

Armed Resistance

Engaging The Culture

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- I. Previous Series: Going Forward
 - A. Exodus 14:¹⁵ And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:
 - B. Failing Forward, Born to Go Forward, Wealthy Place, After the Purge I & II, Pursue
 - C. Subject: Pursue and Go Forward (You Shall Surely Recover All)
 - 1. We must Pursue the Joy of the Lord to Overcome Sorrow
 - 2. We must Pursue the Courage in the Lord to Overcome Distress
 - 3. We must Pursue Faith in the Lord to Overcome Fear
- II. Homework: Study Matthew 10:32-36
 - A. What did Jesus mean when he said he would confess or deny us before God?
 - B. Why did Jesus say he did not come to send peace? What is the Sword, and why is this terminology used?
 - C. What is the significance of the Father against Son, Mother against Daughter, Foes within one's own household?
 - D. What does it mean to engage the culture, and how do we engage it?
- III. Text
 - A. 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.
- IV. Subject: Engaging The Culture: Armed Resistance
 - A. Culture: the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.
 - B. Today our culture has embraced a lot of things
 - 1. It has embraced a culture of immorality, sexuality, homosexuality, hooking up
 - 2. It has embraced a culture of death, gun violence, abortion, homicide, suicide
 - 3. It has embraced a culture of falling away, no holiness, no righteousness, no church
 - 4. It has embraced a culture of false prophets, no sound doctrine, no Word of God
 - 5. 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.
 - 6. 2 Timothy 3:1 (AV)¹ This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
 - 7. 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;
 - C. A culture that wants everything without working for anything; they want the things and promises of God without the Obedience to God.
 - D. So how do we as Christians, as the Church engage this Culture?
 - 1. Unfortunately, some have moved from engaging to embracing. That is become the culture to attract the culture.
 - 2. 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
 - 3. We've ceased being the salt of the earth, to simply something people step on

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4. We've ceased being the light of the world, to being a mirror image of the world.
- E. 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.
 1. 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.
 2. Matthew 10:³⁴ **Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.**
 3. He did not come to conform, but to transform the world
 4. He did not come to get along, but to bring a sword to the world
 5. He did not come to acquiesce, capitulate, or get along with the world, but to resist.
- F. Series: Engaging The Culture; Subject: Armed Resistance
- V. Armed with Confession
 - A. 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.**
 - B. Many Christians don't engage the culture because they don't engage their confession
 1. 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.
 2. 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.
 3. Living out our confession is our reasonable service but too many are conforming
 4. 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.
 5. 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.**
 - C. Don't Be Ashamed, Be Armed
 1. 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.
 2. Armed with Confession to Each Other
 - a. 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.
 3. Armed with Confession of our Lord
 - a. 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.**
 4. Confession gives us healing, deliverance, breakthrough, and power.
 5. 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.
 - D. Don't be Ashamed, be Armed with your Confession.
- VI. Armed with a Sword
 - A. Matthew 10: ³⁴ **Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.**
 - B. Many Christians don't engage the culture because they don't engage their Word
 1. They want peace without peace; peace without the Gospel of Peace, the Word

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2. Knowledge is power, and without it, we fail ourselves and our culture
3. 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.

C. Don't Be Destroyed, Be Armed

1. The Gospel is not about getting along, it is about cutting out the Wrong.
2. 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.
3. Psalm 119:11 (AV)¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
4. 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:
5. Armed with the Word that Cuts, Word the Blesses (Blessing of the Lord), Word that Promises (All the Promises), Word that Fights and Protects (No Weapon)

D. Don't be Destroyed, Be Armed with the Word

VII. Armed with Resistance

- A. 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.
- B. To Engage our Culture, we must be Armed
 1. Armed with our Confession, to not be Ashamed
 2. Armed with the Word, to not be Destroyed
 3. Armed with Resistance, to not be Stopped
- C. When we decide to Engage our Culture, Resistance will come from everywhere
 1. Daughter will be against mother, father against son, family against family, foes from within our own home.
 2. 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;
 3. Psalm 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.
 4. 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.*
- D. Regardless of where it comes from, we must Resist
 1. We must Resist the Devil
 2. James 4: ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
 3. We must Resist our Flesh
 4. Romans 7:18 (AV)¹⁸ For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: ...
 5. We must Resist our People
 6. Psalm 69:4 (AV)⁴ They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: ...
 7. 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.