

The Blindness of Hypocrisy
Matthew 23:13-26

LGBTQ Forum:

God's Design for Sexuality and Gender

Open for everyone!

August 24 @ 7 p.m.

Register online

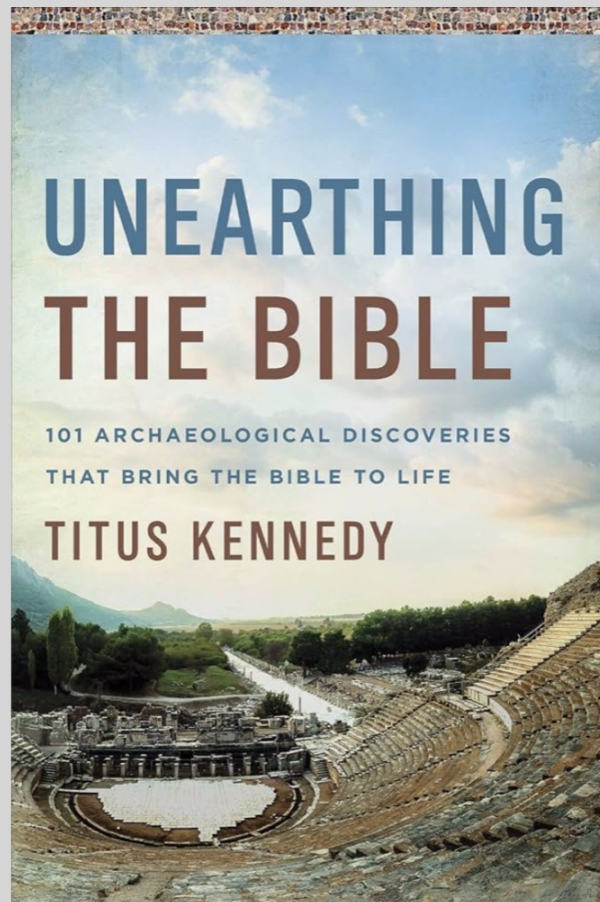
LEAD Class

Unearthing the Bible

Dr. Titus Kennedy

October 2 - 3





UNEARTHING THE BIBLE

101 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES
THAT BRING THE BIBLE TO LIFE

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THE ARCHAEOLOGY
AND HISTORY OF CHRIST
AND THE GOSPELS



Excavating *the* Evidence *for* Jesus



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The Essential
Archaeological Guide to
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UNCOVERING BIBLICAL SITES OF THE ANCIENT
NEAR EAST AND MEDITERRANEAN WORLD

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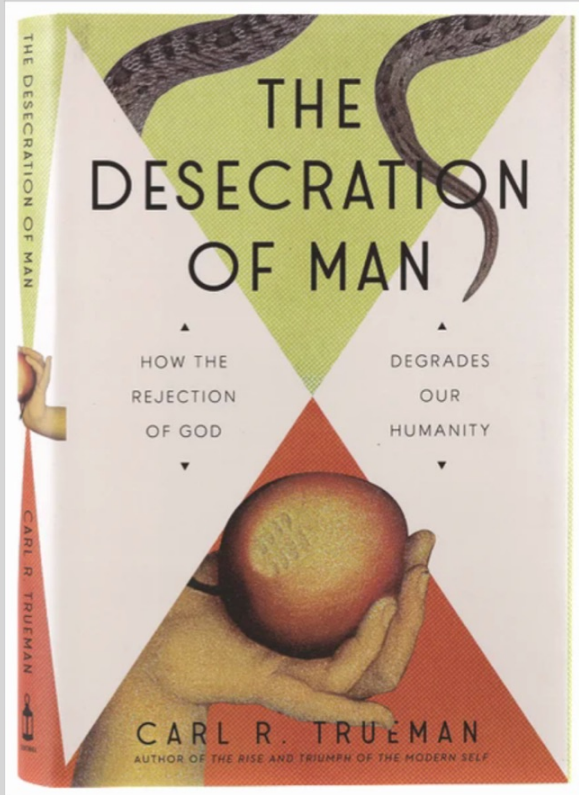


