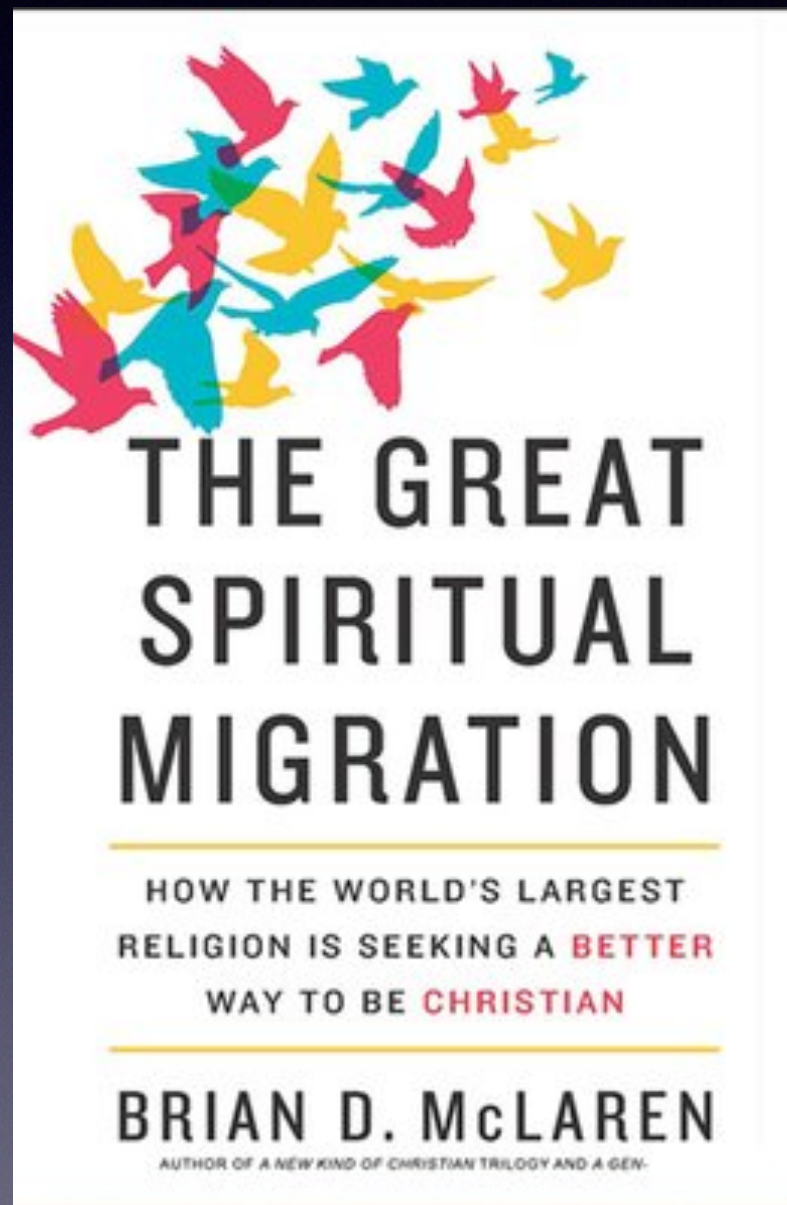


The Great Spiritual Migration



Holy Manners Bookstudy 42

ACTS
Winter 2019

St David's United Church
Calgary

Session #4

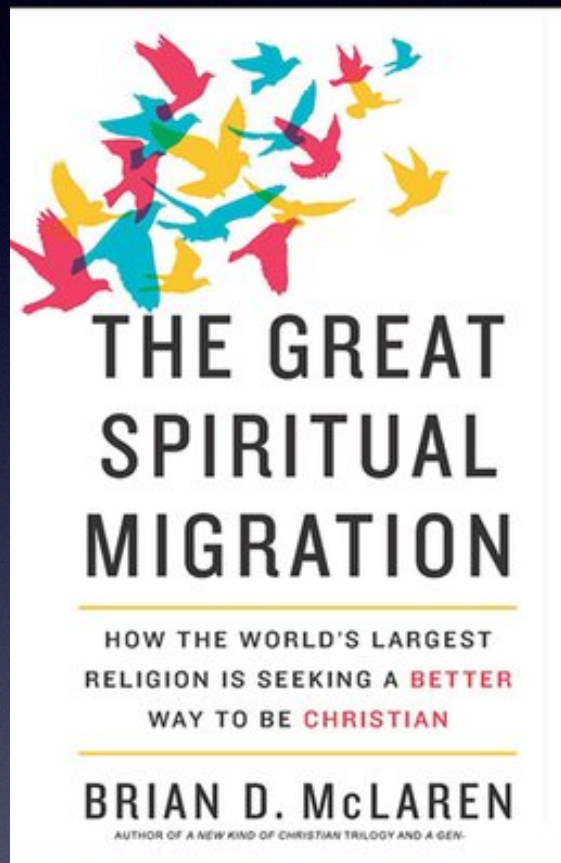
- Opening
- Welcome & Housekeeping
- Brenda - Ch 3 - Learning How to Love
- Discussion Time
- Hospitality Break
- Wayne - Ch 4 - The Genocide Card in Your Back Pocket
- Wayne - Ch 5 - God 5.0
- Discussion Time
- Closing



