

Cancel Culture

- Modern ostracism – in one area (like online or employment) or complete & in person, based on words or actions (recent or years ago) deemed to be unacceptable by some
 - Mainstream examples:
 - #MeToo movement; Bill Cosby, following allegations of sexual assault
 - Removal of statues, etc.
 - Jon Gruden, coach of Raiders
 - Washington Redskins, Cleveland Indians
 - Neil Young v. Joe Rogan
 - Possible examples we may participate in:
 - Boycott certain companies
 - Block/defriend people on social media
 - Sever ties of friendship
 - **Be kind, loving, & fair; but it's ok to be mean, unloving, & unfair to anyone acting mean, unloving, & unfair
- Christians should try to “cancel” sin
 - Rom. 6:12-14, 18
 - 1 Jn. 3:9 – One born of God does not sin
 - Heb. 10:26-28 – Willful sin yields fearful expectation of judgment and fiery indignation
- Christians should not “cancel” sinners - Necessary to interact on some level to reach and persuade people to follow (or return to) Jesus
 - Consider 1 Cor. 5 – Purpose of withdrawal is so that sinner will realize dire situation and repent from sin (v. 5), not because we should despise the individual
 - 1 Tim. 6:3-5 – Withdraw yourself (from false teachers & those using gospel in evil ways), also 2 Tim. 3:2-5
 - Jude 22-23 – “Pulling them out of the fire”
 - 2 Cor. 5:11 – Must try to persuade others
- Canceling often doesn't work...
 - People still remember history—pretending it didn't happen doesn't erase it
 - Canceling a sinner doesn't save the sinner
 - Jews & Romans attempted to cancel Jesus
 - Late-night bogus trial, torture, & execution didn't stop His message
 - Threatening and killing Christians didn't stop His message
 - Are we letting ill treatment, hard times, and cancel culture stop His message today?