



ENGAGING
the *CULTURE*

Engaging The Culture (eBook)
You are the Light of the World ... Therefore Go and Make Disciples
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Armed Resistance

Lesson Text

Matthew 10:32–36 (AV)³² Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. ³³ But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. ³⁴ Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. ³⁶ And a man's foes *shall be* they of his own household.

Homework: Study Matthew 10:32-36

What did Jesus mean when he said he would confess or deny us before God?

Why did Jesus say he did not come to send peace? What is the Sword, and why is this terminology used?

What is the significance of the Father against Son, Mother against Daughter, Foes within one's own household?

What does it mean to engage the culture, and how do we engage it?

Introduction

Culture: the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.

Today our culture has embraces a lot of things

It has embraced a culture of immorality, sexuality, homosexuality, hooking up

It has embraced a culture of death, gun violence, abortion, homicide, suicide

It has embraced a culture of falling away, no holiness, no righteousness, no church

It has embraced a culture of false prophets, no sound doctrine, no Word of God

750K to 1Million Abortions a year (44M total); 33K Gun Deaths per year, next country is < 1K; Record STD transmission rates; 7K churches close, 1700 pastors quit every year; People especially millennials are leaving church in droves.

2 Timothy 3:1 (AV)¹ This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 Timothy 4:3 (AV)³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

A culture that wants everything without working for anything; they want the things and promises of God without the Obedience to God.

So how do we as Christians, as the Church engage this Culture?

Unfortunately, some have moved from engaging to embracing. That is become the culture to attract the culture.

We accept immorality in the church, abortion in the church, no holiness in the church, no witness, serving, or studying God's Word in the Church

We've ceased being the salt of the earth, to simply something people step on

We've ceased being the light of the world, to being a mirror image of the world.

To Engage the Culture that is antithetical to the things of God, we are not here to be embrace our culture, but engage it by resisting it.

We are not here to serve the culture with what they want, but to engage it with what they need; which is not easy, when so many are catering to their wants.

Matthew 10:³⁴ **Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.**

He did not come to conform, but to transform the world

He did not come to get along, but to bring a sword to the world

He did not come to acquiesce, capitulate, or get along with the world, but to resist.

Armed with Confession

Matthew 10:32–36 (AV)³² **Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. ³³ But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.**

Many Christians don't engage the culture because they don't engage their confession

One of our biggest challenges we have in engaging our culture is our propensity and desire to want to fit in; that is to conform to the environment around us.

Romans 12:1 (AV)¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Living out our confession is our reasonable service but too many are conforming

Romans 12:2 ² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Mark 8:38 (AV)³⁸ **Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.**

Don't Be Ashamed, Be Armed

Romans 1:¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Armed with Confession to Each Other

James 5:16 (AV)¹⁶ Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Armed with Confession of our Lord

Matthew 10:32–36 (AV)³² **Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.**

Confession gives us healing, deliverance, breakthrough, and power.

Hebrews 4:16 (AV)¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Don't be Ashamed, be Armed with your Confession.

Armed with a Sword

Matthew 10: ³⁴ **Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.**

Many Christians don't engage the culture because they don't engage their Word

They want peace without peace; peace without the Gospel of Peace, the Word

Knowledge is power, and without it, we fail ourselves and our culture

Hosea 4:6 (AV)⁶ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Don't Be Destroyed, Be Armed

The Gospel is not about getting along, it is about cutting out the Wrong.

Hebrews 4:12 (AV)¹² For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Psalms 119:11 (AV)¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Ephesians 6:14–17 (AV)¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Armed with the Word that Cuts, Word that Blesses (Blessing of the Lord), Word that Promises (All the Promises), Word that Fights and Protects (No Weapon)

Don't be Destroyed, Be Armed with the Word

Armed with Resistance

Matthew 10: ³⁵ **For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.** ³⁶ **And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.**

To Engage our Culture, we must be Armed

Armed with our Confession, to not be Ashamed

Armed with the Word, to not be Destroyed

Armed with Resistance, to not be Stopped

When we decide to Engage our Culture, Resistance will come from everywhere

Daughter will be against mother, father against son, family against family, foes from within our own home.

2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (AV)⁸ *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

Psalms 41:9 (AV)⁹ Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.

