

Famed 'Lord of the Rings' Star Praises Christian Roots of Western Culture

Western culture—and its roots in Judeo-Christian values—is a phenomenon worth celebrating, according to Welsh actor John Rhys-Davies.

The famed “Lord of the Rings” star recently spoke with CBN News, explaining the Western world ought to be “so proud” of the culture it has created, noting its mooring in Christian principles.

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He described the current generations as “the inheritors of one of the most glorious accomplishments that mankind has ever had,” referring to “Western, European, Judeo-Christian civilization.”

“Has it got flaws, yes,” he said. “But let’s not forget it was actually those Christians who said, ‘Slavery is morally wrong and we must get rid of it. ... We must extirpate it in the world,’ and they did so. ... Our whole democracy comes from those early Christians.”

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Speaking of Western styles of government—which, in the U.S., is a constitutional republic—Rhys-Davies credited Christians and deists with establishing the freest form of self-governance in the world.

Early believers, he said, argued, “Surely, what I believe in

and my devotion to my God must trump the emperor's insistence that I worship him." The actor explained Christians advocated for the "right of individual conscience," to "associate with people who think the way you think," the freedom "to express what you think," and the "right not to be imprisoned for your beliefs."

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