

"Our Place in the World"

June 11, 2017

JOHN 17:13-19

CORE: Jesus makes very clear declarations **RE:** our place in the world.

1. We are "NOT OF" the world (v. 14)

NOTE: We are not to avoid the people of the world—but we are to fiercely refuse to be captive to the fear-based system of the world.

Kingdom of the world

Constant worry (Luke 12:30)

Live for the moment; disregard
Eternal consequences (Luke 12:19)

Love darkness, secrecy, isolation
Shame, superficial (John 3:19)

Love is conditional (Luke 6:32)

Reject Jesus as Lord—refusing to
Submit to Him (Luke 19:14)
"Hate Him" (Luke 15:18)—to make
secondary; insignificant; optional

Desire **compromise** (John 16:33-
"tribulation"—to press to displace)

Kingdom of God

Anxious for nothing

Live for eternal values

Walk in His light; transparency;
real relationships (1 John 1:7)

Love never fails (1 Cor. 13:8);
Love knows no limitations

Gladly surrender to His loving
Lordship

"Receive Him" (John 1:12)

Love Him—keep, value, **follow**
His commands (John 14:15)

2. We are "NOT TAKEN OUT OF" the world (v. 15)

"You are the light of the world" (John 5:14)—strategically displacing the darkness.

(NOTE: "Seven spirits/lights" in Revelation speak of God's response to every area of darkness on the planet. World will see the best literature, fashion, business methods, educational approaches, movies, inventions...integrity and wisdom manifest thru followers of Jesus!)

NOTE: If we keep Him to ourselves we will be trampled by the society we do not influence! (Matt. 5:13- *"If the salt loses its saltiness...thrown out & trampled underfoot"*)

Called to **“honor all”**, not **“write them off”**:

“Honor”- “To esteem. To value. To show great respect.”

- Because everyone is **“MADE BY God”** and **“PAID FOR by Jesus”**
- C.S. Lewis- *“You have never talked to a mere mortal.”*
- **“Know NO MAN after the flesh”** (2 Cor. 5:16); Not **“mere men”** (1 Co. 3:3)

We must honor our call—refusing to **“take ourselves out”**:

- Joseph rescued Egypt (*in a nation where he had been dishonored*)
- Daniel shook Babylon (*where he had been taken as a hostage*)
- Peter **“turned the world upside down”** (*where he had a criminal record*)

“Don’t be surprised if the very thing you’re scared to do—is the very thing you’re called to do.” Havilah Cunningham

3. We are called “INTO THE WORLD—EVERY FACET OF IT” (v. 18)

“IN THE SAME WAY YOU SENT ME→ I SEND THEM” (v. 18)

- **Moved in oneness** with Father (**“As we are one make them one in Us”**)
 - I SEE what Father is doing
 - I SAY what Father tells me
- **Led** by Holy Spirit
- **Strengthened and refreshed** by **angels** (Ps. 91- **“Charge over you”**)
- **Saw beyond outward appearance** (*Sheep needing a shepherd; sick needing a physician; orphans needing a father/mother*)
- **Moved with compassion** (**Sanctified, not sanitized**—willing to get hands dirty to see others set free)!

“Steadily pouring yourselves out for one another in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences...permeated with Oneness...until we’re all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God’s Son...fully alive like Jesus...healthy in God, robust in love.” (Ephesians 4:3,6,13,16 The Message)