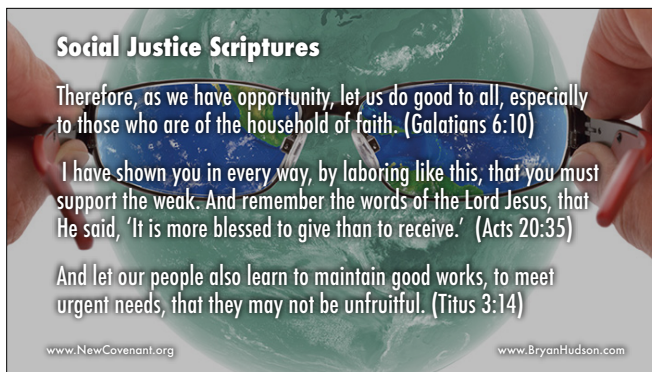
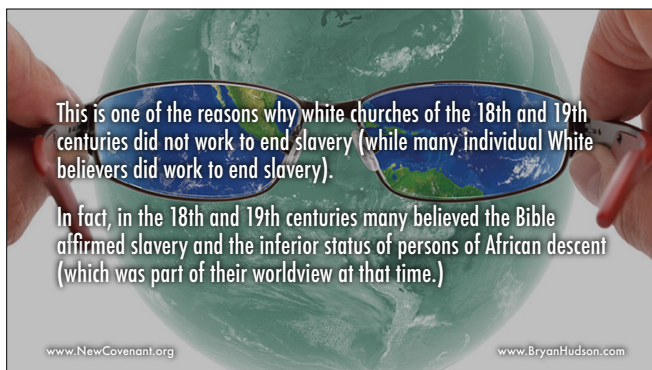
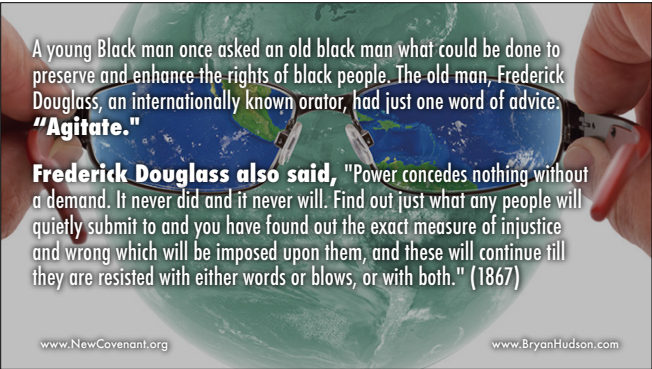


Reflecting on these remarkable human rights achievements reminded me of something lacking in the practice of Christianity among many churches and Christians. Those of us who follow Jesus Christ as Lord take action in society, sometimes unrelated to preaching, as part of our spiritual and civic lifestyle. We also call it "social justice." Many do not act because of an error in thinking social action, or social justice, is inconsistent with biblical faith. This is one of the reasons why white churches of the 18th and 19th centuries did not work to end slavery (while many individual White believers did work to end slavery). In fact, in the 18th and 19th centuries many believed the Bible affirmed slavery and the inferior status of persons of African descent (which



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A young Black man once asked an old black man what could be done to preserve and enhance the rights of black people. The old man, Frederick Douglass, an internationally known orator, had just one word of advice: **"Agitate."**

Frederick Douglass also said, "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both." (1867)

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Much of the silence and inaction of churches has resulted from the **inertia of decades and centuries** of building frameworks, and worldviews, that reject "secular" practices which have proved to be highly effective in society.

Examples include protest, civil disobedience, and speaking out against injustice. By contrast, these were regular practices among what we call "Black churches" in the 20th Century.

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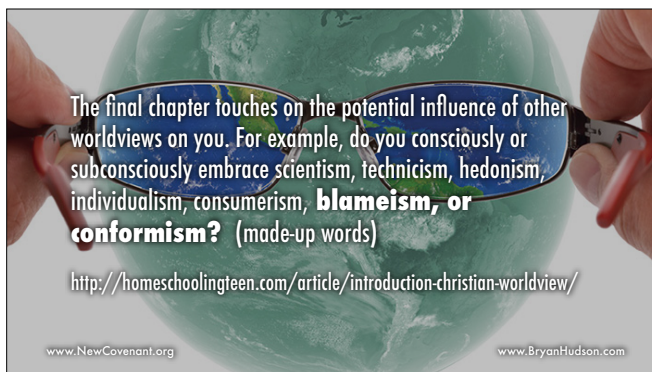


Inertia Defined: A tendency to do nothing or to remain unchanged.

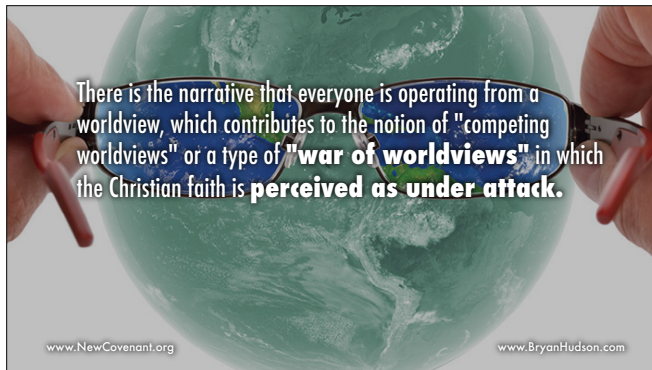
In Physics: A property of matter by which it continues in its existing state of rest or uniform motion in a straight line, unless that state is changed by an external force.

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This statement from a Christian homeschool resources website advertises a book offered to prepare students to guard against harmful conscience and "subconscious" worldviews, like a virus, such as "blameism" and "conformism." (which are made-up words)



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