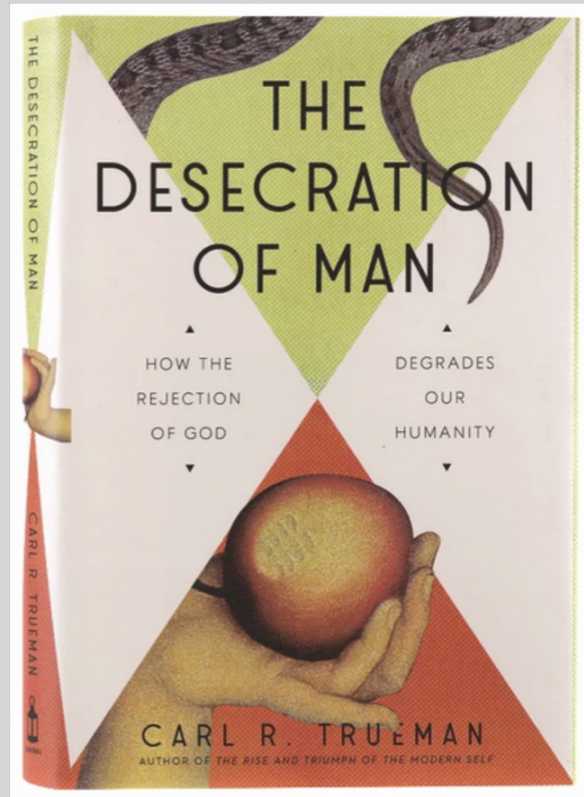




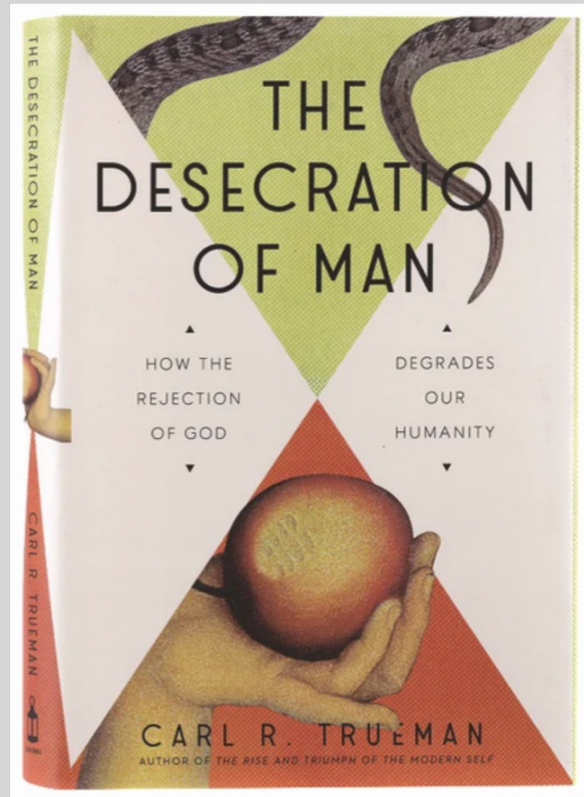


Peter Singer

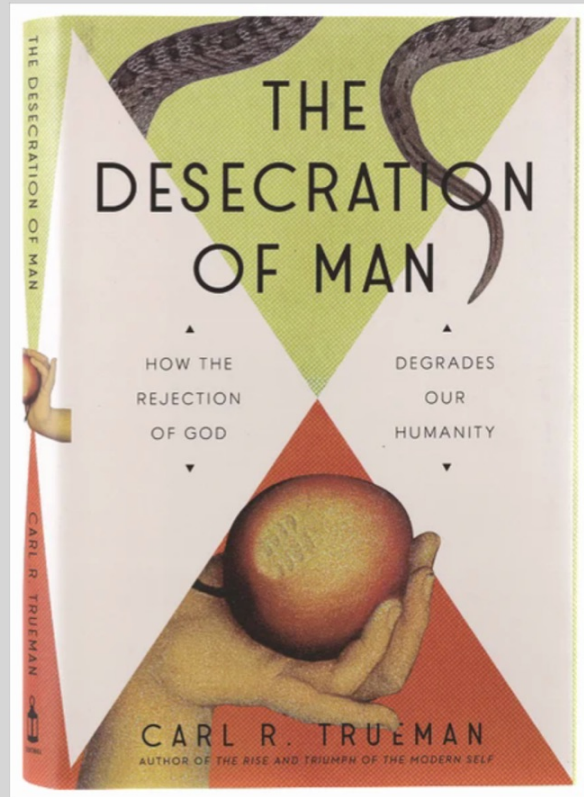




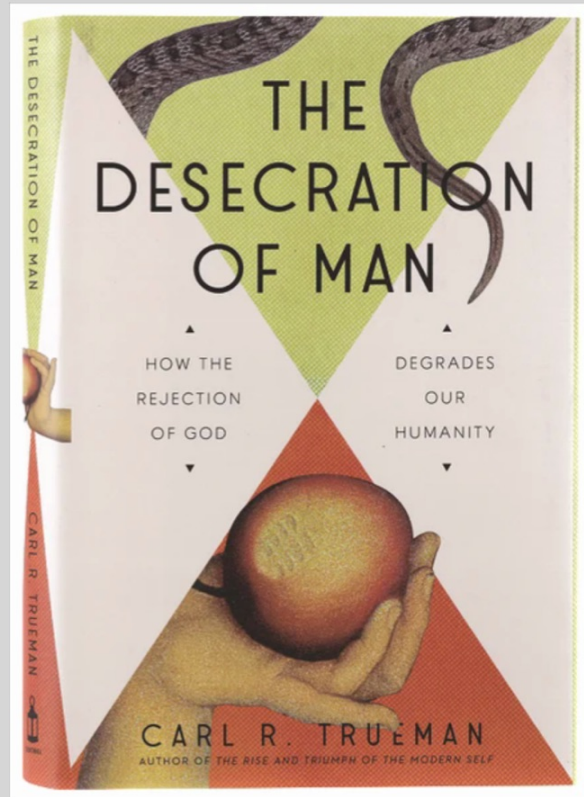
Singer's "arguments for abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia rest upon a basic distinction between being human and being a person.



“For him, these are separable: One can be a human without being a person.



“Life begins at conception, but personhood only begins when a degree of self-consciousness has been reached, involving, in part, the ability to conceptualize the future and move intentionally in relation to that future.



“According to Singer, this is absent from children until the age of about two years, and also from mature human beings suffering from dementia.”

Carl Trueman

“a legacy of religious doctrine.”

Peter Singer

“The difference between killing disabled and normal infants lies not in any supposed right to life that the latter has and that the former lacks, but in other considerations about killing.

“Most obviously, there is a difference that often exists in the attitudes of the parents. The birth of a child is usually a happy event for the parents.”

Peter Singer

Hypocrisy . . .

can't carry its own burden (1-12)

Hypocrisy . . .

can't carry its own burden (1-12)

can't see its own blindness (13-26)

“blind guides” (16, 24)

“blind guides” (16, 24)

“blind fools” (17)

“blind guides” (16, 24)

“blind fools” (17)

“blind men” (19)

“blind guides” (16, 24)

“blind fools” (17)

“blind men” (19)

“blind Pharisee” (26)

Hypocrisy blinds us to . . .

1. The **eternal** (13-15)

Three preliminary questions:

Where is **verse 14**?

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you devour widows’ houses,
and for a pretense you make long prayers;
therefore you will receive the greater
condemnation.” (14)

Verse 14 is not found in the oldest and best manuscripts.

