TITLE: Christianity in an age of Political Correctness!

TEXT: Ex. 20:13; Deut. 19:4-7; Ex. 21:14; 1 Sam. 15:3;

Lev. 20:13; 1 Co. 6:9-10; Rev. 21:1-4; Jn. 14:6; Act 4:12

Ro. 1:1 6

INTRODUCTION: This morning I want to talk about Christianity in an age of Political Correctness.

How many have heard the term “politically correct”?

 Just what does that mean, to be politically correct?

 It is actually a phrase or expression that was born in the late 1900’s.

 Politically correct is defined as:

 *Showing an effort to make broad social and political changes to redress injustices caused by prejudice. It often involves changing or avoiding language that might offend anyone, especially with respect to gender, race, or ethnic background.*

 For example, Editors of major new organizations have sent out numerous directives concerning politically correct language being used by their writers.

Let’s take some issues of our day as an example…

 Many within the Church today are against abortion for any reason. Feeling that abortion is the same as premeditated murder in that is it the taking of a life with premeditation or malice of forethought.

 Premeditated murder is not the accidental taking of a life such as in manslaughter, but it is planning to take a life. In abortion a person contemplates what they are going to do and then goes ahead and does it! In any other area of the taking of a life that would be considered premeditated murder.

 In our world that is seen as a politically incorrect view!

 Many within the Church believe that homosexuality is a sexual sin! That homosexuality does not define who a person is but it defines what a person does!

 It is among one of many sexual sins listed in Scripture! No better and no worse than any other sexual sin!

 If a person would commit the act of adultery they probably wouldn’t say that they did it because God created them as an adulterer! Yet many who commit the act of homosexuality will say that they do it because that is the way God created them.

 However if you take the sexual activity out of homosexuality what do you have left? Nothing!

 Like every sexual sin it is a sin that is defined by behavior.

 Do you follow the logic here?

 Take the sexual act of adultery away from the adulterer and you don’t end up with an adulterer!

 You take the sexual act out of homosexuality and you don’t end up with a homosexual.

 These are things that are defined by what people do not by who they are!

 Yet, this too, is not a politically correct position to take within our world!

 Now we have moved on to a lot of other politically correct sexual views….

 Now it is politically correct to promote transgenderism, bisexualism, and even in some cases pedophilia….

The California State Assembly this week voted to revise the state’s penal code that regulates the registration of sex offenders by passing [**SB-145**](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB145). The revision of the bill would allow pedophiles to not be registered on the sex offender list as long as they are not 10 years older than the minor they were convicted of molesting.

 It is becoming politically incorrect to even be against pedophiles!

 Now the politically correct view is that there are as many as 72 different genders…

There are many different gender identities, including **male**, **female**, transgender, gender neutral, non-binary, **agender**, pangender, genderqueer, two-spirit, third gender, and all, none or a combination of these.

Article: **Gender-neutral Pronouns, and How to Use Them**

There are a few benefits to using gender-neutral pronouns. First, in the English language, "He" has often been used as an automatic fill-in for generic individuals. By using gender-neutral language, you're ensuring your sentences are inclusive for everyone.

Second, "he and she" are two extreme binaries that don't leave room for other gender identities.

 This can be hurtful for individuals, such as transgender or gender queer communities, who don't identify with "he" or "she".

 Ultimately, you don't want to make incorrect or hurtful assumptions about someone's gender. Just because someone appears feminine or masculine doesn't mean they are a man or woman -- they could be agender, nonbinary, or uncomfortable identifying with "he" or "she".

Here is a list of gender-neutral pronouns:

* **He/She** -- Zie, Sie, Ey, Ve, Tey, E
* **Him/Her** -- Zim, Sie, Em, Ver, Ter, Em
* **His/Her** -- Zir, Hir, Eir, Vis, Tem, Eir
* **His/Hers** -- Zis, Hirs, Eirs, Vers, Ters, Eirs
* **Himself/Herself** -- Zieself, Hirself, Eirself, Verself, Terself, Emself

I am not making this stuff up! This is actually going on today especially in our universities.

