

# IS THE BIBLE CULTURALLY RELEVANT?

## CULTURAL ISSUES

- Slavery
- Women's roles
- Animal rights
- Divorce
- Capital punishment
- Gender orientation
- Importance of individual liberty
- Social welfare

# IS THE BIBLE CULTURALLY RELEVANT?

An All-Loving God won't always agree with our culture

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. (Col 3:9-11)

# IS THE BIBLE CULTURALLY RELEVANT?

An All-Wise  
God will  
have a  
better idea  
of what  
makes a  
utopia than  
we will

And God saw everything that He had made,  
and behold, it was very good. And there was  
evening and there was morning, the sixth  
day. (Gen 1:31)

# IS THE BIBLE CULTURALLY RELEVANT?

Intimacy with  
God requires  
that He be  
allowed to  
speak  
against us

Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and He rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw Him after He had risen. And He said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” (Mk 16:14-15)

# IS THE BIBLE CULTURALLY RELEVANT?

A powerful  
God must be  
capable of  
authoritarian  
statements

Now when Jesus saw a crowd around Him,  
He gave orders to go over to the other side.  
And a scribe came up and said to Him,  
"Teacher, I will follow you" ... And He said to  
them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little  
faith?" Then He rose and rebuked the winds  
and the sea, and there was a great calm. <sup>27</sup>  
And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of  
man is this, that even winds and sea obey  
Him?" (Matt 8:18-27)

# IS THE BIBLE CULTURALLY RELEVANT?

A Father God  
should be  
expect to  
stimulate our  
minds and  
hearts to  
growth

It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (Heb 12:7-8)

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