John 10:10 (AV)¹⁰ **The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**

Regardless of where it comes from, we must Resist

We must Resist the Devil

James 4: ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

We must Resist our Flesh

Romans 7:18 (AV)¹⁸ For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: ...

We must Resist our People

Psalms 69:4 (AV)⁴ They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: ...

We must Resist Hate with Love, Depression with Joy, Trouble with Peace, Impatience with Longsuffering, Meanness with Gentleness, Evil with Goodness, Fear with Faith, Arrogance with Meekness, Worry with Temperance/Sound Mind.

Give us Barabbas or Give us Jesus (Choose You This Day)

Lesson Text

Matthew 27:11–22 (AV)¹¹ And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, **Thou sayest.** ¹² And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. ¹³ Then said Pilate unto him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee? ¹⁴ And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly. ¹⁵ Now at *that* feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would. ¹⁶ And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas. ¹⁷ Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ? ¹⁸ For he knew that for envy they had delivered him. ¹⁹ When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him. ²⁰ But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. ²¹ The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas. ²² Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? *They* all say unto him, Let him be crucified.

Homework: Study Matthew 10:32-36

In addition to question from last week, answer the following

Is Confession of Sin necessary to be saved? If so, what scriptures prove this?

If not, then what is?

Introduction

Last week we started a series entitle “Engaging the Culture”, the premise being how do we as Christians engage the world that we are been placed in.

Culture: the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.

The Challenge being that our culture has embraced sexual immorality, violence, death, abortion, falling away from holiness and righteousness; church altogether.

Over 44 Million Abortions, 33K Gun Deaths per year, Political & Religions leadership without any character or core values, millennial generation that’s leaving the church in droves.

We are truly in the times that Paul said would be perilous, and people would not endure sound doctrine

Our answer to engaging this Culture last week was to Resist It.

Matthew 10:³⁴ **Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword** ³⁵ **For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.**

When the Culture has become antithetical to the things of God, we are not here to be embrace our culture, but engage it through resistance.

Today we want to look at the Choices we are to make as Christians in this Culture.

Someone said to me, Pastor when you say certain things, it offends people, and some will literally get up and leave; other won't come back.

But what we have to ask ourselves is what did Jesus do when faced with his culture

First of all, he never tried to defend himself to the prevailing culture

Secondly, he never tried to conform to the multitude of the culture

Finally, he never tried to save himself from suffering or even death.

The World, our culture, has made choice, and it is not the Choice of our Lord and Savior.

When the Governor, Pontius Pilate, said he found not fault in Jesus, he asked the people to choose Jesus, the King of the Jews, or Barabbas, a robber.

And they said give us Barabbas, and Crucify Jesus.

Barabbas represents the prevailing thought, culture, attitudes of the people.

Joshua 24:15 (AV)¹⁵ And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Choose to Defend or Offend

Matthew 27:¹¹ And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, **Thou sayest.** ¹² And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

Why do we Defend? Because we don't like being wrong!

A major reason we struggle in relationships, marriages, churches, and families, is when someone criticize, condemn or complain, we become defensive.

Now the reason why they are criticizing us, complaining about us, or condemning us is because something about us offends them.

The problem with our propensity to defend ourselves is that our assignment as Christians is offensive. Our primary assignment is to tell a lost and dying world that they are lost and dying, filled with evil, obsesses with the cares of the world.

They will defend themselves, demanding that we defend ourselves to get along

To Engage the Culture, we must Choose to Offend

Our lord and savior was offensive.

Matthew 13:57 (AV)⁵⁷ And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, **A prophet is not**

without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.

Luke 7:22–23 (AV)²² Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. ²³ And blessed is *he*, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

We must offend because the World needs to Live: blind need to see, the lame need to walk, the deaf need to hear, and the dead need to live.

Luke 4:18 (AV)¹⁸ The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

John 3:16 (AV)¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Choose to Offend so that the World Can Live.

Choose to Conform or Transform

Matthew 27: ¹⁹ When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him. ²⁰ But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.

Why do we Conform? Because we don't like being on the Wrong Side of Team!

Not only do we not like being wrong, we don't like being on the wrong side.