Personally, I grow more than a little weary of all of this political correctness around us!

 Now don’t get me wrong! I am not saying that as a Christian we should go around deliberately trying to be offensive to or non- tolerant of others.

 In fact we have been called by Christ to reach out to everyone in our world with the Love of Christ!

 The problem is that often, in order for us as Christians to be seen as being politically correct within our world, we have to compromise our faith in God!

 To always be politically correct in our world today will require that we ignore many of Gods commands and laws that He has given us in His Word.

 Many times it will require us to redefine or reinterpret what God has clearly said.

The sixth commandment says:

**Exodus 20:13 KJV Thou shall not kill**

**(NIV)** **13“You shall not murder.**

 There are different Hebrew words used for the taking of a life.

 Scripture talks about several different kinds of killing with different repercussions or consequences depending on the circumstances involved in the death.

The Bible talks about things like 1st degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, ect.

Each is dealt with different levels of punishment for the offender.

**Deuteronomy 19:4 - 7 (NIV)** **4This is the rule concerning the man who kills another and flees there to save his life—one who kills his neighbor unintentionally, without malice aforethought.** **5For instance, a man may go into the forest with his neighbor to cut wood, and as he swings his ax to fell a tree, the head may fly off and hit his neighbor and kill him. That man may flee to one of these cities and save his life.**

**6Otherwise, the avenger of blood might pursue him in a rage, overtake him if the distance is too great, and kill him even though he is not deserving of death, since he did it to his neighbor without malice aforethought.** **7This is why I command you to set aside for yourselves three cities.**

This is talking about the cities of refuge that God had set aside for people to go to if they had accidentally killed someone. Places where they could go to and would be safe from the avenger of blood, a friend or relative of the deceased person who may try to get revenge for the death.

This is what we would call manslaughter today!

 And God provided a way for the person who accidentally killed someone to spare his life from the dead person’s family by their fleeing to a city of refuge where they would be safe from retribution.

**Exodus 21:14 (NIV)** **14But if a man schemes and kills another man deliberately, take him away from my altar and put him to death.**

 This is what we would call first degree murder! Premeditated murder with malice of forethought!

 This is the same word that is used in the sixth commandment! You shall not murder!

***raw-tsakh'***

**A primitive root; properly to *dash* in pieces, that is, *kill* (a human being), especially to *murder!***

God ordered King Saul to go and attack and completely destroy the Amalekites

**1 Samuel 15:3 (NIV)** **3Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy everything that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.’”**

The word for kill or put to death used here is:

***naw-kaw'***

**A primitive root; to *strike* (lightly or severely, literally or figuratively):— beat, kill, punish, slaughter, slay (-er, -ing), smite (-r, -ing), strike.**

It may be the same word used today for killing in a time of war and was, not just acceptable at times, but at times actually commanded by God.

The sixth commandment speaks specifically of the premeditated taking of a life! Killing with malice of forethought! 1st degree murder!

Abortion in my view would have to fall under this definition..

It is not politically correct to agree with what Scripture clearly says in this instance.

Scripture speaks of homosexuality as a sexual sin so serious as it was equal in judgment with murder!

**Leviticus 20:13 (NIV) 13“‘If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.**

 Some will say but that was in the Old Testament and all of that changed in the New Testament with Christ!

 That would be like saying that God was wrong in the Old Testament and corrected his thinking in the New Testament!

 But the fact is God still condemns homosexuality in the New Testament just as He does murder!!

**1 Corinthians 6:9 - 10 (NIV)** **9Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders** **,,,, ,will inherit the kingdom of God.**

If you don’t inherit the kingdom of God the only other alternative is what? Hell! Eternal separation from God which Scripture describes as eternal death!

How many biblical genders are their?

TWO! Male and Female! That is it!

**Gen. 1:27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them;   male and female he created them.**

**Mark 10:6-9 But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”**

Yet, this too is not a politically correct position to take!

