

III. Affirming People's Potential is More Important Than Reminding Them of Their Brokenness

A. Deals with the Doctrine of Sin

1. Sin is not really the core issue: environment, living conditions, social factors are taken into account
2. The real problem is the "Broken" system . . . of privilege, racism, patriarchy, etc.
3. Sin = Not helping the poor - outcasts - downtrodden - not showing empathy or acceptance of those who live alternative lifestyles
4. People do not need to hear how "bad" they are and that they're going to "burn" in Hell apart from one particular view
5. People need to hear positive - life affirming, self-esteem building statements
6. Need help and encouragement in order to meet their fullest potential - and attain happiness
7. Progressives have a deficient view of original sin . . .
 - a) People are basically good
 - b) All people are flawed and broken to a certain extent and what's needed most is understanding and compassion

B. Biblical Perspective

1. We are sinners by Nature and by Choice
 - a) Psalm 51:5
 - b) Ephesians 2:1-3
 - c) Romans 5:12
 - d) Romans 3:23;6:23

"We are not sinners because we sin, we sin because we are sinners"

R.C. Sproul

2. Sin is our primary problem:
 - a) Separates us from God
 - b) Root of every issue is our sin
3. Shorter Catechism #14, 18, 19 (copy)
4. Apart from dealing with sin a person can never reach their fullest potential, which is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever (Shorter Catechism #1)
5. What is meant by "Potential" (Apart from Christ)
6. If sin isn't a big deal - then what did Jesus die on the cross for?
 - a) 1 Timothy 1:15
 - b) John 14:6