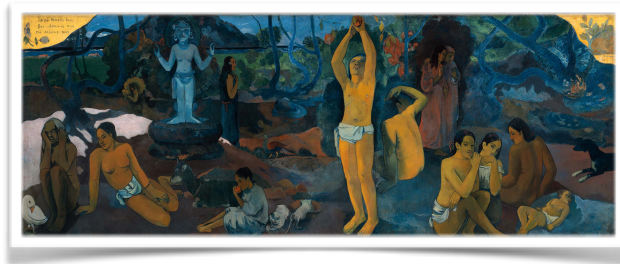

Great Expectations?

A Biblical Theology of Transformation

The Moore College Lectures 2019

Lecture 1: Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?



Introducing Change

What is change?

Change (or transformation) involves decisively altered behaviour, consistently modified thinking, choices and decisions and permanently reshaped character.

Why is it so hard?



Can it actually happen?

(1) Mapping the ground: heresies of change

A. Promising too much - the toxicity of over-realised eschatology (or *Why prosperity teaching is so dangerous*)

B. Expecting too little - the aridity of under-realised eschatology (or *Why being a reformed evangelical seems so boring*)

C. What we can be sure of...

(i) We have already been 'changed'

(ii) We will be 'changed'

D. Life in the middle

(2) Skirting the anthropological abyss



How does the Bible talk about 'us'?

(a) The image of God

(ii) Body, Soul, Mind and Spirit?

(a) Dualism

(b) (W)Holism

(iii) Why this really, really 'matters'!

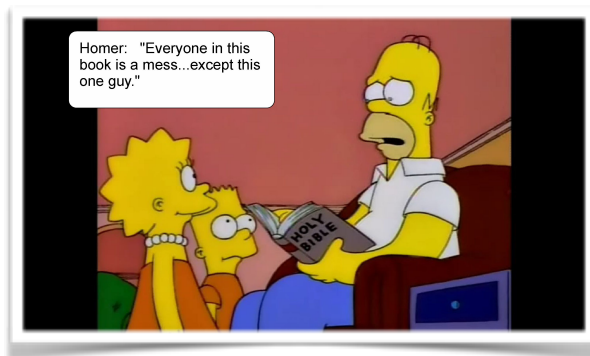
Ditching dualism is desperate! (kills evangelism, advances annihilationism)

Hating Holism is horrible! (kills compassion!)

Conclusion: The importance of Holistic Dualism, Dualistic Holism, Substance Dualism, Integrative Dualism, Christian Aristotelian Platonism and/or Biblical Common Sense!

Lecture 2: Can a leopard change its spots? Transformation in the Old Testament

A. Plus ça change... Character studies revisited



CASE STUDIES: Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Moses, David & Solomon

Noah:

Abraham:

Jacob:

Moses:

David & Solomon:

Is that the full story?

B. The State of the Nation

- (i) The preaching of Moses
- (ii) The preaching of the Prophets
- (iii) The experience of the return from Exile

C. So what kind of change does the OT promise?

Conclusion: So what are we waiting for?

Lecture 3: On wine and wineskins - transformation in the New Testament

A. The Difference Jesus Makes

- (i) Jesus, the law and the gospel
- (ii) The gospel in action
- (iii) The gospel and new possibilities

B. Paul and the dynamics of change

(i)

(ii)

(iii)

(iv)

(v)

(vi)

(vii)

(viii)

(ix)

C. Peter on why things can only get better

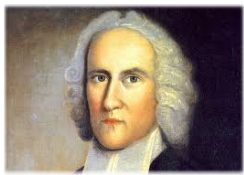
D. James on a life that matches the truth

E. Hebrews on the new covenant life

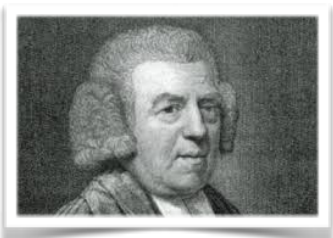
Conclusion (and the way ahead)

Lecture 4: On the shoulders (and at the elbows) of Giants

A. Augustine and the Augustinians



B. Calvin and the Calvinists



C. Wesley and the Wesleyans



And a note on the Biblical Counsellors...



Conclusions

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

Lecture 5: Biblical Change Reconfigured - Conclusions and Challenges

Keeping the main things the main things

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

(f)

So how does change happen?

1. What God does

2. The 'methods' that God uses

3. What we do

4. How does this feel?

Clear and present dangers?

The hegemony of _____?

Blocked _____?

_____ *redivivus*?

Making _____ everything?

‘Underselling’ _____?

Conclusion

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Colossians 2-3, Revelation 21