

## The Jesus Way – In the World, but Not of the World

Our son turned 18 last month... This summer he will be working a full-time job outside of BRC... & In August he'll be leaving home & go off to college... He is leaving the nest as they say, and going out into the world on his own...

Our oldest daughter, a freshman in high school, just made the softball team with a bunch of girls, she doesn't/we don't know... She will be spending a whole lot of time with worldly influences, out from underneath our wings!

Our youngest is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade... last year she went to elementary school for the first time... 6 hrs a day away from home, out in the world of secular education.

The "world" can be a scary place... Am I just being paranoid, & living in fear? I'm simply acknowledging what Scripture teaches about the world we live in!

The word "world" appears 35 times in 4 of the chapters we read this past week.

- 6x in John 15, 8x in John 16, 18x in John 17, & 3x in John 18

What does God's Word have to teach us about the "world" we live in... as well as what it means to walk in "the Jesus Way" within it?

**John 15:18-19** – *"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but b/c you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."*

The world was not friendly to Jesus Christ... & if we are followers of Him, chosen by God out of the world, then they will not be friendly to us either!

Why did/does the world hate Jesus... and those who walk in His footsteps?

---

And when the world thinks that they have rid themselves of Jesus, they will rejoice (**John 16:19-20**)... but their rejoicing will be short-lived b/c not even the grave could get rid of him! And our sorrow (Christians)... will turn into joy!

The Jesus Way in this world is to have realistic expectations - Expect rejection... But know that in it we are becoming more like Christ, even in His sufferings... Expect rejection, but also prepare for joy!

**John 16:22** – *"You have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."* This is true both after Jesus' resurrection... as well as at His second coming!

But the "world", & its threats, not only come in the form of opposition to

those who profess Christ, it also comes by simply living in a fallen creation!

Yes, it's hard to send our kids out into the world because of "who" will be against them... but it's also hard because of "what" will be against them!

**John 16:33** – *"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*

The whole created world poses a threat, because the creation we live in is broken/cursed... storms, sickness, disease, death, accidents, loss, division, hardships... they all exist b/c of the effect sin had on this world in the garden

But just as there is "joy" to be found in the midst of persecution, there is also peace to be found in the midst of life's tribulations.

Remember when Jesus calmed the storm on the sea... What did He declare, "Peace, be still!" Storms will come... hardships will happen... Pain will be a reality... the question is will we experience His peace in the midst of it all?

How is this possible? How can we have such joy & experience such peace? Because of the Jesus Way! After Jesus declared these words & these truths to His followers, what did he do? He prayed His High-Priestly Prayer... for us!

**John 17:1-19** - Jesus prayed, & He continues to intercede for us to this day w/the Father... for all who are in Christ & are His called-out ones this world!

What a difference it makes that we have an advocate praying for us, & making an appeal on our behalf... & not just anyone, the One who has already endured & overcome this world... The One who calms the storms & conquers the grave!

You see, the world is a scary place... but we have an all-loving Father... and an all-powerful advocate... and we are covered in constant prayer...

This is how we can live "in the world" and yet not be of it! This is how we can be the "called out ones" but continue to walk in the Jesus Way until He calls us home! This is how we find purpose... joy... & peace... in this world!

Jesus prays for us... & we are to pray for one another... b/c we are living out a glorious purpose - "so that the world may believe that you (the Father) have sent me." We are ambassadors for the Kingdom of God in this world!

So despite what the world has become, God still loves the world... He is still redeeming it... It is the Church, walking in the Jesus Way, that God is using to save what has been lost & broken. This is why our presence in it is so important!

## The Jesus Way – In the World, but Not of the World

Our son turned 18 last month... This summer he will be working a full-time job outside of BRC... & In August he'll be leaving home & go off to college... He is leaving the nest as they say, and going out into \_\_\_\_\_ on his own...

Our oldest daughter, a freshman in high school, just made the softball team with a bunch of girls, she doesn't/we don't know... She will be spending a whole lot of time with \_\_\_\_\_ out from underneath our wings!

Our youngest is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade... last year she went to elementary school for the first time... 6 hrs a day away from home, out in the world of secular education.

The "world" can be a \_\_\_\_\_ Am I just being paranoid, & living in fear? I'm simply acknowledging what Scripture teaches about the world we live in!

The word "world" appears \_\_\_\_\_ in 4 of the chapters we read this past week.  
- 6x in John 15, 8x in John 16, 18x in John 17, & 3x in John 18

What does God's Word have to teach us about the "world" we live in... as well as what it means to walk in "the Jesus Way" within it?

**John 15:18-19** – *"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but b/c you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."*

The world was \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus Christ... & if we are followers of Him, chosen by God out of the world, then they will not be friendly to us either!

Why did/does the world hate Jesus... and those who walk in His footsteps?

---

And when the world thinks that they have rid themselves of Jesus, they will \_\_\_\_\_ (**John 16:19-20**)... but their rejoicing will be short-lived b/c not even the grave could get rid of him! And our sorrow (Christians)... will turn into joy!

The Jesus Way in this world is to have realistic expectations - Expect rejection... But know that in it we are becoming more like Christ, even in His \_\_\_\_\_ Expect rejection, but also prepare for joy!

**John 16:22** – *"You have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."* This is true both after Jesus' resurrection... as well as at \_\_\_\_\_

But the "world", & its threats, not only come in the form of opposition to

those who profess Christ, it also comes by simply living in a \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, it's hard to send our kids out into the world because of "who" will be against them... but it's also hard because of "what" will be against them!

**John 16:33** – *"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*

The whole created world poses a threat, because the creation we live in is \_\_\_\_\_ storms, sickness, disease, death, accidents, loss, division, hardships... they all exist b/c of the effect sin had on this world in the garden

But just as there is "joy" to be found in the midst of persecution, there is also peace to be found in the midst of life's tribulations.

Remember when Jesus calmed the storm on the sea... What did He declare, \_\_\_\_\_ Storms will come... hardships will happen... Pain will be a reality... the question is will we experience His peace in the midst of it all?

How is this possible? How can we have such joy & experience such peace? Because of the Jesus Way! After Jesus declared these words & these truths to His followers, what did he do? He \_\_\_\_\_ His High-Priestly Prayer... for us!

**John 17:1-19** - Jesus prayed, & He continues to intercede for us to this day w/the Father... for all who are in Christ & are His called-out ones this world!

What a difference it makes that we have an advocate praying for us, & making an appeal on our behalf... & not just anyone, the One who has already endured & \_\_\_\_\_ this world... The One who calms the storms & conquers the grave!

You see, the world is a scary place... but we have an all-loving Father... and an all-powerful advocate... and we are covered in constant prayer...

This is how we can live \_\_\_\_\_ and yet not be of it! This is how we can be the "called out ones" but continue to walk in the Jesus Way until He calls us home! This is how we find purpose... joy... & peace... in this world!

Jesus prays for us... & we are to pray for one another... b/c we are living out a glorious purpose - *"so that the world may believe that you (the Father) have sent me."* We are ambassadors for the Kingdom of God in this world!

So despite what the world has become, God still loves the world... He is still redeeming it... It is the Church, walking in the Jesus Way, that God is using to save what has been lost & broken. This is why \_\_\_\_\_ in it is so important!