 There is another area of political correctness that is facing the Church today that is just as potentially theologically damaging as any other the Church has faced in this past century.

 And that is what seems to be the national call for tolerance and acceptance and political correctness among the Christian community toward all other faiths.

 Even if those faiths are in direct opposition to our own faith.

 As a matter of fact, in the name of political correctness, some of these other religious faiths have a higher degree of acceptance and tolerance then Christianity has been given in recent years.

Religion is simply the worship of something.

Satanists worship the devil so Satanism is a religion.

 Secular humanism worships self, if it feels good do it or if it right to me then it is right to do, so it is in fact a religion.

 In rejecting God altogether Atheism also worships self so in that regard they are a religious group as well.

 Under the guise of Political Correctness It is a lot more acceptable for an atheist, or a secular humanist or even a Satanist to speak up in our public schools and public institutions then it is for a Christian to do so..

 A new or developing area of political correctness, especially within the Church today, that seems to be developing is how we respond to those of other faiths!

 That we need to be accepting and tolerant of their beliefs and put them on the same equal theological footing as our own as Christians. Many will say that: well we all are worshipping the same God but just in different ways.

That could not be further from the truth or the reality of the situation.

 In his book, *“Is the Father of Jesus the God of Muhammad?”* theologian Timothy George describes the major differences between Christianity and Islam.

 One of the critical differences is in the view of salvation; Islam and Christianity have radically different answers to the question of how we attain God’s favor and go to Heaven/Paradise when we die.

 George writes, The Qur’ an says: Adam forgot to walk the right way. Sin is forgetfulness, heedlessness, a failure to remember. This forgetting to obey is the result of inherent weakness, not active rebellion against God….Once Adam repents, God quickly forgives and from that time on Adam lives a perfect life.

 If sin is forgetfulness, then the solution is remembering. So one of the pillars of Islam is the practice of Salat, the practice of ritual prayer five times a day. To help people remember Islam teaches God sent 124,000 prophets from Adam to Muhammad. And the Islamic law, or Shariah, enforces remembering and should be applied to legal, political and economic structures, as well as one’s personal life.

 In this view of salvation humans are fully capable of determining their own eternal destiny by their own exertion, discipline and devotion. Redemption is not a category Islam recognizes. Every Muslim is his or her own redeemer.

 George writes, if all we need is guidance to walk the straight path to God, then why, 124,000 prophets later, does everyone---including Muslims---stray from the path? If we all have the power to be good, why do we experience so many moral failures? Why do we know what is right and still do what is wrong.

 As Christians we believe that Adam didn’t forget to obey. Instead, remembering perfectly well what God required, he still rebelled, and in so doing, he broke the relationship of love he had with God.

 Muslims believe that God forgives easily because human sin doesn’t affect Him deeply. But the Bible tells us our sins clearly offend God and grieve Him.

 If there is to be a restored relationship, it can only be by the sheer generosity of God, who offers His Son as a sacrifice for our sins.

 It is not politically correct to say anything that might be considered derogatory about another person’s faith.

 I believe in some of the aspects of political correctness as a Christian. I don’t think that we should go around being deliberately offensive to people for the sake of offense.

 Yet I also believe that we shouldn’t compromise the truth of the Gospel message that we have been entrusted with by God to help lead others into His Kingdom.

 And if Political correctness is going to compromise my faith and my calling--- then I guess I will choose to be politically incorrect at times.

 So, how do we as Christians respond to a world that has made political correctness something that is seen as a virtue in itself?

 Through legalized abortion we have killed over 60 million of our most innocent citizenry over the past 50 years. Statistically Less than 1% have been for reasons of rape or incest or physically endangering the life of the mother! That means that over 99% have been done for the sake of convenience!

 How do we, as Christians, respond to those who believe it is ok to kill unborn children because it is more convenient for them to abort then it is to abstain….

How do we as Christians respond to those who are living sexually immoral lifestyles and then try to apply civil rights status to their sexual perversion?

