

Christian & the World

1 Jn. 2:12-17

Christians Under Persecution

- ▶ The church has been under persecution from the moment Christ died on the cross.
- ▶ AD64 - AD212 under Severe Persecution
- ▶ AD2018 - Christianity is still banned in 50 countries
 - ▶ 12 Countries Require Torture or Death
- ▶ 18 Fatal Church shootings
- ▶ July 18, 2018 - Sewickley Heights Borough orders family to end Bible Studies on Private Property.
- ▶ More Christians have died for their faith in this past century than all other centuries of church history combined.

Challenges Today

- ▶ Intolerance of God (Religion in general)
- ▶ Sexual Immorality
- ▶ Thought Policing - Not being able to express a different opinion
- ▶ Culture of Tolerance - Under the guise of equality
- ▶ Culture of Entitlement

Ecc 1:9 What has been is what will be,
and what has been done is what will be
done, and there is nothing new under the
sun.

A Natural Problem

- ▶ We (Christians) are not of this World.
 - ▶ We are IN it but not OF it.
- ▶ Jn. 15:18-19—“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”
- ▶ Jesus was hated because He did not conform to the world.

Christian View of the World

- ▶ We are a Separate Community
 - ▶ 2Co. 6:17-18
- ▶ Living in a Dying World
 - ▶ Rom. 6:1-2 “We died to SIN and live in it no more.”
- ▶ We left the World to Escape its Punishment
 - ▶ We flee....as Lot fled from Sodom & Gomorrah. (Gen. 19:17)
 - ▶ If we gain whole world and lose our soul...we lost all. (Matt. 16:26)
- ▶ We Have Put Off the Ways of the World
 - ▶ Rom. 12:1-2
- ▶ Live as an Example

Forsake the World / Love of God

- ▶ 1Jn 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world--the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions-- is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.
- ▶ Jas 4:4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Conclusion

- ▶ 1Jn 2:17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.
- ▶ Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.
- ▶ We are to love the lost world, but not love their ungodly and unrighteous ways.
- ▶ Let us Teach, Live and Love Like Jesus!