For the Love of God

# IMAGE OF GOD (II)

The Future of Human Dignity

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The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy, and the handicapped.

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

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THE IMAGE OF GOD: THE FUTURE

For a long time, the worth of those on the margins – the child with a disability, the person with dementia – has been safeguarded by this notion that there's something divine about even the most broken or powerless person.

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JUTSINE TOH

Summarise what it means to

# ‘Be made in the Image of God.’

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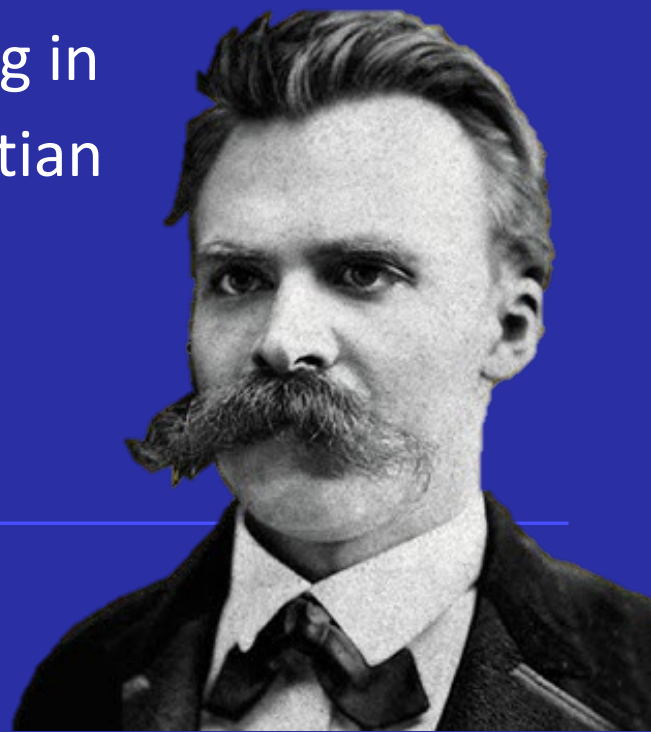
Christianity has taken the side of everything weak, base, ill-constituted… Christianity is called the religion of compassion… One loses force when one has compassion... Compassion on the whole thwarts the law of evolution, which is the law of selection. It preserves what is ripe for destruction, it defends life's disinherited and condemned… in every noble morality it counts as weakness… Nothing in our unhealthy modernity is more unhealthy than Christian compassion.



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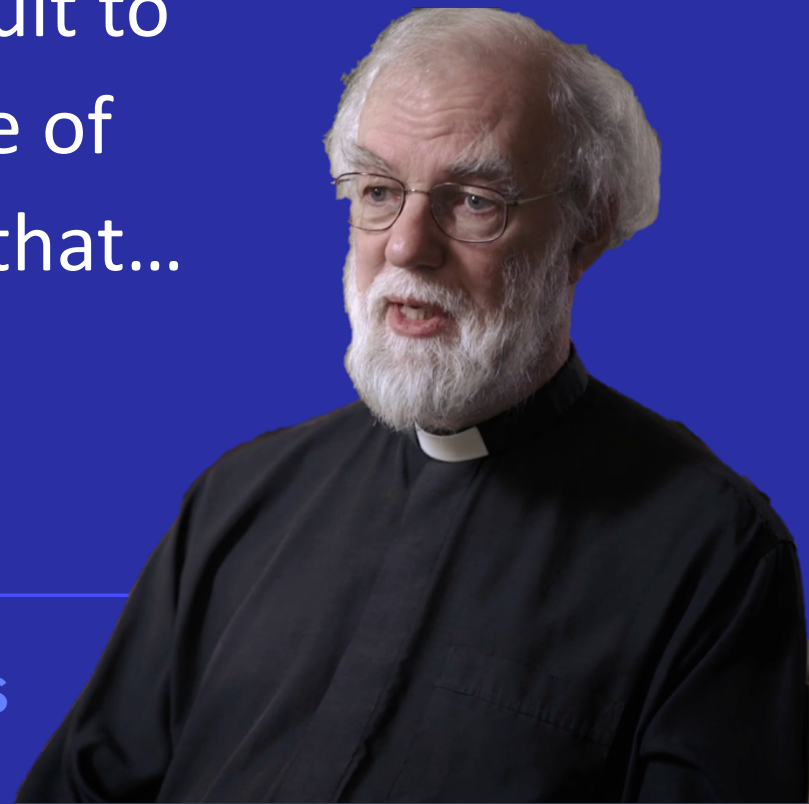
FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE on 'Compassion'

[Being made in the image of God is] …a very, very robust anchorage for human rights…

I do believe personally it's quite difficult to sustain the kind of absolute doctrine of human rights in the long run without that…



ROWAN WILLIAMS

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31 “But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will
sit upon his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he
will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will
place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

34 “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father,
inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry,
and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited
me into your home. 36 I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared
for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’

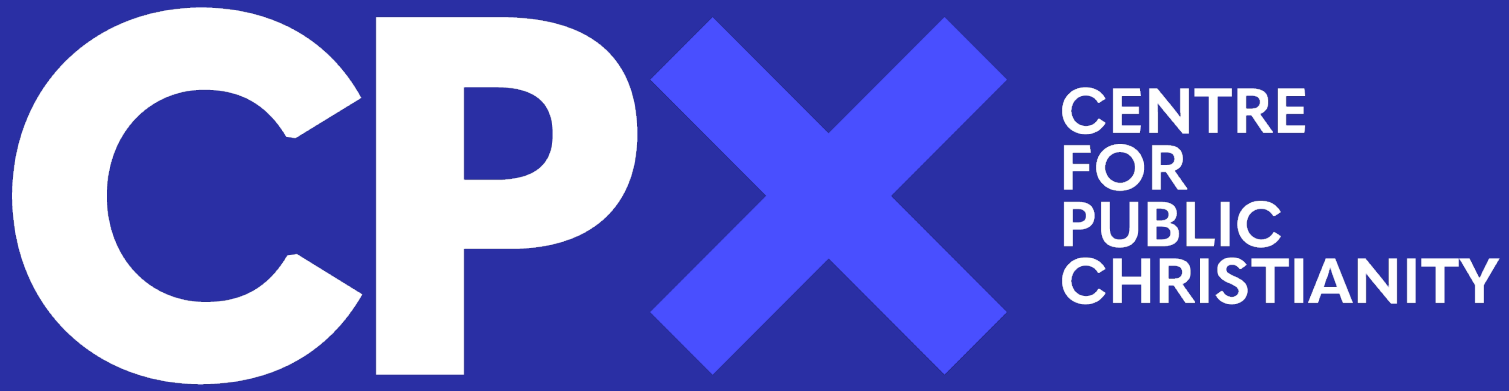
37 “Then these righteous ones will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and
feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 Or a stranger and show you
hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? 39 When did we ever see you sick or in
prison and visit you?’

40 “And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these
my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’

9 Sometimes [the tongue] praises our Lord and Father,
and sometimes it curses those who have been made
in the image of God. 10 And so blessing and cursing
come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my
brothers and sisters, this is not right!

# ANALYSE

| | How society values them | How this might be changing |
|---|---|---|
| **Children with disabilities** | | |
| **People with dementia** | | |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