Opening Meditation

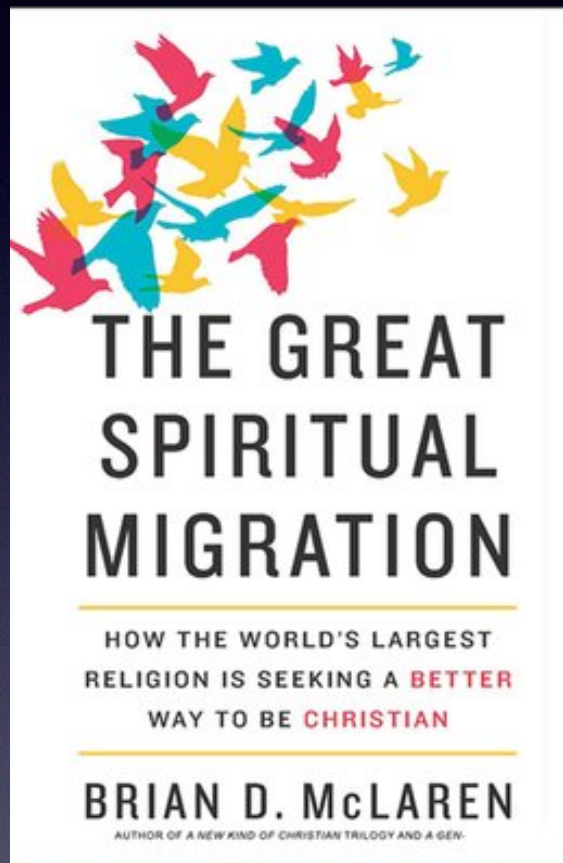
SESSION 3

Welcomes & Housekeeping



Related Themes/Persons - Webpage Links

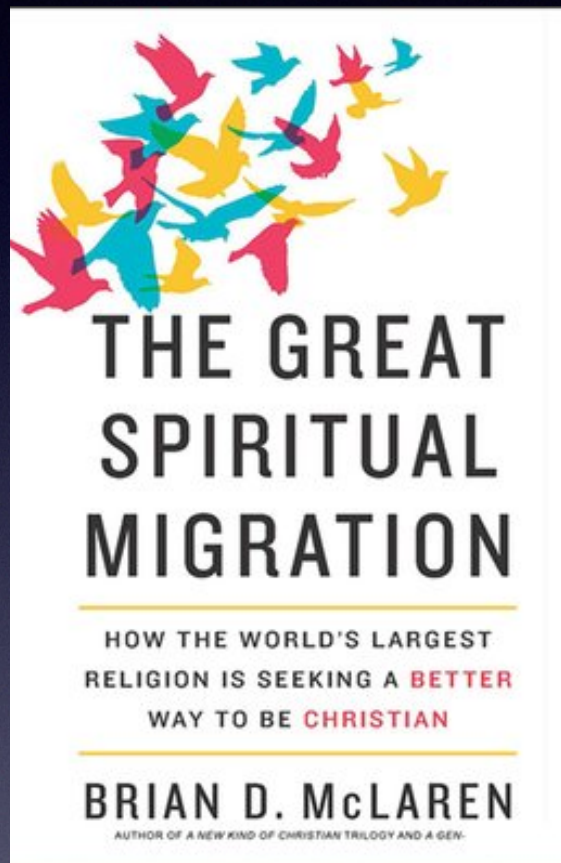
New References Pages Postings



- In the course of preparing bookclub study sessions, many incidental links and materials are reviewed that are both relevant and inspiring. They comprise more hours than available on Mondays and were shared as reference links on the original site.
- Pages will be added to the Monday night powerpoint for these additional resources, but not shown then. They can be accessed on sduc.ca for your further reference.
- This will include the notes our Toronto friend Mike sends in, and other such materials as you wish to share.

