

Preparing Our Hearts for the Return of Jesus

10-Lovesick Outcome- Eternal Rewards Pt. 2 (2 Peter 2:4-8)

I. Wickedness Pull On The Human Heart

⁴For God did not spare even the angels who sinned. He threw them into hell, in gloomy pits of darkness, where they are being held until the day of judgment. ⁵And God did not spare the ancient world—except for Noah and the seven others in his family. Noah warned the world of God’s righteous judgment. So God protected Noah when he destroyed the world of ungodly people with a vast flood. ⁶Later, God condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and turned them into heaps of ashes. He made them an example of what will happen to ungodly people. ⁷But God also rescued Lot out of Sodom because he was a righteous man who was sick of the shameful immorality of the wicked people around him. ⁸Yes, Lot was a righteous man who was tormented in his soul by the wickedness he saw and heard day after day. (2Pet 2:4-8)

We saw the route that Noah took and the one that Lot took.

Jesus was bedside to the world and it’s problems but never in bed with the world.

4You adulterers! Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God. (Jms 4:4)

I do not want to be an enemy of God. Look at the long-term outcome of Noah and that of Lot.

9So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment. 10He is especially hard on those who follow their own twisted sexual desire, and who despise authority. (2Pet 2: 9,10)

Look at what has happened to the world and America, the wickedness that has a drawing effect is a result of the world pushing God away and its culmination is twisted sexual desire.

We as a society are modeling what pushing God away looks like.

We have people who profess their wisdom but are foolish, and they believe their self- righteousness.

It is a slow fade, and you see that in Lots story where the people came to Lot’s door and asked to have a sexual encounter with the two angels.

These things are not a natural response to the image the father created us in, that is a bit by bit lure into wickedness.

When James says ... ***a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God*** he is not speaking to the world but to believers.

But it goes deeper, Peter makes a remark that speaks to the heart of Christianity that is a marker of a worldly paradigm....

follow their own twisted sexual desire, and who despise authority. (2Pet 2: 9,10)

We have got to the point where we do not want to be told what to do.

Many of the issues with sin that humanity deals with is birth on despising authority.

1Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. 2So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished. (Rom 13:1,2)

So there is Gods inherited authority and His delegated authority. many Christians today honor His inherent authority but resist His delegated authority, and the truth is that if we resist His delegated authority we are actually resisting Him.

Jude makes this point when he talks about Cain, Balaam, and Korah.

He speaks to the rebellion of Korah, ***2They incited a rebellion against Moses, along with 250 other leaders of the community, all prominent members of the assembly. 3They united against Moses and Aaron and said, "You have gone too far! The whole community of Israel has been set apart by the Lord, and he is with all of us. What right do you have to act as though you are greater than the rest of the Lord's people?" (Num 16:2,3)***

What was the outcome of Korah and his 250 leaders? **The earth swallowed them alive and straight into Hell**

Why because they resisted God delegated authority.

Jesus in Mt. 23 says the Pharisees have the authority of Moses, and he instructed them to follow their rules, but then He said do not love like them.

The Pharisees were under judgement, not "The day of judgement" but they were under judgement because of the way they lived.

Jude said people who resist authority go the way of Cain, envy and jealousy. The way of Balaam, which was a man gifted by God and heard the voice of God but was infected with the lust of riches. And Korah was rebellious.

So God is especially hard on those that have twisted sexual things and those that despise authority.

Despising authority is a real issue with God. Why, because all authority is delegated by God. So when we meet, encounter authority we encounter God manifold wisdom. because God and authority are inseparable.

So show me someone who despises authority and I will show you someone who despises God. They are basically saying, God didn't get this right. I know better.

Missing out on the promise that all ***He works all things together for the good of those who love Him (Rom 8:28)***

Peter says fear God and honor the King... in ***1Pet 2:17*** was Herod Agrippa who was murdering Christians to gain political favors with Rome. How do you honor someone like that.

The truth is you do not honor his behavior but you do honor his position. And the bible says we are to submit and obey these authorities.

Now we do not obey if they tell us to sin and/or go against God and His word.

Now when peter was told not to preach Jesus he said ***18So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. 19But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge (Acts 4:18,19)***

This is the only time scripture tells us not to obey authority and that if they ask us to go against what the authority of the bible.

But we are to unconditionally submit.

We have the story of Shack, Rack and Benny.. we know the story with king Nebuchadnezzar and the statue. When the three were brought before the king for not bowing to the statue, they didn't reply "you jerk are you crazy", know they said "your majesty we will not do this".

Rack,Shack and Benny kept their submitted heart to God authority and the position that Nebuchadnezzar held but they refused to obey him.

Look how impactful obedience and faith in God works and plays out, that because of the honor to authority in the three's heart but their willful disobedience due to their profound faith in God....we know the story.

The King throws them into the fire, and he sees a fourth in the fire in there with them.

So Nebuchadnezzar send out the decree that their God is the real true God and if anyone speaks ill of Him their limbs will be ripped apart from their bodies. Evidence of an immature belief going on in Nebuchadnezzar heart.

Nebuchadnezzar went insane, God's doing, because he was so infatuated with himself and his kingdom that after the display of honor and loyalty to God, God used that moment to teach a lesson to Nebuchadnezzar that caused Nebuchadnezzar to return his gaze back onto the one and true God.

So much so that when Daniel had his dream of the statue, Nebuchadnezzar and his kingdom was represented by the Golden head, possibly a representation to his turn back to God and how he had reigned after.

How does this speak a believer that confronts the world in the time of Jesus' return. In a time where martyrdom will be at its highest! It is to respond like Rack,Shack and Benny, in humility, in honor that those in authority that might be about to cut off your head, Knowing and understanding that god placed and had allowed for those things to happen...for what? ***He works all things together for the good of those who love Him (Rom 8:28)***

This is the eternal mindset God will reward. That we are not of this world.

10He is especially hard on those who follow their own twisted sexual desire, and who despise authority. (2Pet 2: 9,10)

We must learn to adopt this heart....and Peter yearning to instill this heart in all who he touched does not mince words when he says....

13Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, 14or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. (1Per 2:13,14 NKJV)

13For the Lord's sake, submit to all human authority—whether the king as head of state, 14or the officials he has appointed. For the king has sent them to punish those who do wrong and to honor those who do right. (1Per 2:13,14 NLV)

15It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you.

When we walk in this kind of obedience to God authority you will silence people's ability to accuse you. And if they do accuse you he will hide you from their evil tongues to hurt or derail you.

***20You hide them in the shelter of your presence,
safe from those who conspire against them.
You shelter them in your presence,
far from accusing tongues. (ps 31:20)***

When we choose God's way we become like Noah with longterm fruit, not only in this life but the next, the age to come.