Living Faithfully in a Broken World

Introduction

- The world is broken in many aspects
- Contrasts with the world created by God
  - ✓ *Gen 1:31*
- The brokenness of the world finds its root in the Bible
  - ✓ Romans 5:12
- Our broken world awaits restoration - *Romans 8:22*

Introduction

- So, the question isn't *whether* we live in a broken world — we do.
- The question is:
  - **how can we live faithfully in it?**
- Similar command after one gives their life to Christ
  - 1 Cor 15:58, Rev. 2:10
- Focus on three aspects of our lives requiring faithfulness.

1. Our <u>devotion to God</u>

- Devotion means …….
  - ✓ Loyalty, or commitment to someone or something
- What the world teaches us to be devoted to ……
  - ➢ Wealth, self, work/achievement, entertainment
- Who we ought to be devoted to …….. **GOD**
  - *Gal. 2:20*

1. Our devotion to God

- How can we show our devotion to God

  - ✓ Getting to know Him – Jer. 9:23-24
  - ✓ Studying/meditating on God's Word – Psa. 1:2, 2 Tim. 2:15
  - ✓ Obedience – John 14:15, 1 John 5:3
  - ✓ Prayer – 1 Thess. 5:17, Phil. 4:6, Col. 4:2

1. Our devotion to God

- Why should we be devoted to God ……

  ✓ Because of Whom He Is

    ➢ Creator of the world – *Gen 1:1, Psalm 100:3*

  ✓ What He has done

    ➢ Redemption – *1 Pet. 1:18 – 19*

  ✓ It leads to a transformed life

    ➢ Shapes our choices and character – *Rom. 12:2*

2. The decisions we make

- An average person makes about 35,000 decisions per day
  - ✓ 2,000 decisions/hour, one decision/2 seconds

Types of decisions

High – impact decisions

Conscious choices

Operational choices

High-impact decisions



Use of brain power in decision-making

- Enormous literature exists on decision - making
  - ✓ The greatest help book - **Bible**

2. The <u>decisions we make</u>

- Our most important decision

  ✓ to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and personal Savior

- As followers of Christ, we are still subject to …….

  ✓ trials and temptations – James 1:2-3, 13-14, 1 John 2:16

2. The <u>decisions we make</u>

- How can we filter through our decisions

  - Seeking God's guidance

    ✓ Prov. 3:5 – 6, James 1:5, 2 Tim. 3:16-17

  - Testing our decisions against God's character

    ✓ Micah 6:8, Phil. 4:8

  ✓ Choosing obedience – Joshua 24:15, Matt. 7:13-14

3. Our dealings with people

- We live in a mixed world
- We are not called to withdraw from the world ……..
  - ✓ Live differently within it – John 17:14 - 16
- The reality of dealing with believers and unbelievers alike ……..
  - ✓ A test of our faith
- Our treatment of people ought to be a living sermon
  - ✓ Matthew 5:16

3. Our <u>dealings with people</u>

- How we ought to be treating people as believers;
  - ✓ Foundational command to love – Matt. 22:39, Matt. 7:12
  - ✓ With humility and respect – Phil. 2:3-4,1 Pet. 3:8
  - ✓ With grace – Eph 4:29
- Remember;
  - ✓ Doing unto people is doing unto Jesus – Matt 25:40

Summary

- We see three areas of life that we ought to be “faithful” in ……

  ✓Devotion to God

  ✓Decisions we make

  ✓Dealings with people

- So, how should we respond in turn,

- How about we commit to being in our Christian mode all the time ?

- Seek to imitate God’s holiness - *1 Peter 1:14-16*

Conclusions

- Hear (Rom. 10:17)
- Believe (John 8:24)
- Repent (Acts 17:30, 31)
- Confess (Rom. 10:9, 10)
- Be baptized (Acts 2:38)
- Live faithfully (1 Cor. 15:58)