

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

Engaging The Culture

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I. 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)
- D. Subject: In Season and Out (Worshiping, Witnessing, Praising)
- E. Subject: Engaging The Culture: A Time for Judgement
 - 1. The Time For Judging The Ground (Our Heart with the Word)
 - 2. The Time For Judging The Tree (Our Fruit as Good of Evil)
 - 3. The Time For Judging The Fruit (Our Reward for our Works)

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

- A. According to Matthew 24:11-12, Why are false prophets able to deceive many?
- B. What does it mean to have spiritually open eyes?
- C. What are the things that prevent our eyes from being spiritually open?
- D. How does seeing spiritually impact our ability to engage the culture?

III. Text

- A. 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.

IV. Subject: Engaging The Culture: Lord Open Our Eyes (Are You Spiritually “WOKE”?)

- A. Engaging the Culture (Customs, Social Institutions, Social Groups, Nations, and People), is about how we as Christians impact and influence our society
- B. 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?
 - 1. When it comes to social issues, specifically those impacting our community; our cultural and political figures recently stated using the term “WOKE”
 - 2. 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, ...!
 - 3. 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

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much of what you understood to be truth.

4. 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!
5. Now even if we do become WOKE concerning all these issues at a natural level; Jesus said, in Mark 8: ³⁶ **For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?**

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

1. 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. 2 Kings 6: ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see...

D. Subject: Engaging The Culture: Lord Open Our Eyes (Are You Spiritually “WOKE”?)

V. Are You WOKE From Iniquity?

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

B. 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.

C. Too Many Christians are Asleep with Iniquity

1. Iniquity is Immorality, Wickedness, Vices, Injustice, Sin

2. 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.**

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

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

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

6. 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.

7. 2 Corinth 2: ¹¹ Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

8. 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:

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

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

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

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

4. 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,

5. 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;)

6. 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

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

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VI. Are You WOKE from Fear?

- A. The next key to being Spiritually Woke is seeing what God has placed in you and around you.
- B. 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.
- C. Too Many Christians are Asleep with Fear
 - 1. 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.
 - 2. 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.
 - 3. The enemy uses overwhelming numbers to create the “deer in the headlights” or Spirit of Fear Syndrome.
 - 4. 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?
 - 5. 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.
- D. Lord Open Our Eyes from Fear, So we can See Our Power
 - 1. 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.
 - 2. 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.
 - 3. 2 Kings 6:¹⁶..he answered Fear not for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them
 - 4. 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.
 - 5. 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.
 - 6. 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.
 - 7. Philippians 4:13 (AV)¹³ I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
 - 8. Now we can See Our Power, Our Anointing, Our Blessings, and Our Help.
- E. “Wake up from Fear, So You can See your Power”

VII. Are You Woke From The Flesh?

- A. 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.
- B. To Be Spiritually Woke
 - 1. We must be Woke from Iniquity, So we can See the Enemy
 - 2. We must be Woke from Fear, So we can See Our Power
 - 3. Finally we must be Woke from the Flesh, So we can See Our God
- C. 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.

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1. And they can't see God because of their flesh!
 2. 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.
 3. When I would do Good, Evil is present with me, and I can't See
- D. 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!
1. Zechariah 4: ⁶This *is* the word . . ., saying, Not by might (human reasoning), nor by power (human ability), but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.
 2. When you get out of the Flesh, and in the Spirit you see what the Spirit sees
 3. 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. ²⁴God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**
 4. The Singer Dorothy Norwood said, “I See God, Working It Out For You”!
 5. The Singer Shirley Caesar said, “He’s Working It Out For You”!
 6. 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:
 - a. “I See God Working It Out For Me”
 - b. I see God working out my trouble, I see God working out my struggle
 - c. I see God working out my money, I see God working out my career
 - d. I see God working out my marriage, I see God working out my Children