

Do missionaries destroy people's culture?

Missionaries sometimes are painted with a negative image because they are accused of changing the people's culture.

We do bring the light of Jesus, and when His light shines into any culture, some of it is bound to change.

People make cultures, not God. Culture may be unique and precious to us, but it is not sacred. Culture can be changed. Culture changes when the people making up that culture change.

The Gospel changes cultures collectively as well as changing people individually. Yet these changes are not forced from the outside but arise spontaneously from the inside of a people whose hearts have been made new.

There are many good things about African culture—the friendliness, hospitality, joyousness, adaptability, endurance.

The Gospel does not change any of the good points of African culture. It only frees a society from evil, destructive influences and patterns of living.

For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 NKJV