 How do we as Christians respond to those who have different religious views from ours, some of whom say that their God has commanded them to either convert us or kill us?

 We are called to respond to them with the love and Compassion of Christ!

 To hate the sin because of what it does, it destroys and separates from God! But to love the sinner because of whom they are! Because God loved them so much that He sent His own Son to die on a cross for them as well as for us!

 The problem with always striving to be politically correct is that it often takes our eyes off of those who are lost in sin and need to find Jesus for themselves!

 The fact is we cannot be true to our own faith as a Christian if we accept the premise that: well they are just serving God in their own way and all faiths lead to God!

 The whole basis of our faith as a Christian is that Jesus is the one and only sacrifice for sin and Jesus is the one and only way to God!

**John 14:6 (NIV) 6Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.**

 Religions that don’t believe in the deity of Christ can never come to the Father through Him! The only way any of us will ever come to the Father is through the Son!

**Acts 4:12 (NIV) 12Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”**

 Buddha can’t save you! Muhammad can’t save you! Gandhi can’t save you! You can’t save you! There is only one name under Heaven by which men must be saved and that name is Jesus!

 Our calling, our commission as a Christian is to share this truth with those who don’t yet know it!

 As a Christian our calling is to seek and save the lost of our world! To strive to introduce them to Jesus so that they too can be saved!

 We will never do that if we don’t first see and perceive the need.

 Often political correctness will blind us to that need!

America is under the assault of Political correctness today and it is literally destroying our nation.

 The organizations Black Lives Matter and Antifa are Marxist organizations that sole purpose is to destroy this nation and rebuilt it in their own Marxist/ socialistic image.

 They are getting a lot of help from the politically left and a politically left leaning mainstream media in this country.

 During the riots in Seattle a CNN reporter on the street there was looking into his camera talking about how peaceful the protesters were while the protesters were burning buildings, setting fire to cars and breaking windows in the background behind him.

 All of these groups are striving to revise American History often by striving to erase it. They are doing so with the help of many of our schools and universities.

 Tearing down statues of Prominent American Patriots of the past….

 Anyone who disagrees with them is called a raciest!

 If any of you hold to a traditional view of America that we are basically a good nation you are a raciest in their eyes.

If you support a different political candidate then they do you are considered a raciest.

 In many of our large cities that are being destroyed by rioters and anarchists the city and state leadership has told their police to just stand back and watch so they don’t appear to be racist.

 There is not systemic racism in America today.

Webster defines systemic as: affecting the body generally. Fundamental to a predominant social, economic, or political practice

 There will always be some people who may be racist but as a whole America is just the opposite.

 We are the great smelting pot of the world!

 It is not a systemic racist nation of a majority white population who elected a black president by a substantial margin for two terms!

 The term racist is thrown around so much today as a political weapon that the word has no real meaning…..

 You can give to, BLM, support the ACLU, DONATE LARGE SUMS OF MONEY TO THE BLACK COLLEDGE FUND, NAACP AND THE NATIONAL BLACK JUSTICE COALATION yet if you support Donald Trump you are called a raciest….

The left will not discuss differences of ideas between those on the right any longer but strive to Shame people into agreement with them…

 Real truth will often be seen as offensive by those who reject that truth!

 Compromising truth for the sake of political correctness is not the answer nor does it help anyone!

 As Christians we need to live our lives proclaiming the truth of the Gospel message to those around us! Some may take that truth as offensive but conceder what is at stake….The very souls of men! An eternity of either Heaven or Hell!

 This is the understanding the Apostle Paul had when he said:
**Romans 1:16(NIV)**
**16I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.**

We don’t need to be politically correct we need to be Godly correct!

 We need to be praying for and reaching out to those who feel that their only option is to destroy the life within them….and those who are bound up in the bondage of immoral sexual behavior… and those who are following false Gods who can never save them!

 Praying for them and reaching out to them with the Love of Christ telling them about Jesus….

This morning of which are you most concerned, your political correctness or your Godly correctness?