

# The Connected Christian: Social Media & a Christian Response

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Ben Mathew



# The Connected Christian: What's the Issue?

- Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat...How do we engage with these social media realities in a way that honors God, communicates truth and encourages others and ourselves?
- Media: a means of mass communication
- Social: communication primarily through our family, friends and community networks



# The Connected Christian: Avoid the Extremes!

- **Media Glutton:**  
an individual who uncritically uses multiple platforms of social media without any thought or concern regarding the information shared, or it's effects on themselves and others



**Media Anorexic:**  
an individual who believes all social media is evil/worthless, and bases their belief on spiritual, social and/or moral convictions





# The Connected Christian: The Connected God

- By looking at how God uses “Social Media”, perhaps we can gain an understanding and biblical conviction of how we can engage with the world of Social media in our lives

# The Connected Christian: The Narrative Arc

Introduction

Once upon a time...

Resolution

Happily ever after.

Conflict

Climax

The Turning  
Point



# The Connected Christian: The Biblical Arc

Creation  
Gen. 1, 2

Glory  
Rev. 21, 22

Fall  
Gen. 3 - Mal.

Redemption  
Acts - Rev. 20

Cross

The Gospels



# The Connected Christian: God in Creation

## Creation: Genesis 1 & 2

- God *Spoke* Creation (Gen. 1:3)
- God *Formed* Man (Gen. 2:7)
- God *Breathed* into Man (Gen. 2:7)
- God *Placed* Man in the Garden (Gen. 2:8)
- God *Walked* in the Garden (Gen. 3:8)



# The Connected Christian: Man in the Fall

## Fall: Genesis 3 - Malachi

- Tower of Babel (Gen. 11)
- The Golden Calf (Ex. 32) - Wanderings of Israel
- Joshua & Judges (Jud. 2:11) Into the Land, but served Baals
- Desire for a King (1 Sam. 8:7)...Choice and Handsome (9:2)
- Hezekiah destroys the idols (2 Chron. 31:1)
- Prophets (Isaiah - Malachi) - Sin, Warning, Repentance...



# The Connected Christian: God Works in the Fall

## Fall: Genesis 3 - Malachi (But God is Working...)

- Noah: Rainbow after the Flood
- Abram: Covenant (Stars: Gen. 15:5)
- Joseph: Dreams (Gen. 37:5)
- Moses: Burning Bush (Ex. 3:2), Plagues (Ex. 7), Red Sea (Ex. 14)  
Manna, Meat, Water, Commandments, Tabernacle
- Balaam's Donkey (Num. 22)
- Elijah - Fire from Heaven (1 Kings 18)
- Daniel - Handwriting on the Wall, Visions



# The Connected Christian: Jesus

## The Turning Point: Jesus in the Gospels

- “And the Word became flesh” (John 1:14)
- “He has spoken to us in His Son” (Hebrews 1)
- Water to Wine (John 2)
- Restoration: Healings/Resurrections/Demon Possession
- Calming Storms (Matt. 8)
- Feeding Thousands (Mark 6)
- Walking on Water (John 6)
- Resurrection/Ascension (Matt. 28/Acts 1)

# The Connected Christian: Through the Bible

## Redemption: The Bible

- Scripture is “breathed” by God (2 Tim. 3:16)
- God “spoke” through Scripture (2 Peter 1:20, 21)



# The Connected Christian: Through the Church

## Redemption: The Church

- Salt & Light (Matt. 5:13)
- The Body of Christ (I Cor. 12)
- The Lord's Supper (I Cor. 11)
- Baptism (Romans 6)
- Seals, Trumpets, Bowls, Dragons, ... (Revelation)

# The Connected Christian: Towards Glory

## Glory: Revelation 21 & 22

- New Heaven and Earth
- New Jerusalem
- River of the water of life
- Tree of Life



# The Connected Christian: God Created

## Creation:

- God created all things (including Social Media), and when not against His holy standards, are created to be enjoyed
- 1 Timothy 6:17 - As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.



# The Connected Christian: Man Corrupted

## Fall:

- But because of the Fall, our use of what God created has become a selfish pursuit to make a name for ourselves
- Gen. 11:4 - Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves,



# The Connected Christian: Jesus Saves

## The Turning Point:

- But our identity is not in our Social Media, but in Christ
- 2 Cor. 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.



# The Connected Christian: The Church Helps

## Redemption:

- With our new identity, we now have a new purpose...to work with God in restoring the Fallen world back to God
- Romans 8:21-23 - the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now...



# The Connected Christian: The Glory of the Lamb

## Glory:

- All use of Social Media must be filtered through the lens of God's glory
- Philippians 2:9-11 - Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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Ignite: Disciple  
Youth Leadership Conference  
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