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CS501
Rynkiewicz's *Soul, Self, and Society* chapter 10

Thesis: In order to be able to reach people for Christ today we need to look at their social and cultural settings in light of the mistakes that were made during the Colonial, Neocolonial, and Postcolonial time and learn from them.

Summary: In this chapter Rynkiewicz discusses the disturbing details of Colonialism and the desire to conquer, rule, and profit at the expense of others. He goes on to explain the idea behind Neocolonialism, which is really just lying about who is in control. Then Postcolonialism is what occurs when the offender can no longer take person, land, or products and instead then controls the mind.

Interaction: This was an upsetting and confusing selection to read this week. I came away from it with an assessment of “well intentioned arrogance” on the part of believers who wanted to “help” and general disgust with everyone else involved, including the believers that supported the dehumanizing treatment of Africans, Native Americans and all the other locations. Its hard to look back and play the “what if...” game, it gets you nowhere. I guess I feel angry, cold-hearted, and practical...I feel like what's done is done, what can we do to fix it going forward? There is nothing that can be done to truly recompense for what was destroyed, taken, or killed. I appreciated the ten points at the end for helping those who are distrustful of Christians. I guess I can only begin with myself and then teach it to my children.

Questions:

1. As we look back at this time frame can we say that anything good came out of this?

2. Following the ten suggestions for how Christians can be in mission with Postcolonial people, how do we actually actively spread these concepts among believers who want to help?