Related Themes/Persons - Webpage Links

Ch 4 - The Genocide Card in Your Back Pocket

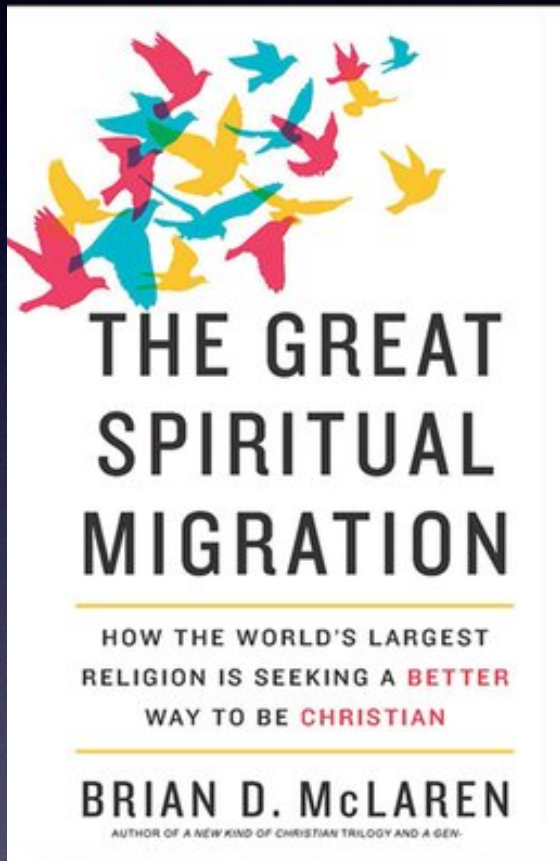


- [My Country 'Tis Of Thy People You're Dying](#). Buffy Sainte Marie, 6m47s. Saskatchewan singer. Angry song of Aboriginal/White history. "Can't you see that their poverty's profiting you."
- [You Got to Run](#). Buffy Sainte-Marie & Tanya Tagaq. Song of present native dissent. 4m. "You better hang on and hey you better run, Cause here's your chance and your race has begun"
- [I'm Not The Indian You Had In Mind](#) - Thomas King. A short film. 4m46s
- [Native American Spirituality](#) 28m49s. Montana Blackfoot spiritual leader explaining traditional and current native spirituality.
- [Native American Theology](#). 39m26s. Terry LeBlanc Lecture, with focus on differences and agreements. Professor at Regent College at UBC.
- [The Tragedy of Colonization - A NEW WAY FORWARD - 11 of 16](#). 8m33s From the 16 episodes, an interview with Terry LeBlanc

Related Themes/Persons - Webpage Links

Ch 5 - God 5.0

Beyond the conquering God of the missionaries to a God of love and non-violence.



- [Martin Luther King Jr. - On Love and Nonviolence.](#) “Love is not a weak force ... we do not sit down and do nothing ... disturbs complacency...” 2m.
- [Idle No More - Here We Go Again](#) - Lorna Dueck with Terry LeBlanc and Ray Aldred on Christian context. 6m.
- [Selections](#) from Richard Wagamese's "Embers - One Ojibway's Meditations". 12m.
- [Mark MacDonald](#), the National Indigenous Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada, sings "Amazing Grace" in Ojibway. 1m46s
- [NAITS](#) (North American Institute for Indigenous Theological Studies) Check out the website of this highly inter-linked institution of higher learning.
- [Ray Aldred on The Common Faith Story.](#) Ray Aldred is the Director of the Indigenous Studies Program at the Vancouver School of Theology. 2m12s.

Brenda presents Ch 3

Learning How to Love:

FROM BELIEFS TO FAITH

- SUSTENANCE
- ENCOURAGEMENT
- HELP IN LOVING:

- GOD
- NEIGHBOURS
- ONE'S SELF
- THE EARTH

INTENTIONAL CARE
AND
RELEVANT PRACTICES

The CHALLENGE:
to be a church, focussed on the way
of love ("the way of Jesus") which is
practised in reality

The QUESTION:
"To what kind of Church am I inviting
people through my ministry on our St.
David's website?"

friendly supportive inclusive
diverse affirming fair learning
embracing open-minded
accepting compassionate
just connecting
source of spiritual guidance
creative **loving** understanding
challenging inviting
empowering passionate
enthusiastic forward thinking
forgiving curious celebrative
nurturing & Christ infused

sduc.ca

Do we
offer a
curriculum
of love?

Ephesians 3:16-17: ...members strengthened in their inner being with power through God's Spirit, that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith, as they are being rooted and grounded in love.

SOLUTIONS:

...we are called to develop,
teach and refine a
transformative curriculum of love

We are called to passionately commit ourselves to make love our highest aim and we get organized to turn that commitment into reality through practice — in a community of practice.

We can't learn love apart from community.

