

Comparing Ideological Social Justice with the Biblical Worldview

By Scott David Allen

	<i>ideological social justice</i>	<i>Biblical Worldview</i>
What is ultimately real?	The <i>human mind</i> defines what is ultimately real.	The God of Genesis 1:1 defines ultimate reality: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."
Who are we?	Autonomous, sovereign beings whose identity is <i>wholly</i> socially determined. We are products of our race, sex, and gender identity.	Creations and image-bearers of a good, holy, and loving God with inherent dignity and immeasurable worth.
What is our fundamental problem as human beings?	Oppression: One group (white, heteronormative males) has established and maintains hegemonic power structures to oppress and subjugate women, people of color, and sexual minorities (LGBTQ+) and others.	Rebellion: <i>All have sinned</i> , and fallen short of the glory of God. Our rebellion against God has resulted in <i>broken relationships</i> : Between God and man; between man and his fellow man; and between man and creation.
What is the solution to our problem?	Revolution: Oppressed victims and their allies must unite to unmask, deconstruct, and overthrow oppressive power structures, systems, and institutions.	The Gospel: On the cross, God incarnate bore the punishment we deserved for sinful rebellion in order to show us a mercy we could never deserve. The cross and resurrection opened the way for the reconciliation of all of our broken relationships.
How can we be saved?	Victims are morally innocent and do not require salvation. Oppressors can never be fully pardoned, but partial salvation is available if they confess their complicity in oppression and support the revolution.	If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved... Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Romans 10:9,13).

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What is our primary moral duty?	To stand in solidarity with, protect, and defend the oppressed: women, people of color, sexual minorities (LGBTQ+), etc.	To love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (which involves living in obedience to all that Christ commanded) and to love our neighbors as ourselves.
How do we know what is true?	Objective truth doesn't exist, only my "truth" and your "truth." Whoever establishes a dominant narrative defines "truth" in society. The very notions of objective truth, reason, logic, evidence, and argument are tools that oppressors employ to maintain their hegemony.	Revelation combined with reason, logic, evidence, and argument.
Who has ultimate authority?	<i>Victims are the final authority.</i> Sometimes referred to as "standpoint epistemology," the claims of victims based on their subjective "lived experience" must be believed without question.	God (and His revealed Word in Scripture) is the final authority.
Is there a future, final judgment?	No. There is no god who will return to punish the wicked and reward the upright. Evil must be rooted out here and now by those with the power to do so.	Yes. Jesus will return and accomplish perfect justice. He will preserve all that is good and rid the world of all that is evil. Until then, He extends mercy and forgiveness to sinful people.

For further study, see [Why Social Justice Is Not Biblical Justice](#) by Scott David Allen or look for additional resources at disciplenations.org