

COSTLY GRACE SERIES

Faux Religion

Revelation 13: 11-18





RECENSEMENT • CENSUS



Statistique
Canada

Statistics
Canada

Canada



Men never do evil so completely
and cheerfully as when they do
it from religious conviction.

~ Blaise Pascal

**PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT, SIX COULD ALSO
FUNCTION AS A PARODY OF SEVEN, HENCE 666
COULD IMPLY EVIL (IRENÆUS, HER. 5.28.2;
5.29.2).²³ INTERESTINGLY, JOHN'S AUDIENCE
MAY KNOW THAT "JESUS," THE TRUE CHRIST,
YIELDS 888**

CRAIG KEENER

A CHURCH/STATE SPLIT?





**HUMANITY IS HOPELESSLY
RELIGIOUS**



“A person will worship something, have no doubt about that. We may think our tribute is paid in secret in the dark recesses of our hearts, but it will come out. That which dominates our imaginations and our thoughts will determine our lives, and our character. Therefore it behooves us to be careful what we worship, for what we are worshipping, we are becoming.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

**SERIOUSLY DANGEROUS
RELIGION**

**IN A BROADER SENSE, THIS TEMPTATION MERELY
MIRRORS ALL TEMPTATIONS TO ASSIMILATE THE
WORLD'S VALUES THAT DENY THE KINGDOM OF GOD.
WOULD THE EARLY CHRISTIANS ADOPT THEIR
SOCIETY'S VALUES (REV. 2:14, 20; 3:16-18)? OR
WOULD THEY "COME OUT" (18:4)? IT IS A QUESTION
THAT CONTINUES TO CHALLENGE TODAY'S CHURCH.
CRAIG KEENER**

RELIGIOUS TEMPTATION TODAY

Racial Justice Workshop

Course Description

The racial justice educational sessions take place over four sessions. For sessions 1 and 2, which form the mandatory components, we will be meeting in separate groups according to our racial identities: one group are people who self-identify as Indigenous, Black and other Peoples of Colour (BIPOCs)*** and another group are people who self-identify as White.

Sessions 3 and 4, which are optional sessions, will be in racially mixed groups. [Select this link for more details on these sessions.](#)

Why are we meeting in separate groups for these initial sessions? It is because the learning needs of BIPOCs are often different from the learning needs of White people. Because of their lived experiences, BIPOCs certainly have different day-to-day realities than those of White people. At times, in past educational sessions, BIPOCs were often called on to “educate” White people about racism but did not necessarily have opportunities to do their own learnings. And White people have sometimes felt that the need to self-censor because they did not want to say anything “wrong” in front of a BIPOC person, even if they had genuine questions about racial justice. As a result, not everyone was receiving the full educational experience.

The Rev. Dr. Bill Smith, previous Chairperson of the Dismantling White Privilege Working Group, also adds the following, “The White Privilege Working Group realizes that separating into groups along racial lines may be uncomfortable for some and may be seen as an act of segregation.” There is, however, a difference between historical segregation and creating settings by self-identified groups that are beneficial for people to have their own space and conversations. The method used in these racial justice sessions is by self-identified groups and is in response to requests made by people who are Indigenous, racialized, and bi-racial to have their own space for dialogue.





**I found someone
who said the n-word
10 years ago and
ruined his career!**



**I redeemed a
tyrannical Pharisee
and he became the
best evangelist
that ever lived.**

**WHAT IS BEING REVEALED IN REVELATION
13:11-18 IS THAT RELIGION CAN BE THE ENEMY OF
DISCIPLESHIP. FOR JOHN THE PROBLEM IS NOT
JUST THAT THERE IS A FALSE PROPHET ON THE
LOOSE; THE CONCERN IS THAT THE FALSE
PROPHET OPERATES IN THE CHURCH!**

DARRELL JOHNSON

**THE CHURCH=A DIFFERENT
PEOPLE**

**IF CHRIST IS LORD OF OUR LIVES, WE MUST
GRACIOUSLY PART COMPANY WITH MUCH OF
WHAT OUR CONTEMPORARIES VALUE, NOT ONLY
MORALLY BUT RECREATIONALLY AND IN OTHER
RESPECTS—MISFITS IN OUR CULTURE THOUGH
WE MAY APPEAR.**

CRAIG KEENER

The church is not a religious community of worshippers of Christ but is Christ himself who has taken form among people.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Antidote To Heresy- Scripture

**THE MOST-TO-BE FEARED ATTACKS ON THE
CHRISTIAN FAITH GO FOR THE JUGULAR OF THE
WORD: TWISTING THE WORD, DENYING THE
WORD, DOUBTING THE WORD. IT IS IMPRESSIVE
HOW FREQUENTLY THE PSALMISTS DENOUNCED
AND CRIED OUT FOR HELP AGAINST LYING LIPS
AND FLATTERING TONGUES**

**FAR MORE THAN THEY FEARED MURDERERS,
ADULTERERS, USURERS, AND EGYPTIANS, THEY
FEARED LIARS. GOD MADE HIMSELF KNOWN TO THEM
BY WORD, AND IT WAS BY WORDS THAT THEY SHAPED
THEIR RESPONSE TO HIM. WHEN WORDS ARE RUINED,
WE ARE DAMAGED AT THE CORE OF OUR BEING.**

EUGENE PETERSON