Love 101

NEIGHBOUR LOVE: 101

**“ONLY THROUGH LOVING
NEIGHBOURS DO WE
PREPARE OUR HEARTS
TO LOVE GOD”**

**“CHRISTIAN LOVE
HUMANIZES “THE OTHER”
... SEEING ALL PEOPLE AS
BROTHERS, SISTERS,
NEIGHBOURS, LOVING
THEM AS OURSELVES,
STANDING WITH THEM IN
SOLIDARITY. “**

**SKILLS: common courtesy,
gratitude, admitting
weaknesses and failures,
expressing hurt or
disappointment, confronting,
forgiving, asking for help,
differing graciously (Holy
Manners), ... speaking truth to
power, asking good questions,
requesting feedback,
expressing affection, opening
one's heart, giving gifts and
seeking wise counsel.**

SELF-LOVE: LOVE 201

TRANSFORMATIVE PRACTICE OF LOVING
ONE'S SELF.

McLaren says:

“Loving yourself involves a never-ending process of self-understanding and self-acceptance through life’s ups and downs.

We say:

LOVE FOR THE EARTH: LOVE 301

- CLEAN FRESH AIR
- PURE WATER
- CARE FOR THE CLIMATE AND SOIL
- CARE FOR CONSERVATION

McLaren says:

“...each bird, tree, fish, plant, river, mountain, wetland, ocean and ecosystem is precious to the creator.

We say:

LOVE OF GOD: LOVE 401

Richard Rohr says:

“God is the event of communion” ... in (our) experience of love for neighbour, self and creation, (we) have already experienced God.”

McLaren says: (and John)

“In Love 401, ... (we) learn to inhabit God as the loving reality in which (we) ‘live and move and have our being.’”

“LOVE IS FROM GOD”

So do we “Embed Love in Meaningful Ritual at St. David’s?

- WELCOME
- PRAYER
- CONFESSION
- CREEDS
- COMMUNION
- SERMONS
- BENEDICTIONS
- OFFERING
- SONGS
- CHURCH
DESIGN
- HOLIDAYS

sduc.ca

What can we do
to better teach
our people to
love?

***A GREAT
SPIRITUAL
MIGRATION
TOWARD LOVE***

a quick tour through
sduc.ca

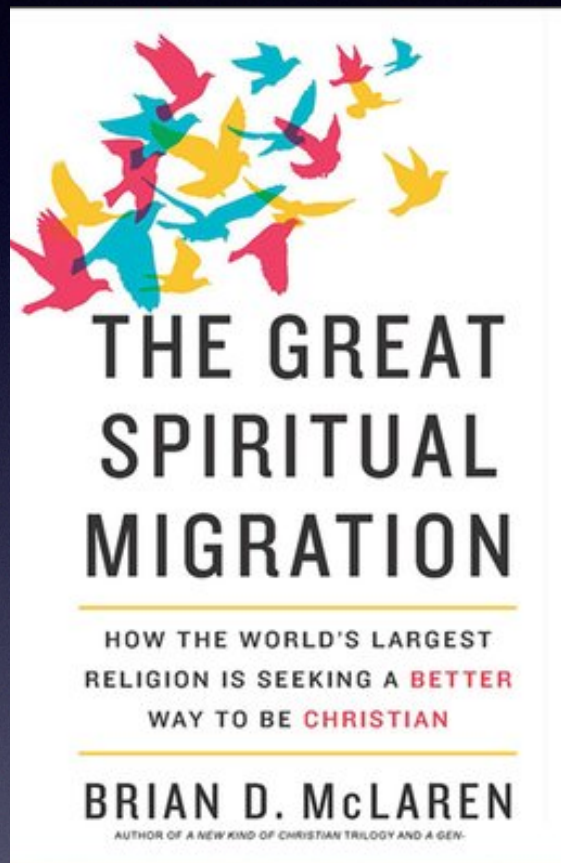
OUR WEBSITE WITNESS TO THE WORLD

BREAK





Time now. Please return.



Wayne presents Ch 4 & 5

Theme

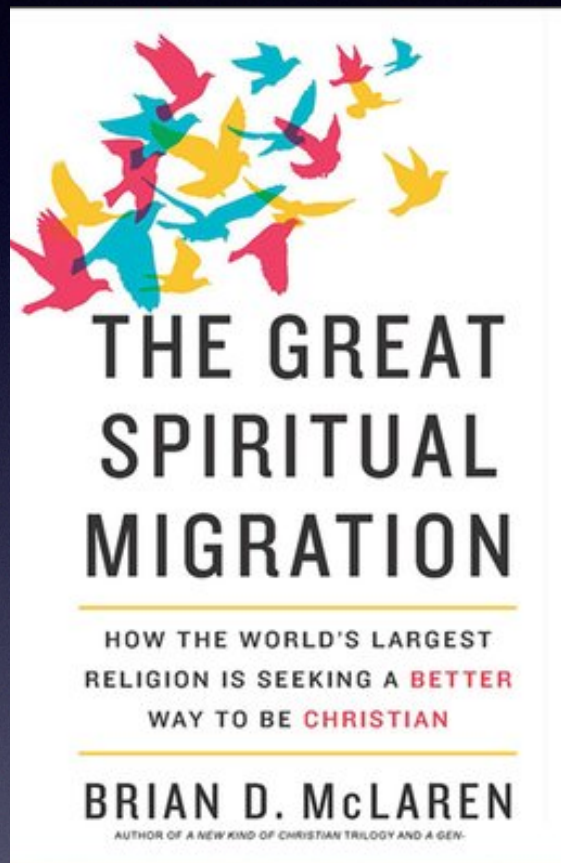
The Theological Migration from a Violent God of Domination to a Non-Non-violent God of Liberation.

