

Chapter 25 & 26 - Warfare in the World - Gospel, Culture, World power and the Believer's Victory

GOSPEL AND THE CULTURE

Joshua 24:14-23 – Have no other God – put away other God's. How have we allowed the culture to distort the Gospel and the essence of true living for God?

Galatians 4:8 – Have no other God.

AMERICAN CULTURE

Do whatever is right for you and whatever is true for you. How does this match up with the Gospels?

How does selfishness impact the Gospel and our culture?

How does the culture relate to the Gospel?

Neutral
Compatible
Incompatible
Hostile.

What must happen if the culture is in conflict with the Scriptures?

Cultural must change to conform to the Scriptures or remain in sin...there is a cultural choice...the same if for each believer just like in Joshua 24.

God people must reject cultural behaviors, beliefs, and attitudes that are contrary to the Scriptures.

As a result the culture may become hostile toward us or at least find our view incompatible...neutral at the very best.

When we make tough decisions there are consequences. Good in that we please God and obey His ways. Bad in that we disrupt cultural peace and progress because we stand opposed to the cultural direction.

In our American Culture many say they believe in God...even many profess to be Christians...but how deep is it?

John 14:6
Mark 12:29-31
Acts 4:12

Do we really believe in Salvation in Christ alone?

Do we really understand we cannot live for self but must die to follow Jesus? Be TRANSFORMED.

The WORLD is not supposed to be in Christians. Christians must be in the WORD.

VICTORIOUS OVER THE WORLD

Work of God's salvation is focused on the world – to save it and redeem it.

John 1:10; John 3:16; John 4:42; John 6:33; 6:51; 12:47

God warns us to not be like the world:

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world.

John 7:7; 15:18; 17:9 & 14; 1 Corinthians 1:20-21; James 4:4

BE VICTORIOUS

Galatians 1:4 – view of the world. – be removed from the world.

Galatians 6:14 – dual crucifixion – world crucified in me and I am crucified to the world.

1 John 5:5 – live in obedience to God.

1 John 2:17 – Abide with God forever.