The Governor's wife saw the side of the Jesus, but the multitude saw the side of the world. They were presented with both, but they made the wrong choice.

Matthew 7:13–14 (AV)¹³ Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: ¹⁴ Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Since we want to be on the winning team, we assume it's the multitude, the large crowd, the culture. And so, like the multitude, we conform to them.

To Engage the Culture, we must Choose to Transform

Our Lord and Savior was Transformed

Philippians 2:6–7 (AV)⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

We must Transform because the World needs to See

Romans 12:2 (AV)² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

When we transform ourselves, we will then be able to Transform the world.

Matthew 5:14–16 (AV)¹⁴ **Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

Choose to Transform so that the World Can See

Choose to Save or Suffer

Matthew 27: ²² Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? *They* all say unto him, Let him be crucified.

To Engage the Culture

We must Chose to Offend rather than Defend

We must Chose to Transform rather than Conform

We must Chose to Suffer rather than Save

Jesus made a Choice, and that Choice was to Suffer for us

Jesus Chose to Suffer so that we could live

John 3:16 (AV)¹⁶ **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

Jesus Chose to be Wounded so we could be healed

Isaiah 53: ⁵ But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, ... bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Now we must make the same choice, to Suffer not to Save:

Luke 9: ²³ And he said to *them* all, **If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴ For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.**

Everyone is too busy trying to save their lives. Save their emotional lives, save their financial lives, save their physical lives.

Mark 4:19 (AV)¹⁹ **And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.**

Mark 8:³⁶ **For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul**

The only life that matters is our Spiritual Life.

To Engage the Culture, we must Choose to Suffer

Hebrews 11:24–25 (AV)²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; ²⁵ Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Luke 9:23–24 (AV)²³ And he said to *them* all, **If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**

We must be willing to Deny ourselves

We must be willing to Take up our Cross

We must be willing to Follow Christ

1 Peter 5:10 (AV)¹⁰ But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

Romans 8:18 (AV)¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

In Season and Out

Lesson Text:

2 Timothy 4:1–5 (AV)¹ I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. ⁵ But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

Ecclesiastes 3:1–8 (AV)¹ To every *thing there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: ² A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up *that which is* planted; ³ A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; ⁴ A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ⁵ A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶ A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; ⁷ A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ⁸ A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

Homework: Study 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, John 4:23-25

(Last Week) Is Confession of Sin necessary to be saved? If so, what scriptures prove this? If not, then what is?

What does “The Quick and The Dead” mean?

What does it mean to “Be Instant in Season and Out of Season”?

What does it mean to “Endure Sound Doctrine”?

What are Fables?

Introduction

This season is about us as Christians moving from babes who always need, to mature saints who now give and serve our community.

What does God require of us to Engage our Culture (Customs, Social Institutions, Social Groups, Nations, and People)

A Culture that has embrace immorality, violence, death, the unholy and ungodly

In our First Messing we stated that we should Resist It (Confess, Sword, Resist)

On Easter Sunday we stated we must Choose It (Give us Barabbas or Jesus)

Choose to Defend or Offend (So The World Can Live)

Choose to Conform or Transform (So The World Can See)

Choose to Save or Suffer (So The World Can Heal)

Today we want to look at our call to Preach to It

Every Christian, not just the Pastor, is called to preach to our culture, our world

Matthew 28: ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Jesus calls all to preach, and this poem from Edgar A. Guest shows us how:

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way.
The eye is a better pupil, more willing than the ear;
Fine counsel is confusing, but example is always clear,
And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds,
For to see a good put in action is what everybody needs.

I can soon learn how to do it if you will let me see it done;
I can watch your hand in action, but your tongue too fast may run.
And the lectures you deliver may be very wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lesson by observing what you do.
For I may misunderstand you and the high advice you give,
But there is no misunderstanding how you act and how you live.

Paul teaches us that it's our responsibility to preach to our culture regardless of the season; and the Writer in Ecclesiastes teaches us about those seasons.

Ecc 3:¹ To every *thing there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

The next 7 verses gives us 28 season, in 14 pairs;

Half of which we enjoy: Born, Heal, Laugh, Dance

And Half of which we do not enjoy: Die, Break, Weep, Mourn

2 Timothy 4: ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

“Be Instant In Season and Out” is translated, “Always be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not”

“In Season” is the times of our lives when everything is going well, everyone likes us, everything we do prospers; Family, Job, Ministry, ...