Consider -

If our systems and structures are to be renewed and rebuilt, our theological framework and way of understanding God must be re-visioned and reconstructed.

We cannot contain new wine in old wineskins.





Chapters 4 and 5

- The Genocide Card in Your Back Pocket
- God 5.0

The God of Domination
a big part of our history.

Remember the hymn
"Onward Christian Soldiers?"



The Genocide Card

Our rationalization for what happened





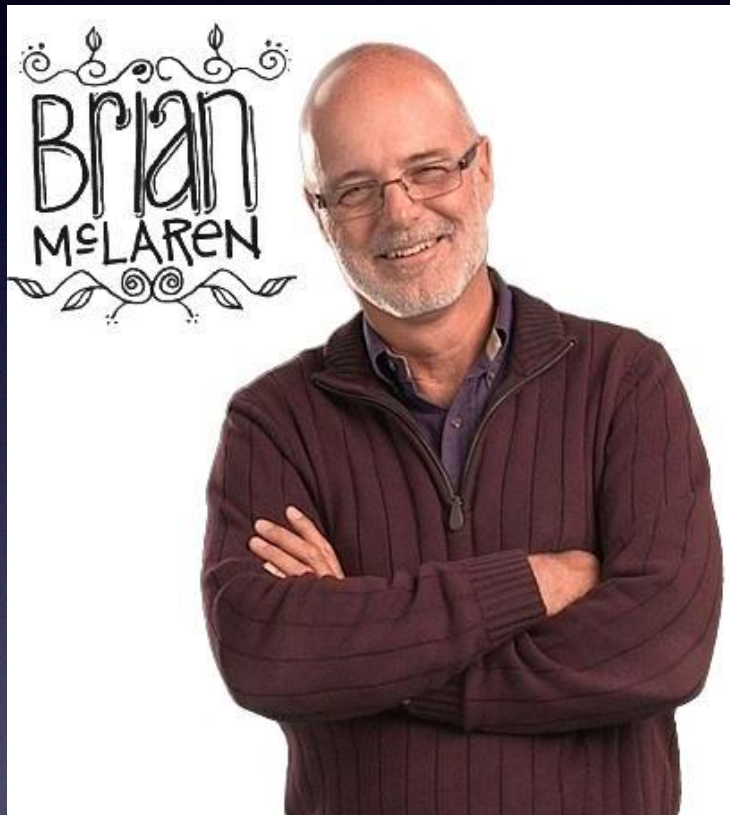
To help us move to a new understanding of God as Non-Violent, we need to approach our history with humility and honesty.

