

The Two Kingdoms and the Christian Way

Michael Horton article "A Tale of Two Kingdoms"

1. Augustine calls these two kingdoms the City of _____ and the city of _____.

They are grounded in two loves: the love of _____ and the love of _____.

The love of God leads to genuine _____ and a communion of mutual _____ and receiving.

But the latter engenders _____, war and a desire to exercise _____ over others.

2. The city of man is destined to _____, but God is creating a new city from its ruins (the _____) and preserving the old city by his _____ grace until his _____ peace and justice arrive with Christ's return.

3. So Christians have two callings: the high calling of Christ to belong to his _____ and the calling of this world to be citizens, parents, children, friends, coworkers and _____.

Each city has its own polity or _____.

Although some are converted to the city of God, the earthly city is always _____.

Consider Daniel in Babylon, we are exiles and _____. Babylon is never the _____ land.

Politics then are a question of how this city can be best _____ in this time before Christ's coming.

The Christian Way Table Talk September 2021

The Christian Way _____ Burke Parsons

1st century Christians were known as people of The _____. **John 14:6**

The Christian way is the way of the cross - _____. Dying to _____ and sin.

It's the way of love for the _____ and love for one another.

The Christian way is a way of living before the _____ of God (Coram Deo) by doing all we do for His _____.

You will be Hated _____ Steven Lawson

Matthew 5:10-11 Blessed are those who are _____...

In verse 12, this response from the world shows the depravity of the human heart.

Two others verses that deal with this sad reality: **John 15:18, 19** **John 17:14**

Be encouraged because Christ has _____ the world.

If we live for him, take comfort that we _____ in His sufferings.

Loving the World _____ Mark Ross

1 John 2:15-16 **John 3:16**

Loving the Father stands _____ to loving the world.

Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life. We would call this _____.

This sounds a lot like idolatry. *Jerry Bridges, Respectable Sins (Chapter 20, page 165)*

Average US Household income- \$ _____ Average CC debt- \$ _____ Annual giving- \$ _____ (2004)

Average % saved- ____% Evangelicals raised the giving % from 1.5% to ____%

Desiring flesh and _____ things over spiritually pure and eternal things. **Col 3:1-5**

We even are called to _____ of enemies, do good to those who _____ us... **Luke 6:27-28**

If we truly love the _____, we will love the world better than the _____ loves its own!

The Civil Magistrate *Harry Reeder III*

-Three foundational institutions were God designed and embedded in creation, the fall and redemption.

Creation-_____ the Fall-the _____ Redemption-the _____

-Inside the family and the church we are _____ to trust Christ alone for salvation and follow Christ intentionally, being directed by His word and Spirit with a desire to glorify and enjoy Him for our whole lives.

-The state is a common grace given to restrain _____ while affirming what is good and _____. **Rom 13:4**

-The state upholds _____ so that we can live peaceably in our families and pursue the ministry of our church.

-How do the family and church interact with the state?

_____ (**1 Tim 2:1-2**) _____ (**Rom 13:7**) _____ (**Romans 13:1**)

-Appealing to those in authority ought to come _____ civil disobedience.

-Christians ought to seek wise counsel from family/church family _____ as we respond to who God has put over us.

Serving Hostile Authorities *Grant Castleberry*

-Serve _____ **Matt 5:16**

-Serve _____ **Proverbs 22:29**

Joseph's example in Genesis 39-41

-Serve _____

What this means is to live and serve being _____-centered

Greatest work? _____ him Ultimate joy? _____ him

We serve God first, because he is the greatest _____

Two examples: _____ (place at a time) and Daniel (allegiance tested)

Even in dark days like these, they are _____ appointed by God for us.

Holding Fast without Compromise *Jon Payne*

1685 story of Margaret Wilson and Margaret MacLachlan in Scotland

1) refused to submit to King James II unwarranted church _____.

2) they rejected the state's false _____.

3) they attended illegal _____ services

These remind us to stand fast in whatever _____ God has us and whoever he has _____ us.

The Holy Spirit _____ godly conviction in the middle of opposition.

Believe the promises of God and _____ for Him.

Without Grumbling or Disputing Darrell Harrison

John 17:14 calls Christians not of this world

Peter calls us sojourners and exiles (1 Peter 2:11)

We are living estranged from our final home. "We are pilgrims, not crusaders"

Look at John 17:6, 9-10 and 15

We ought to reflect Christ to the world around us.

Be lights in a dark world Philippians 2:14-18

We struggle being a light not only in our actions but also in our attitudes.

We tend to complain and this complaining goes further than we think...

Spurgeon said "frequently the murmuring against man is only a covert way of murmuring against God."

Murmuring, complaining and grumbling is born of an attitude of discontent

And this attitude of discontent is born of a heart seeking to please self rather than please God.

This idea of pleasing God seems easy in theory but is a continual struggle.

We are selfish by nature, by default. Even when seeking to honor God there is a whisper of what's in it for me?

The gospel must shape not only our thoughts and desires but also our actions and attitudes.

Hope for the Christian Way Jeremy Walker

This hope is not a wishing but a waiting for what is expected.

It is not a passive waiting but an active waiting an enduring.

It is believing the promises of God in Christ and what he has promised those he has called.

This gives us courage to endure the time of this wilderness and look forward with eyes of faith to our eternal home.

Rev 2:10

Everything we deal with on this side of heaven is temporary. Focus on the eternal.