But the other half of our life is “Out of Season”: Nothing works, Trouble on every side, when we get out we get pulled back in, people leaves us when we need them the most.

Our assignment as Christians is to be Instant, Prepared to Embrace our Culture through preaching, whether the times are favorable or not!

Today we want to look at Preaching to our Culture from 3 perspectives: Worshiping In Season and Out, Witnessing In Season and Out, Praising In Season and Out

Worshiping In Season and Out

The first way we Preach to this culture is through our Worship

John 4:²³ **But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.**

Worship is done both in Spirit, and in Truth!

In Season Worship is about the Spirit; What you Feel!

One of the greatest feelings we experience is when the Holy Spirit comes upon us and we touch the very presence of God. We become overwhelmed with his Spirit.

Worship becomes a Joy as the gifts he's placed in you are activated to do what he's called you to do. Singer, Preacher, Administrator, Teacher, Youth Leader...

Jeremiah 1:5 (AV)⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

And then the Joy goes to another level when not only are you "In Season"; but those you're called to are "In Season" to receiving your calling.

Out of Season Worship is about the Truth; What you Know!

But then there're the times when we're not feeling anything. Prayers seem to be bouncing off the ceiling, you don't have that joy, you become sick and tired of it.

Not only that, but the people you are called to serve are not cooperating, unappreciative, not receptive; you see no results of your worship and labor.

This is when your worship has to go from what you feel in the spirit, to what you know in your heart.

John 4: ²⁴ **God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**

Job after all he'd loss and experience said in Job 19:25, I know my redeemer lives

Now you're not worshiping God for what you feel, but for what you know.

Psalms 119:11 (AV)¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Worship In Season with God's Spirit, and Out of Season with God's Word

Witnessing In Season and Out

The next way we Preach to this culture is through our Witness

Romans 8:18 (AV)¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

A Witness is a person who gives account of an event; it can be a Glorious event, but it can also be an event of Suffering and Disheartening.

In Season Witness is about Glory, when God demonstrates his power to the World

When people say, “You really preached, or really song, or really ministered”, what is our typical response? “To God be the Glory!”

When we are operating in our Gifts, our worship Glorifies God to the world.

We become a witness of his Glory.

John 9:2–3 (AV)² And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? ³ Jesus answered, **Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.**

Out of Season Witness is about Suffering, when God proves his power through us

This is the season when we are troubled on every side, the season when many are the afflictions of the righteous, the season when we feel like God has cause men to ride over our heads, taking us through the fire and the water.

This is the season when those around us expect us to give up, quit, leave, go back.

It is during this season that our Witness is not about showing Glory, but demonstrating God’s Power to keep us.

Jude 24 (AV)²⁴ Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,...

Witness In Season with God Glory, and out of Season with God’s Power

Praising In Season and Out

The final way we Preach to this culture is through our Praise

Hebrews 13:15 (AV)¹⁵ By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name.

In Season Praise is about Rejoicing

When we’re in our “In Season” we just have so much to thank God for.

“When I think of the Goodness of Jesus, and all that he’s don’t for me, I can dance, dance, dance, dance, dance all night”

Our Worship is “In Season” as we operate in our gifting

Our Witness is “In Season” as we glorify God

Our Praise is “In Season”; We Rejoice with a Shabach Praise, a Halal Praise, a Barak Praise; we sing to about our God, boast in our God, rejoice in our God.

Out of Season Praise is about Sacrifice

But then there is another praise for when we are “Out of Season”; a praise when you don’t feel like praising.

Hebrews 13:15 (AV)¹⁵ By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name.

It is preaching to this culture that I can offer God a praise no matter what happens.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (AV)¹⁸ In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Psalm 34:1–3 (AV)¹ I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.
² My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad. ³ O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

A Time For Judgement

Lesson Text

Matthew 7:1–5 (AV)¹ Judge not, that ye be not judged. ² For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. ³ And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? ⁴ Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam *is* in thine own eye? ⁵ Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Matthew 7:16–20 (AV)¹⁶ Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? ¹⁷ Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. ²⁰ Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Homework: Study Matthew 7:1-5, 16-20; Matthew 12:32-37; 1 Corinthians 6:1-4

How would or should you respond to Same Sex Marriage?