Consider four tragedies of Christian history

- The Holocaust
- The Doctrine of Discovery
- Apartheid
- Domination of Creation



McLaren says -



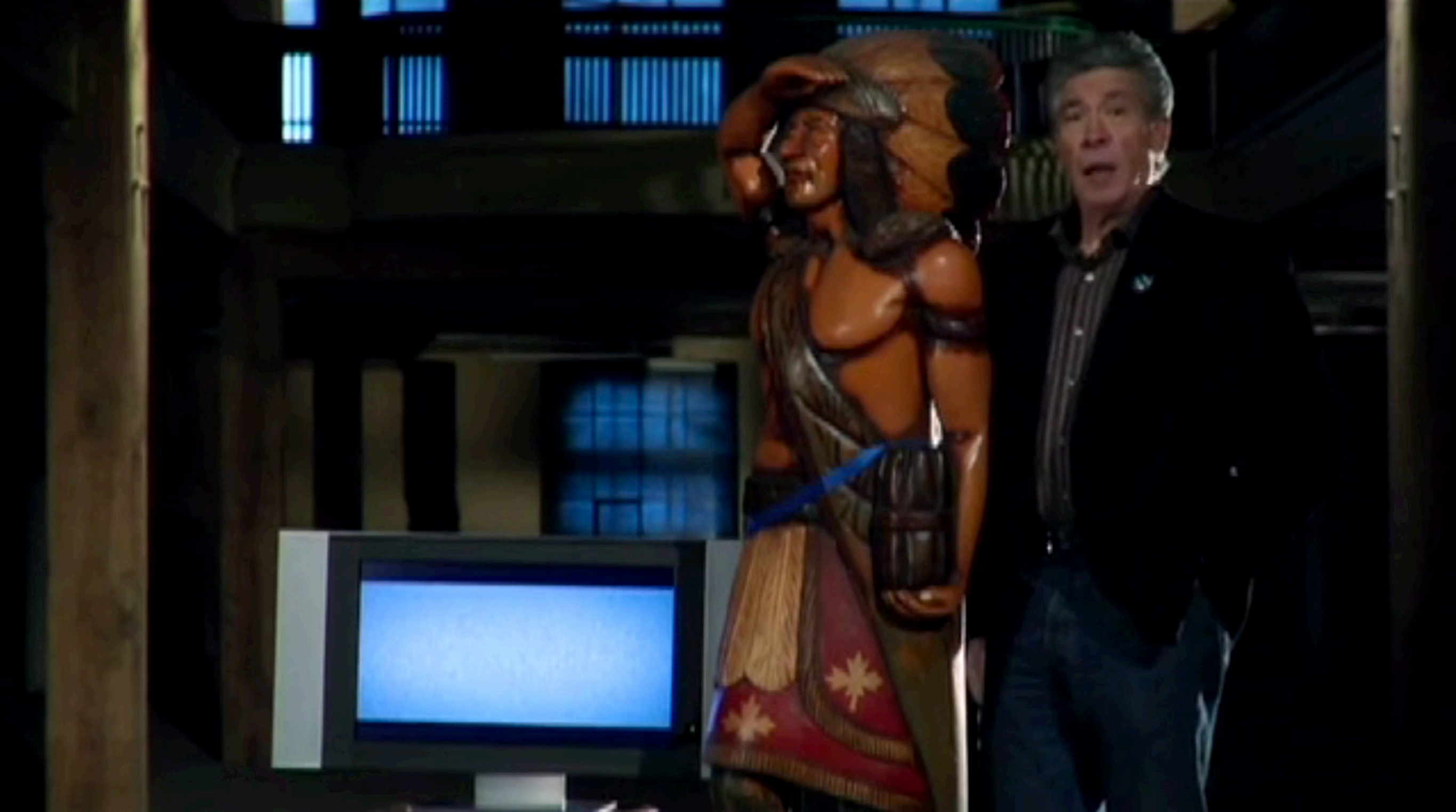
- Addressing this deadly co-mingling of racism, empire and Christianity was not the exception. It was the norm.
- All four have the same roots in evil Christian theological rationalization.
- Addressing them honestly should make us angry and very uncomfortable.(p. 88)

Explain and Discuss

Introducing Thomas King

Thomas King teaches at Guelph. He has dual citizenship in Canada and USA. Considers himself Cherokee, German and Greek. Now 75. Traveller, activist, artist, photographer, professor, broadcaster, author of 20 books. Order of Canada 2004. PhD UUtah. Active figure in AIM in his early years. Considers novels his best means of communication.

In the short film that follows, “I’m Not The Indian You Had In Mind”, he races through the turbulent history of native peoples and whites in Turtle Island, and wonders how things might have been different.

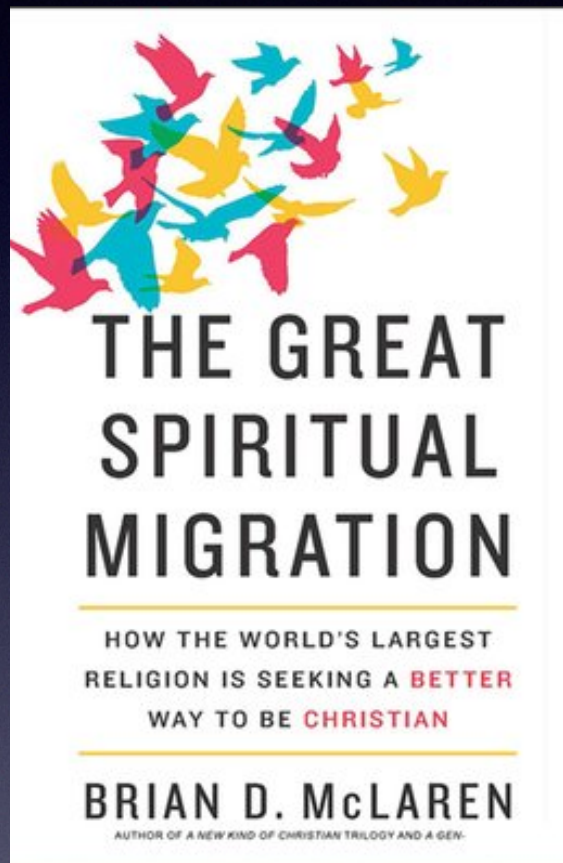


I'm Not The Indian You Had In Mind - Thomas King

4m46s

<https://www.nsi-canada.ca/2012/03/im-not-the-indian-you-had-in-mind/>

Distributor - <http://bigsoul.net/>



Wayne presents Ch 5

Beyond the conquering God of the missionaries
to a God of love and non-violence.

