

In Season or Out

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
- II. Series: Engaging the Culture
 - 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. Subject: Armed Resistance (Confession-Ashamed, Sword-Destroy, Resistance-Stop)
 - C. Subject: Give us Barabbas or Give us Jesus (Choose You This Day)
 - 1. Choose to Defend or Offend (So The World Can Live)
 - 2. Choose to Conform or Transform (So The World Can See)
 - 3. Choose to Save or Suffer (So The World Can Heal)
- III. Homework: Study 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, John 4:23-25
 - A. (Last Week) Is Confession of Sin necessary to be saved? If so, what scriptures prove this? If not, then what is?
 - B. What does “The Quick and The Dead” mean?
 - C. What does it mean to “Be Instant in Season and Out of Season”?
 - D. What does it mean to “Endure Sound Doctrine”?
 - E. What are Fables?
- IV. Text
 - A. 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.
 - B. 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.
- V. Subject: Engaging The Culture: In Season or Out
 - A. This season is about us as Christians moving from babes who always need, to mature saints who now give and serve our community.
 - B. What does God require of us to Engage our Culture (Customs, Social Institutions, Social Groups, Nations, and People)
 - 1. A Culture that has embrace immorality, violence, death, the unholy and ungodly
 - 2. In our First Messing we stated that we should Resist It (Confess, Sword, Resist)
 - 3. On Easter Sunday we stated we must Choose It (Give us Barabbas or Jesus)
 - a. Choose to Defend or Offend (So The World Can Live)
 - b. Choose to Conform or Transform (So The World Can See)
 - c. Choose to Save or Suffer (So The World Can Heal)

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- C. Today we want to look at our call to Preach to It
1. Every Christian, not just the Pastor, is called to preach to our culture, our world
 2. 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:
 3. Jesus calls all to preach, and this poem from Edgar A. Guest shows us how:
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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.
 4. 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.
 - a. Ecc 3:¹ To every *thing there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
 - b. The next 7 verses gives us 28 season, in 14 pairs;
 - (1) Half of which we enjoy: Born, Heal, Laugh, Dance
 - (2) And Half of which we do not enjoy: Die, Break, Weep, Mourn
 5. 2 Timothy 4: ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.
 - a. "Be Instant In Season and Out" is translated, "Always be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not"
 - b. "In Season" is the times of our lives when everything is going well, everyone likes us, everything we do prospers; Family, Job, Ministry, ...
 - c. 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.
- D. Our assignment as Christians is to be Instant, Prepared to Embrace our Culture through preaching, whether the times are favorable or not!
- E. Subject: Embracing The Culture: In Season and Out
1. 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
- VI. Worshiping In Season and Out
- A. The first way we Preach to this culture is through our Worship
1. 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.
 2. Worship is done both in Spirit, and in Truth!
- B. In Season Worship is about the Spirit; What you Feel!

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1. 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.
 2. 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...
 3. 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.
 4. 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.
- C. Out of Season Worship is about the Truth; What you Know!
1. 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.
 2. 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.
 3. This is when your worship has to go from what you feel in the spirit, to what you know in your heart.
 4. John 4: ²⁴ **God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**
 5. Job after all he'd loss and experience said in Job 19:25, I know my redeemer lives
 6. Now you're not worshiping God for what you feel, but for what you know.
 7. Psalm 119:11 (AV)¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
- D. Worship In Season with God's Spirit, and Out of Season with God's Word
- VII. Witnessing In Season and Out
- A. The next way we Preach to this culture is through our Witness
1. 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.
 2. 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.
- B. In Season Witness is about Glory, when God demonstrates his power to the World
1. When people say, "You really preached, or really sang, or really ministered", what is our typical response? "To God be the Glory!"
 2. When we are operating in our Gifts, our worship Glorifies God to the world.
 3. We become a witness of his Glory.
 4. 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.**
- C. Out of Season Witness is about Suffering, when God proves his power through us
1. 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.
 2. This is the season when those around us expect us to give up, quit, leave, go back.
 3. It is during this season that our Witness is not about showing Glory, but demonstrating God's Power to keep us.
 4. 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,...
- D. Witness In Season with God's Glory, and out of Season with God's Power

VIII. Praising In Season and Out

- A. The final way we Preach to this culture is through our Praise
- B. 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.
- C. In Season Praise is about Rejoicing
 1. When we're in our "In Season" we just have so much to thank God for.
 2. "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"
 3. Our Worship is "In Season" as we operate in our gifting
 4. Our Witness is "In Season" as we glorify God
 5. 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.
- D. Out of Season Praise is about Sacrifice
 1. But then there is another praise for when we are "Out of Season"; a praise when you don't feel like praising.
 2. 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.
 3. It is preaching to this culture that I can offer God a praise no matter what happens.
 4. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (AV)¹⁸ In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
 5. Psalm 34:1-3 (AV)¹ I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth. ²My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad. ³O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.