Are we to Judge or not? (Matt 7:1, 1 Cor 6:2)

What's the Fruit we are to be known for? (Matt 7:16)

Introduction

Engaging the Culture (Customs, Social Institutions, Social Groups, Nations, and People), is about how we as Christians impact and influence our society

So far we've looked at Armed Resistance, Give us Jesus or Barabbas, and lastly "In Season or Out (Worshiping, Witnessing, Praising)

Today we want to look at Judging

Last week when we published a promotion of our Marriage Retreat on Facebook, someone asked, "Are Same Sex Couples Welcomed?"

My Response was,

Thank you for the Question, but No! [My Marriage University](#) is a Christian based organization that teaches marital principles based on the Word of God and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 7: 2 Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

The bible is clear on this point that the Husband is a Man, and the Wife is a Woman who were both designed for each other for three basic purposes:

Communication - To Become One

Procreation - To Reproduce

Recreation - To Enjoy Each Other

Some of the responses were fierce, In addition to calling us shameful, don't quote scripture, aren't wheat and tares supposed to grow together, the bible teaches us to catch the fish, Jesus is supposed to clean them.

But the following responses is what particularly struck me, "Stop being Judgmental, Love without Judgement, Christians are too Hypocritical"

Definition of Judgement: the ability to judge, make a decision, or form an opinion objectively, authoritatively, and wisely, especially in matters affecting action; good sense; discretion

Definition of Judgmental: involving the use or exercise of judgment; tending to make moral judgments

And so our message today in keeping with "Engaging the Culture" answers the question of Should Christians Judge? Are we to Judge or be Judgmental?

Matthew 7:¹ **Judge not, that ye be not judged.**

To *judge* hear means "to decide, to distinguish, to condemn, or to avenge". These verses do not mean that a child of God is forbidden to judge others, but it does mean that we are not to judge the inward motives of others.

Man looks at the outward appearance, but only God knows the heart.

We may not know what motivations were in a person heart that led to sin, but according to God's Word they did sin.

Matthew 7: ¹⁶ **Ye shall know them by their fruits. ...** ¹⁷ **Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.**

1 Corinthians 6:2 (AV)² Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

1 Peter 4:17 (AV)¹⁷ For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it* first *begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?

A Time For Judging The Ground (Our Heart)

Matthew 7:1 (AV)¹ **Judge not, that ye be not judged.**

The First thing we Judge is the ground that the tree is planted in; that is the heart!

People are quick to tell us, don't judge me; don't be judgmental.

When Jesus says in our lesson text to Judge not, he is not saying we do not Judge, he is saying that we are not to be judgmental concerning the motives of the heart.

Motives deal with reasons, causes, or motivations of a person's behavior.

Matthew 7: ³ *And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?*

We become hypocrites when we judge the motives of others and our hearts aren't clean

Matthew 7: ⁵ *Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.*

The Time to Judge The Ground (The Heart), is when our Ground is Good Ground

Mark 4:8 (AV)⁸ *And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred.*

There are four grounds listed in Marks Gospel; Wayside Ground (Hard Hearts); Stony Ground (Shallow Hearts); Thorny Ground (Crowded Hearts); and Good Ground (Clean Hearts)

John 15:3 (AV)³ *Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.*

Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart, so we need the word of God to cleans our hearts, so we can judge.

We Judge Wayside Ground or Hard Hearts by using our anointing to break up fallow or hard ground, and destroys yokes.

We Judge Stony Ground or Shallow Hearts by using the fruit of the Spirit which give us Love for hate, Joy for Depression, Peace for Trouble, ...

We Judge Thorny Ground or Crowded Hearts by using God's Holiness, come out from among them and be ye holy for I am holy says the Lord.

The Time To Judge the Ground is when our Heart is Cleansed with the Word

The Time For Judging The Tree (Ourselves)

Matthew 7: ¹⁶ *Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?*
¹⁷ *Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.*

The next thing we Judge is what the tree produces; that is our Fruit!

It is the word that judges our heart, but it is the fruit that judges ourselves.

