

The Nazarene Journal

The Voice of the Ebionites

Capitalism Doesn't Sleep





'RAT RACE'

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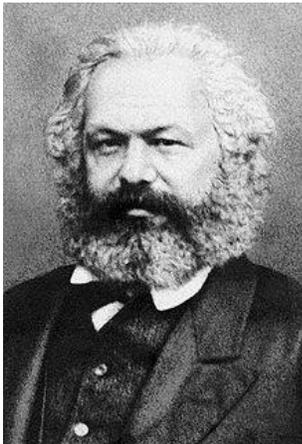
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Capitalism is an oppressive system built on free enterprise and individual rights. This deceptively suggests that this system is economically and socially progressive. Nevertheless, it benefits the selfish interests of a few, the elites of the world, and damages the welfare of everyone else.



Based on Karl Marx's theory on surplus value, a capitalist's sole interest is to make a profit, which leads to stealing value through labor and production. As a result, capitalism has led to an inequitable social system. It has widened the gap between "the haves" and the "the have nots" and propagated limitless greed for the upper echelon.

Capitalism creates disparity. The American manta, "anyone can get rich if they work hard enough," is for the most part, a fallacy. There's only so much room at the top. In order to have money,



the first step is to take it from someone else. This means that the rich cannot exist without the exploited. No matter how you look at it, there will never be equality under this system.

When resources are not evenly distributed, this leads to the wealthy having an unnecessary surplus of resources. Starvation amongst the

poor and wasted food amongst the rich is the end game. While rarely these surpluses are distributed to the poor, often this excess is squandered. Countless dollars' worth of food is wasted by those who have more than they need. Many less developed nations are famished because they cannot afford to feed themselves while the so-called starving imperialists fatten themselves at a capitalist' table.

Under a capitalist system, an anti-socialist atmosphere is created. When people are only concerned about what's in their own pocket, they will avoid helping others, as their focus is self-centered and self-serving. The value of human life depreciates in this system.

Capitalists increase their profits through the use of self-checkouts, assembly lines, automated tellers and other robotics. The need for skilled laborers decreases. In fact, one doesn't find much



direct human interaction anymore. The effects include an altered modern culture, a computerized artificial state. People would rather interact on social media than via direct contact.

Capitalists are so concerned with their margins that they are willing to cut any corners that will decrease the cost of production. This often generates environmental hazards and health and safety risks. This leads to pollution and welfare issues. It costs these corporations far less to

“pay off” the families of those who have died in manufacturing accidents in a civil lawsuit than to implement proper safety measures. Additionally, insufficient training has repeatedly resulted in injuries and even death. It should not be hard to convince people not to kill themselves, however, this is exactly what corporations do as they decline to put in action environmental measures that will cut into their profit margins.

Capitalism turns a blind eye to democracy. In a democracy, an individual has a single vote. In a “dollarocracy,” citizens have a very little influence on the actions of the government. The real impact on the government, greater than any ideology or public opinion, comes from Park Avenue. Government officials are more likely to cater to big



businesses and banks in order to meet the needs of their election campaigns. These politicians will give more weight to big media moguls

due to their influence on public opinion than the everyday protester. Therefore, we have a government that is up for sale to the highest bidder.

Some claim Karl Marx was a bitter critic for his harsh views on capitalism. Capitalism breeds exploitation, economic disparity, selfishness, hyper-competitiveness, and consumerism. It has changed the very outlook of humanity. Riches have become an important measure of status. It has led to the moral degradation of man.



Clearly, capitalism has failed to bring about moral development of man. Ethics are fading fast. Capitalism has brought detrimental effects to society. It has proven to be a curse to humanity instead of a blessing.

