

Binghamton University

The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB)

Research Days Posters 2023

Division of Research

2023

Prosperity Gospel

Grace Chan

Binghamton University--SUNY

Follow this and additional works at: https://orb.binghamton.edu/research_days_posters_2023

Recommended Citation

Chan, Grace, "Prosperity Gospel" (2023). *Research Days Posters 2023*. 19.
https://orb.binghamton.edu/research_days_posters_2023/19

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Division of Research at The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in Research Days Posters 2023 by an authorized administrator of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact ORB@binghamton.edu.

Research Question

How has the the Protestant Church adopted American Prosperity Gospel and bridged the gap between capitalism and Christiani?

Key Belief

Adhering to the Prosperity Gospel begets health and wealth: followers will be rewarded with perfect health and material blessings.

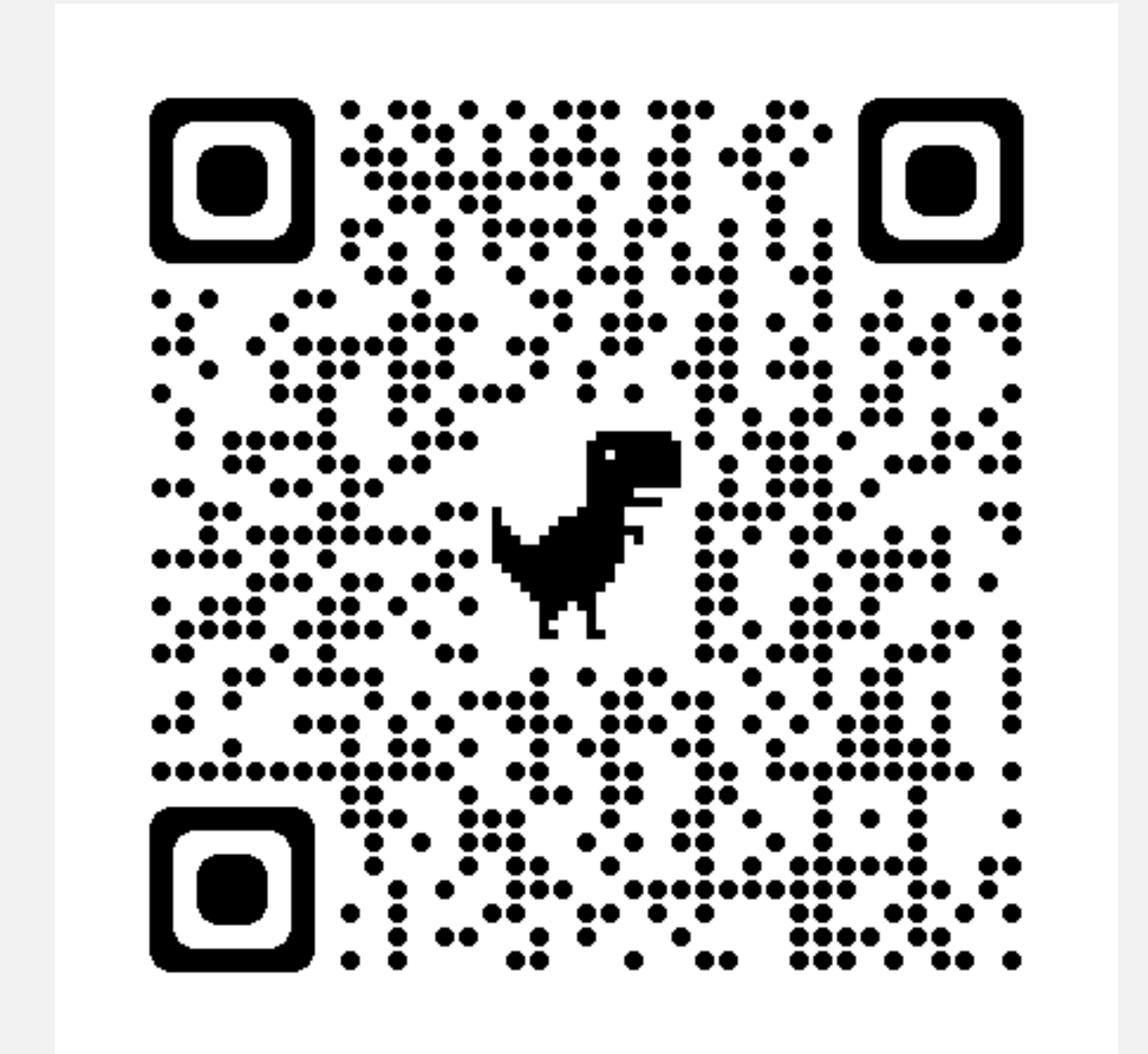
Work and Prosperity Gospel

- At the core of both capitalism and socialism is work and its role in society.
- Under capitalism, work must be exploitative to create profit.
- This fundamental truth of capitalism directly contradicts teaching of the Bible which explicitly states “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.”
-Mark 10:25
- Prosperity gospel views work as a necessary good and teaches that hard work will be rewarded.
- Wealth under the prosperity gospel is antithetical to the biblical understanding of wealth.
- Prosperity gospel encourages a capitalist mentality concerning work.

Christianity and Capitalism: Bridging the gap

- The prosperity gospel’s allure channels the American can-do attitude, that with hard work comes equal achievements.
- Americans embraced this movement.
- Millions of Christians see money, success, and health as divine and God-given through the prosperity gospel driven perspective.
- This theology appeals to American audiences of diverse backgrounds, White, African American, and Latino churches encourage it.
- It capitalizes on the natural desire for abundance and especially attracts middle class and poor people.

Abstract



Conclusion

After researching the American Prosperity Gospel, I discovered the inextricable nature of today’s Christianity and capitalism. In order to reconcile the anti-capitalist nature of the Bible with our modern consumerist world, prosperity gospel’s theology allows followers to justify their beliefs in market capitalism through tithing, prayer fulfillment and ultimately, managing the church as a business.