There's a saying, "You can fool some of the people all the time, you can fool all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time"

The reason is because eventually your tree will bear fruit.

If you're good, your fruit will tell us; and if you're corrupt, your fruit will tell us.

The Time to Judge The Tree (Ourselves), is when the Fruit Shows Up

You can't always judge what people say, because it may be a lie.

You can't always judge what people do, because it may be fake

You can't always judge what you feel, because your heart is deceitful and wicked

Sometimes a corrupt tree looks good; and sometimes a good tree looks evil, but you shall now know them by their looks, but by their fruit.

Matthew 7: ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit... ²⁰ Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

The Time To Judge the Tree is when we bring forth fruit

The Time For Judging the Fruit (Our Reward)

Revelation 22:12 (AV)¹² And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

The final thing that's judged is the Reward of our Fruit

Galatians 6:⁷ Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. ⁸ For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

You May Build - A Cathedral - Large Or Small

You May Build - A Skyscraper Grand Or Tall

You May Conquer - All The Failures - Of Your Past

But Only - What You Do - For Christ Will Last

Galatians 6:⁹ And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Romans 8:18 (AV)¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Lord Open Our Eyes (Are Your Spiritually “WOKE”?)

Lesson Text

2 Kings 6:8–17 (AV)⁸ Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place *shall be* my camp. ⁹ And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down. ¹⁰ And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice. ¹¹ Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us *is* for the king of Israel? ¹² And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that *is* in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber. ¹³ And he said, Go and spy where he *is*, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, *he is* in Dothan. ¹⁴ Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about. ¹⁵ And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? ¹⁶ And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them. ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

Homework: Study 2 Kings 6:8-17, Matt 24:11-12

According to Matthew 24:11-12, Why are false prophets able to deceive many?

What does it mean to have spiritually open eyes?

What are the things that prevent our eyes from being spiritually open?

How does seeing spiritually impact our ability to engage the culture?

Introduction

Engaging the Culture (Customs, Social Institutions, Social Groups, Nations, and People), is about how we as Christians impact and influence our society

Our Culture, Society, and World is being devastated all around us; and the question is does those of us who are called to save it, see what’s going on?

When it comes to social issues, specifically those impacting our community; our cultural and political figures recently stated using the term “WOKE”

It’s a reference to how people are or are not aware of what’s going on. While people are obsessing with the Kardashians, Kanye West, Snoop Dog, and other things that don’t matter; A million of our black boys are been incarcerated, our community is being exterminated through abortion, are young men are being shot and killed, our communities are infested with drugs and homelessness, ...!

Becoming “WOKE” is like being in the Matrix and taking the red pill. You get a sudden understanding of what's really going on and find out you were wrong about much of what you understood to be truth.

And so in our culture, they want to know are you Woke concerning “Black Lives Matter”, Woke concerning “ME TOO”, Woke about Institutionalized Racism and Incarceration, Woke regarding political, financial, and social injustices!

Now even if we do become WOKE concerning all these issues at a natural level; Jesus said, in Mark 8: ³⁶For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

The Question we have to ask ourselves as the Church is not are we socially, financially, or politically WOKE, **But Are We Spiritually WOKE?**

Can we see what the enemy is doing? Can we see what we are called to do? And Can we see what God is doing? Are We Spiritually Woke?

2 Kings 6: ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see...

Are You WOKE From Iniquity?

Our key to being Spiritually Woke is seeing what the enemy is doing before he does it!

2 Kings 6: ⁸ Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place *shall be* my camp. ⁹ And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down.

Too Many Christians are Asleep with Iniquity

Iniquity is Immorality, Wickedness, Vices, Injustice, Sin

Matthew 24:11–12 (AV) ¹¹ And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. ¹² And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Many of us been deceived in relationships, tricked out of money, backstabbed on the job, hoodwinked, misled, swindled, cheated, double-crossed, and betrayed.

But what's worse than these deceptions is when we're deceived spiritually.

Our world is being devoured spiritually, and the church is asleep.

We're sleep because of iniquity, we're sleep because of sin. We may be saved, but we can't see the enemy because iniquity is abounding.

