- *Black Panther* is loudly proposing a "third way" of CAREFUL CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT.

This is a Gospel Shadow & Pointer!

- By the Gospel, God has called us to be His DISTINCT people, the CHURCH.
- Because of and for the Gospel, we are called not to ISOLATIONISM or COLONIALISM, but to CAREFUL CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT.

3. A Strong MORAL SENSIBILITY

- *Black Panther* acknowledges the moral categories of the GOOD, the TRUE and the BEAUTIFUL.
- *Black Panther* highlights our UNIVERSAL sinfulness and sin STRUGGLE.
- *Black Panther* illustrates that the consequences of sin are PERSONAL, COMMUNAL and LONG.

This is a Gospel Shadow & Pointer!

- *Black Panther* is "BORROWING CAPITAL" from a Gospel worldview.
- There is no other "GROUNDING" for these universal truths apart from a Gospel worldview.
- These truths are the "WHY" of the Gospel.

4. A Deep Heart-Longing for a TRUE HOME and a PERFECT KING…

Reel Grace
GOSPEL SHADOWS IN TODAYS MOVIES

Gospel Shadows in *Black Panther*

1 Peter 2:9-12
Sunday, September 2, 2018

We wrap up our 2018 Reel Grace series with a look at Black Panther*, an intriguing addition to the Marvel Comics Universe.* Black Panther *reflects and points us to the Gospel in some powerful and fun ways . . .*

1. A Celebration of Cultural DIVERSITY and DISTINCTIVENESS

- This cultural diversity/distinctiveness is reflected in *Black Panther's* CAST, CHARACTERS and STORY.
- This cultural diversity/distinctiveness is part of the explanation for *Black Panther's* MASSIVE POPULARITY.

This is a Gospel Shadow & Pointer!

- God is the CREATOR of the nations and cultural diversity. (Acts 17:26)
- God SENDS US with the Good News for the salvation of the nations. (Mt. 28:18-20)
- Eternity will involve an ongoing APPRECIATION and CELEBRATION of cultural diversity. (Rev. 21:24-26)

2. A Call to Careful Cultural ENGAGEMENT

- *Black Panther* is playing with two questions:
  "WHO ARE YOU?" and "WHAT ARE YOU FOR?"
- *Black Panther* grapples with the tension between two opposite temptations:
  ISOLATIONISM COLONIALISM