

MATTHEW 10:32-39 - RADICAL LIVING

Confess Christ Before Men

³² “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Christ Brings Division

³⁴ “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; ³⁶ and ‘a man’s enemies *will be* those of his *own* household.’ ³⁷ He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸ And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁹ He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

Radical 60’s and 70’s. Counter-culture movement: Anti-authority, anti-God, anti-war, anti-cop, anti-nuclear, anti-racism, anti-censorship, anti-status quo, pro-rock and roll, pro-feminism, pro-environmentalism, pro-gay liberation, pro-occult, pro-free sex (with this change in attitude, by the 1990s the ratio of children born out of wedlock rose from 5% to 25% for Whites and from 25% to 66% for African-Americans.), pro-eastern religion, pro-fashion rebellion, pro-abortion, pro-socialism, and pro-drugs - “Turn on, tune in and drop out.” - Timothy Leary. Quote from Stockton Record editorial 8/10/19 by Danny Goldberg - “Woodstock was a celebration of joy which wiped out, at least temporarily, the persistent feelings of meaninglessness that permeate our culture . . . it was, at least, a moment of triumph for the better side of man, in a time when the devil seems so often to be winning.”

ON BOARD: Read, Rise, Resist! Portland’s Powell’s Books mantra that has made it to Stockton as a bumper sticker on a car close to my house. Godless anarchy hasn’t died. It’s always there in the guise of social justice, situational ethics, and distorted views of love. 2019 is just as radical or more so: political, racial, social. What is the evangelical church doing today in response?

- I. RADICAL CONTRAST IN CONVERSION - Not as ‘contrasty’ in those who were truly converted as children, had godly parents, sensitivity to offending God and strong in faith and love.
 - A. Dead in sin . . . alive in Christ - Romans 6:13 - “Regeneration is a universal change of the whole man . . . it is as large in renewing as sin was in defacing.” - Stephen Charnock
 - B. Goats and . . . sheep - Matthew 25:31-33
 - C. Fools and . . . wise - Proverbs 1:7
 - D. Cursed and . . . blessed - Deuteronomy 11:26-28

- E. Darkness and . . . light - Ephesians 5:8; I Thessalonians 5:4,5; I Peter 2:9; I John 1:5-7
- F. Aliens/strangers and . . . citizens of heaven - Ephesians 2:19
- G. Enemies and . . . reconciled - Colossians 1:21, 22
- H. Natural man and . . . spiritual man - Ephesians 4:20-24
- I. Unbeliever and . . . believer - John 3:16-18
- J. Servants of sin and . . . servants of Christ - Romans 6:14-18
- [We are not our own, but bought with a price](#)
- K. Old life . . . new life - 2 Corinthians 5:17
- L. All of John 3
- M. All of I John
 1. Fellowship with God the Father - [all are NOT children of God](#)
 2. Forgiveness of sin - [we were under God's wrath, in our sins](#)
 3. New commandment to love - [the unbeliever's love motives aren't based on God's glory](#)
 4. New hatred of the world and by the world - [truly radical change in attitude that unbelievers can't understand](#)
 5. New discernment of false doctrine - [we follow the Shepherd of truth, who teaches us his doctrine](#)
 6. New power to obey God - Romans 8:7 - [powerless before](#)
 7. New hope and assurance - Ephesians 2:12 - ["having no hope and without God in the world."](#)

II. RADICAL LIFE

- A. New perspective - [We have in small measure the mind of Christ, as Paul said. We see the world through the lens of Scripture and the love of God.](#)
- B. New marching orders- ["Repentance is a change of the mind, and regeneration is a change of the man." Thomas Adams - **Read, Rise, Resist** applicable for Christians, as well. Read the Word, Stand for Truth, Resist the world and its sin, the flesh and the devil.](#)
- C. New family - I John 3:1 - [Read Pilgrim's Progress Chap. 5, first 3 para.](#)
- D. Fruit of the Spirit - Galatians 5:22, 23
- E. New desires - [List on Board: Hebrews 11:16 \(a new country\); I Peter 2:2 \(sincere milk\); II Cor. 5:2 \(a new body\); others](#)
- F. New pain
 1. In the battle - Matthew 10: 32-39; Acts 14:19, 20 (Lystra)
 2. In God's chastening hand - Hebrews 12:7-11
- G. New influence - the power of our witness - [Seen and unseen](#)
- H. Hindrances - Matthew 13:22; Ephesians 2:1-3; 6:10-12 - [Other examples?](#)
- I. Helps - Colossians 3:1-3; Ephesians 6:13-18 - [Other examples? The Word, worship, daily repentance, prayer, music \(F.R. 88.1fm\)](#)

III. RADICAL EXPECTATION - Heaven is closer than we think in the large scheme of things

- A. Titus 2:13 - Looking for that 'blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.' - "Where the unveiled glories of the Deity shall beat full upon us, and we forever sun ourselves in the smiles of God." Ezekiel Hopkins
- B. Psalm 16:11 - "Fulness of joy, pleasures for evermore."
- C. Luke 10:20 - "Rejoice because your names are written in heaven."
- D. John 14:1-3 - The going home of Dean Coleman Thursday - his most blessed day on this earth. The last day of this sin-stained existence. The last taste of suffering and walking by faith. Let us rejoice in that radical expectation as well.