2 Corinth 2: ¹¹ Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

1 Peter 5:8 (AV) ⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Lord Open Our Eyes From Iniquity, So We Can See The Enemy

Proverbs 15:3 (AV) ³ The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

The enemy may have a plot to deceive you, but God has a plan to keep you.

The key to getting to that place in God where we see what he sees is to free ourselves from sin and iniquity.

Hebrews 12:1 (AV)¹ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2 Corinthians 10:4 (AV)⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Now we can See the enemy trying to destroy our children, see him laying wait for our spouse, see him plotting against our brothers and sisters in the Lord

“Wake up from Iniquity, So You can See the Enemy”

Are You WOKE from Fear?

The next key to being Spiritually Woke is seeing what God has placed in you and around you.

2 Kings 6: ¹⁵ And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? ¹⁶ And he answered Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them.

Too Many Christians are Asleep with Fear

Just like God has given us all a measure of Faith, we also have a measure of fear that is natural. Some of us have Arachnophobia: the fear of spiders; Agoraphobia: the fear of open or crowded spaces; Ophidiophobia: The fear of snakes; Acrophobia: The fear of heights; Cynophobia: The fear of dogs.

But what the enemy wants to do is overwhelm our fears until they impact us Spiritually. This Spirit of fear then keeps you from our calling.

The enemy uses overwhelming numbers to create the “dear in the headlights” or Spirit of Fear Syndrome.

2 Kings 6: ¹⁵ ... behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

For some of us, he overwhelms us with adversaries, other with the fear of failure, and yet for others it may be troubles, anxiety, strongholds, depression; all with the ultimate goal of producing the Spirit of Fear.

Lord Open Our Eyes from Fear, So we can See Our Power

2 Timothy 1:7 (AV)⁷ For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

When I spoke out against Same Sex Marriage, the World threaten to boycott our

marriage retreat. This is how the enemy tries to make us afraid.

2 Kings 6:¹⁶..he answered Fear not for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them

And the key to seeing that what's in us is greater, and who's with us is greater, is stirring up what's in us.

2 Timothy 1:6 (AV)⁶ Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

1 John 4:4 (AV)⁴ Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Philippians 4:13 (AV)¹³ I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Now we can See Our Power, Our Anointing, Our Blessings, and Our Help.

“Wake up from Fear, So You can See your Power”

Are You Woke From The Flesh?

2 Kings 6: ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

To Be Spiritually Woke

We must be Woke from Iniquity, So we can See the Enemy

We must be Woke from Fear, So we can See Our Power

Finally we must be Woke from the Flesh, So we can See Our God

Too many people the deception of the enemy, miss the power within them, miss their opportunity, miss their calling, and miss their blessing because that can't see God.

And they can't see God because of their flesh!

Romans 7:18 (AV)¹⁸ For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

When I would do Good, Evil is present with me, and I can't See

But when you get out of the Flesh, out of Self, out of the Carnal, and out of the World; and get in the Spirit then you can See God, and See What God is Doing!

Zechariah 4: ⁶ This *is* the word ..., saying, Not by might (human reasoning), nor by power (human ability), but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

When you get out of the Flesh, and in the Spirit you see what the Spirit sees

John 4:23–24 (AV)²³ **But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. ²⁴ God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**

The Singer Dorothy Norwood said, "I See God, Working It Out For You"!

The Singer Shirley Caesar said, "He's Working It Out For You"!

Now I like those songs, but they were all ways third person, somebody else was seeing God. But I like the song the Church Mothers use to Sing:

"I See God Working It Out For Me"

I see God working out my trouble, I see God working out my struggle

I see God working out my money, I see God working out my career

I see God working out my marriage, I see God working out my Children

Is There Not A Cause?

Lesson Text

1 Samuel 17:1–4 (AV)¹ Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which *belongeth* to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim. ² And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines. ³ And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and *there was* a valley between them. ⁴ And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and a span. ***(9 feet and 9 inches)***

1 Samuel 17:10–11 (AV)¹⁰ And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together. ¹¹ When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

1 Samuel 17:24–26 (AV)²⁴ And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. ²⁵ And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, *that* the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel. ²⁶ And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who *is* this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

1 Samuel 17:27–29 (AV)²⁷ And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him. ²⁸ And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle. ²⁹ And David said, What have I now done? *Is there* not a cause?

