything about how we live and relate to one another follows from this.

CT: CT places a moral imperative on activism to dismantle social structures of systemic power and oppression.

5. What is our ultimate purpose (what does it mean to flourish)?

Christianity: Our ultimate purpose is to glorify God. A life of flourishing is a life filled with the Holy Spirit, marked by abiding in Christ, and love for God and others.

CT: Our ultimate purpose is **political**, to create a society that is free of systemic power and oppression.

Overall, as Christians, we understand ourselves in relationship to the transcendent God of the bible. The Woke understands people in terms of an **atheistic Marxist view of humanity** where a person is defined by the social group they belong to, and the proximity of that group to the **“evil” social/political structures of power and oppression**.

The worldview of CT is dangerous for three reasons. **First**, and foremost, the worldview of CT is based on lies. **Second**, your worldview (your answer to these questions) shapes what you believe is sinful and what is sacred. Your worldview informs your view of morality, your values, your sense of ethics, your sense of responsibility, your ideas of justice and fairness, and what it means to “do good” (i.e., to glorify and honor God and to show compassion toward all people (all lives matter) vs. activism designed to engineer social revolution). **Third**, to the extent you embrace the worldview of CT you will have to **abandon or distort** basic principles of Christianity regarding the nature of God and the nature of man.