The manuscripts that have it place it in a different location.

Verse 14 is found in Mark 12:40 and Luke 20:47.

What does **woe** mean?

What does **woe** mean?

woe = a pronouncement of judgment

What does **woe** mean?

woe = a pronouncement of judgment

warning + compassion + sorrow

Where does the word **hypocrites** come from?

“hupokrites” = an actor pretending to be
a character

“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of
heaven in people’s faces.

“For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.” (13)

kingdom of heaven =
the rule of God through Jesus

kingdom of heaven
following Jesus

kingdom of heaven
following Jesus
entering life

kingdom of heaven
following Jesus
entering life
being saved

kingdom of heaven

following Jesus

entering life

being saved

entering the new world

new world (paliggenesia) =
renewal of all things

“You shut the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces.” (13b)

“You shut the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces.” (13b)

kleio = shut

kleis = key

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of
heaven.”

Matthew 16:19

“For you [of all people] neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.” (13c)

Boldt Castle

THE STORY OF AN UNFINISHED DREAM



ANTHONY MOLICA JR.
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GEORGE FISCHER



“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you travel across sea and
land to make a single proselyte,

“and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.” (15)

Hypocrisy blinds us to . . .

1. The eternal (13-15)

2. The **substantial** (16-24)

Example #1 – **temple** vs. **gold**

Example #1 – **temple** vs. **gold**

“Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If anyone swears by the temple, it is nothing,

Example #1 – **temple** vs. **gold**

“but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’

Example #1 – **temple** vs. **gold**

“You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred?” (16-17)

Example #2 – altar vs. gift

Example #2 – **altar** vs. **gift**

“And you say, ‘If anyone swears by the altar,
it is nothing,

Example #2 – **altar** vs. **gift**

“but if anyone swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.” (18)

“Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No.’”

Matthew 5:37

“You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So whoever swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it.

“And whoever swears by the temple swears
by it and by him who dwells in it.

“And whoever swears by heaven swears
by the throne of God and by him who sits
upon it.” (19-22)

Example #3 – **mint** vs. **mercy**

Example #3 – **mint** vs. **mercy**

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
For you tithe mint and dill and cumin,

Example #3 – **mint** vs. **mercy**

“and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness.

Example #3 – **mint** vs. **mercy**

“These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.” (23)

“These you ought to have done,” (23b)

“neglected the weightier matters of the law:
justice and mercy and faithfulness.” (23)

“He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?”

Micah 6:8

“do justice” =

advocating for someone in need

“love kindness” =

love steadfast love, kindness

“hesed” - loving loyalty

“do justice”

“love kindness”

“walk humbly with your God”

“You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!” (24)

Hypocrisy blinds us to . . .

1. The eternal (13-15)
2. The substantial (16-24)
3. The **internal** (25-26)

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the
cup and the plate, but inside they are full
of greed and self-indulgence.” (25)

“You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside also may be clean.” (26)

“words and actions [that] have too often been intimidating and demeaning and have resulted in people feeling unsafe in my presence.”

belittling people

belittling people
publicly shaming

belittling people
publicly shaming
giving harsh feedback

belittling people
publicly shaming
giving harsh feedback
using “cruel humor”

belittling people
publicly shaming
giving harsh feedback
using “cruel humor”
misusing power

“I failed to give people space to disagree,
and I’ve made them feel stupid and
worthless.

“I recognize that sin has consequences, and a simple apology cannot put things back the way they were.

“I am more than willing to accept the consequences of my actions. I am committed to doing everything I can to help repair any damage that I’ve done.

“It was entirely appropriate, and I have willingly offered my resignation to the elders, which they have accepted. It was also appropriate that I offered my resignation to CMS.

“Be assured that I am looking forward with hope to the difficult and painful discipline of our Father shaping me more and more into the image of his Son. I covet your prayers as he works in me.”

Father, open our eyes . . .