God 5.0

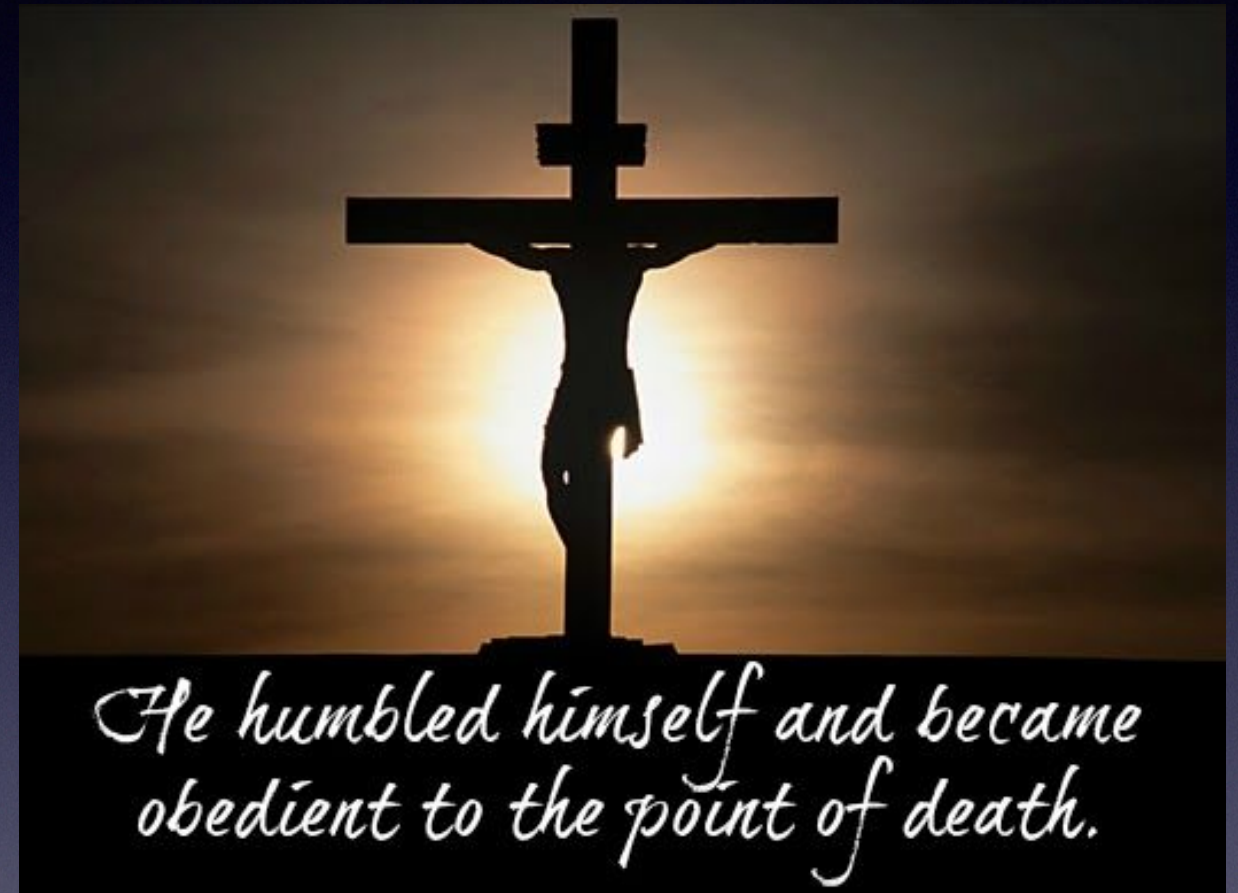
We need to replace our biased, white pro-
based understanding of God with one more
aligned with Christ.

- **Consider -**

- Christ's Humility and Greatness

- "Self-Emptying" not "Supreme"

- Read Philippians 2:6-11



- **Discuss.** Rework. Apply to now.

To follow Jesus is to change
our understanding of God.



Too often, we become stuck in a theological image that is no longer true, or workable.

So, rework and discuss -

“Onward Christian Soldiers”

Consider -



- Sometimes meaning is transmitted across cultural boundaries In spite of ourselves.
- The Gospel was communicated to the people of the First Nations and they can now sometimes share a more complete understanding of it back to us today.