Homework: Study 1 Samuel 17:1-29, Acts 17:28, Jude 1:3, Mark 8:35

What is the difference between Living for a “Need” vs. a “Cause”?

What does 1 Samuel teach us about the enemies approach to God's people?

What should we be willing to Live for, Fight for, and Die for?

Introduction

As we continue in our Series Engaging the Culture, the next thing I want us to consider is why are we here in the Culture?

Why are we here in a time such as this? What the meaning or purpose? What are we seeking after?

Some people are here to get all they can; and can all they get!

Mark 8:36 (AV)³⁶ **For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?**

Other are here to fulfill their need! Their need for love, importance, fulfillment!

Philippians 4:19 (AV)¹⁹ But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

And yet others are here to fight for what's theirs or what they want to be theirs!

James 4: ²Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

David's asks a poignant question that I want us to consider as we Engage this Culture.

He's accused of having ulterior motives, of selfishness, and of pride for engaging his culture; just as we will in engaging ours!

1 Samuel 17: ²⁹ And David said, What have I now done? *Is there* not a cause?

Are we simply here for our needs and desires, or is there not a greater cause!

We all have needs: Church, Marriage, Relationships, Money, meets needs, but...

Is There Not A Cause To Live For?

1 Samuel 17: ²⁵ And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, *that* the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

Most people live for the wrong reasons.

They live for their needs; spending a lifetime seeking to satisfy and meet them.

They need love, fulfillment, purpose, desires, cares, importance, and recognition.

They seek to satisfy these needs through people, places, things, careers, and more.

People will spend a lifetime living for the next promotion, next increase, next friend, next lover, next house, next car, next opportunity, and even next ministry

Matthew 16:26 (AV)²⁶ **For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**

Although we may experience and even enjoy these things while live, in and of themselves, they are all the wrong reason to live.

The Cause to Live for is Christ

Acts 17:28 (AV)²⁸ For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Living for people, things, wealth, recognition, or promotion is no reason to live primarily because it's not why we were created.

Song - Only What you Do for Christ will Last:

“You may build great cathedrals large or small, you can build skyscrapers grand and tall, you may conquer all the failures of the past, but only what you do for Christ will last.”

Song - Without him I could do nothing:

“Without Him I could do nothing, Without Him I’d surely fail, Without Him I would be drifting, Like a ship without a sail”

“Is There Not A Cause? Yes, Live is Christ”

Is There Not A Cause To Fight For?

1 Samuel 17:10–11 (AV)¹⁰ And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together. ¹¹ When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

Most people fight for the wrong things

Not only do we live for the wrong reasons (our needs), but we fight for the wrong reasons (our desires).

James 4:1–2 (AV)¹ From whence *come* wars and fightings among you? *come they* not hence, *even* of your lusts that war in your members? ² Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

People fight of the things that they desire, or over a threat to the things they have.

The problem is that this fight will only lead to death!

1 John 2:16 (AV)¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

James 1:15 (AV)¹⁵ Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Mark 4:19 (AV)¹⁹ **And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.**

The Cause to Fight for is Faith

Jude 1:3 (AV)³ ... and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Jude 1:3 (NLT)³ ... urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people.

2 Corinthians 5:7 (AV)⁷ (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

1 Timothy 6:12 (AV)¹² Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

“Is There Not A Cause? Yes, Fight For Your Faith”

Is There Not A Cause To Die For?

1 Samuel 17: ²⁹ And David said, What have I now done? *Is there* not a cause?

David asked his brothers and Israel, and now asks the Church, “Is There Not A Cause?”

Is there not a cause to live for? Yes, Live for Christ

Is there not a cause to fight for? Yes, Fight for Faith

Finally is there not a cause to die for?

The truth is that most people are not willing to die for anything. They will do everything they can to save their lives.

Romans 5:7 (AV)⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

John 15: ¹³ **Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.**

The Cause to Die for is The Gospel

Mark 8:35 (AV)³⁵ **For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.**

Romans 14:8 (AV)⁸ For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Job 13:15 (AV)¹⁵ Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.

2 Corinthians 5:8 (AV)⁸ We are confident, *I say*, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Thank You

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