



# BIBLE NUGGETS

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*Grace*  
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Special Edition

Lord's Day, April 24, 2022

## The Social Gospel Seeks To Corrupt Gospel Churches

The **Social Gospel** by definition means “**another gospel**” a gospel that meets the “**felt needs**” of the poor, the victims of racism, injustice, and economic inequality.

### Enter Walter Rauschenbusch:

Walter Rauschenbusch (1861-1918), was a pastor of the Second German Baptist Church in New York City. He is considered by many to be the “father of the modern day Social Gospel movement.” He dedicated himself to revising the attitude of American Christians. He believed that the church’s agenda had replaced Jesus’ agenda, which he called “the Kingdom of God.” He taught that the duty of Christians’ “is not a matter of getting individuals to heaven, but of transforming their lives on earth into the harmony of heaven. “God had to raise up socialism because the organized church was to blind, or to slow, to realize God’s ends.” Unfortunately, the African American Church were among the early enlistees into the Social Gospel Movement, because it’s appeal to Social Justice. So they chant, “No Justice, No Peace.”

### What Did Rauschenbusch Think Of Christ Death?

“These are the six social sins which Jesus bore on the cross.”

1. Religious Bigotry
2. Graft and Political Power
3. The Corruption of Justice
4. The Mob Spirit and Mob Action
5. Militarization
6. Class Envy and Contempt

The above are still alive and active, why are they seldom address in most of our fundamental churches today?

### The Purpose of Christ Death?

Rauschenbusch’s view of Christianity was that its purpose was to spread the Kingdom of God, not through a “fire and brimstone” style of preaching, but by the Christ like lives led by its members. He did not understand “Jesus death as an act of substitutionary atonement, rather, he came to believe that “Jesus died to substitute love for selfishness as the basis of human society. (“Christ died for the ungodly” (Romans 5:6).

## **Rauschenbusch's Disciples:**

Rauschenbusch's work influenced, the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, Progressive Baptist Churches of America, Progressive Churches and aberrant groups through-out the world, and individuals such as Martin Luther King Jr., Desmond Tutu, Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton, Joel Osteen, T.D. Jakes and a host of others have sadly succumbed to this other gospel.

## **Does The True Gospel Have Social Implications?**

**Is there a Christian Social Gospel? Yes, and No. The true gospel is concerned with first things first. "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:2). And this was written to one of the most immortal and corrupt churches in the New Testament. And yet they "... came behind in no gift" (1 Cor. 1:7). They didn't have a knowing problem, they had a doing problem. Every single major problem we face in the church is ultimately a spiritual problem, therefore, every solution is a spiritual one. When the true gospel is carried out by believers into society, people are converted, and converted people change society and communities. "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also" (Acts 17:6). The main problem with the social gospel:**

- 1. It Saves No One**
- 2. It Denies The True Gospel**
- 3. It's Another Gospel**
- 4. It's A Man-Made Reform Gospel, Not a Regeneration Gospel.**

## **The Social-Gospel is Another Gospel:**

"I marvel that you are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that you have received, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:6-9).

## **Conclusion:**

The real problems of America and the world remain Spiritual. The local assembly is still God's organization for dealing with such problems and the gospel of Christ remains the means He has given us with which to confront them. Thousands upon thousands of other organizations have been raised up to address the social problems of our day, using every conceivable resource, from good some evil. It is urgent that we not allow ourselves to be distracted from our unique mission nor disillusion with God's unique methods. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16). **"Preach The Word"** (2 Tim. 4:2).