Introducing Terry LeBlanc and Ray Aldred

Terry LeBlanc and Ray Aldred teach at NAIITS (North American Institute for Indigenous Theological Studies), affiliated with the Toronto School of Theology at the U of T. They are being interviewed by Lorna Dueck on the significance of the Idle No More phenomena.

These two professors and leaders are on the very cusp of the change under study in the present book by McLaren. They advise us to take a closer look at our long standing history together, and then our present opportunities. And to do this in the very context of message of Jesus.



C

TORONTO, ON



CALGARY, AB

Idle No More - Here We Go Again

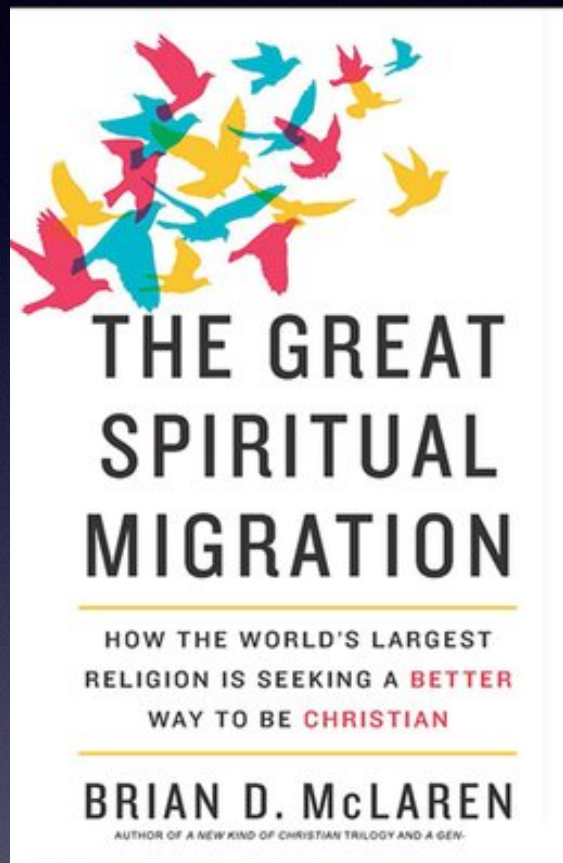
Terry LeBlanc and Ray Aldred on Christian context.

Context with Lorna Dueck - 6m16s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjnpJB422b0>

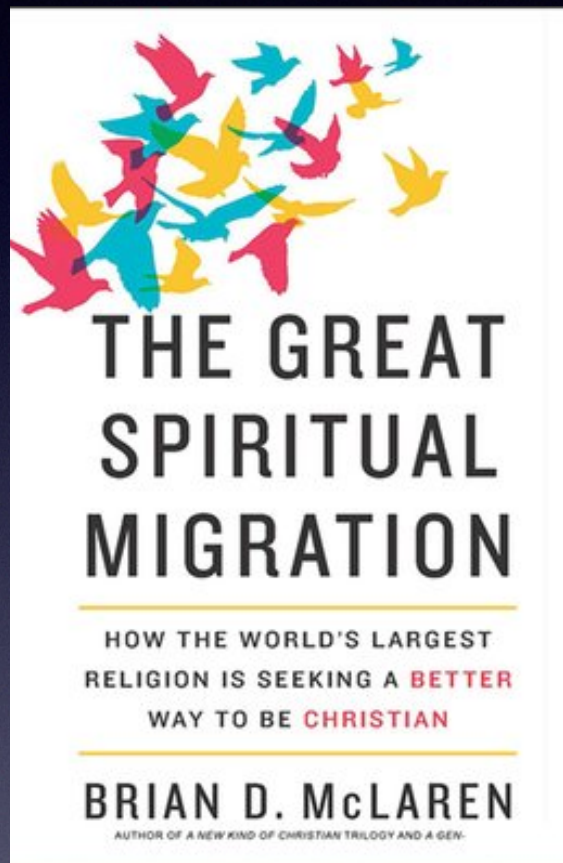
Closing Discussion

McLaren's chapter is his attempt to explain how our understanding of God evolves and grows as we mature spiritually.



Questions

- Does God remain un-changed, we only need to change to understand God?
- Does God change along with us?
- Can we change in our understanding of God without leaving our religion?
- Is atheism another kind of spiritual growth?



Concluding Thought from McLaren

“Our understandings of God must continue to grow and change not because Christianity will die if we don't, but because of its proven capacity to kill .”(p. 108)



Closing Meditation

Next Readings

Session 5 - 11 Feb 2019

Ch 6 The Bible in Labour

Ch 7 That Beautiful Romance

Study Website Postings

sduc.ca