

## Sermon: Out of This World

### We are not of this world:

John 17:14 I have given them your word. And the world hates them because **they do not belong to the world**, just as I do not belong to the world. 15 I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. 16 They do not belong to this world any more than I do.

1 John 5:19 We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one.

John 12: 31 The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler/god (archon) ruler, chief, prince, magistrate of this world, will be cast out.

### The **UNBELIEVER** follows Satan's agenda:

**2 Corinthians 4:4** "The god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ."

### But not us:

Colossians 1:11.... May you be filled with joy, 12 always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. 13 For he has **rescued** us from the kingdom of darkness and **transferred** us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, 14 who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.

### Believers are no longer under the rule of Satan:

Ephesians 2:2 You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.

### Hope: Satan's end is sure:

Romans 16:19 I want you to be wise in doing right and to stay innocent of any wrong. 20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

### Jesus's Kingdom is not of this world:

John 18:36 Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is **not an earthly kingdom**. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But **my Kingdom is not of this world**."

### It's **INVISIBLE**:

Luke 17:20: Jesus replied, "The Kingdom of God can't be detected by visible signs. 21 You won't be able to say, 'Here it is!' or 'It's over there!' **For the Kingdom of God is already among you. within/inside/among you**

### We all **LONG** to see Christ's return and His Kingdom lived out here on earth:

22 Then he said to his disciples, "The time is coming when you will long to see the day when the Son of Man returns..."

## **OUR JOB IS TO MAKE THE INVISIBLE KINGDOM OF GOD VISIBLE TO THE LOST WHO NEED TO FIND IT.**

Colossians 1:15 Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.

### Jesus is the Light of the World....

John 8:12 Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."

### And now **WE** are the light of the world.....

Matthew 5:14 "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

## 1) SET NEW PRIORITIES

### Make **EACH OTHER/THE BODY** our **PRIORITY - HELP THEM**

Philippians 2:1 Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? (This is rhetorical for the Believer!) 2 Then make me truly happy/fulfull, complete my joy by **agreeing /thinking the same way** wholeheartedly with each other, **loving** one another, and **working together with one mind/one accord** and purpose.

Ephesians 5:15 So be careful how you live/how you walk. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise.

**16 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.** <sup>17</sup> Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

(KJV) 15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, **16** redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

## 2) OCCUPY

Luke 19:13 Before he left, he called together ten of his servants and divided among them ten pounds of silver, saying, 'Invest this for me while I am gone.'

(NIV) 'Put this money to work/occupy,' he said, 'until I come back.'

Mark 16:15 And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone...."

Matthew 24:14 And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.

## 3) Do All That you ALREADY know to do

ACTS 2:42 All the believers devoted themselves (CONTINUED STEADFASTLY) to the apostles' **teaching**, and to **fellowship**, and to **sharing in meals** (including the Lord's Supper), and to **prayer**.

1 Corinthians 10:16 When we bless the cup at the Lord's Table, aren't we sharing in the blood of Christ? And when we break the bread, aren't we sharing in the body of Christ? <sup>17</sup> And though we are many, we all eat from one loaf of bread, showing that we are one body.

## Be JESUS to the Kingdom of Men

Matthew 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. **35** For I was hungry, and **you fed me**. I was thirsty, and **you gave me a drink**. I was a stranger, and **you invited me into your home**. **36** I was naked, and **you gave me clothing**. I was sick, and **you cared for me**. I was in prison, and **you visited me**.....I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

Colossians 4:5 Live wisely among those who are not believers, and **make the most of every opportunity**. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

## 4) Hold lightly to this world and the things that won't last

### 5) Don't Quit

Galatians 6:9 So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

James 1:12 God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

### 6) Keep the future in sight:

Luke 24:50 "Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem **with great joy**, and were continually in the temple blessing God"

Isaiah 35:1 Even the wilderness and desert will be glad in those days. The wasteland will rejoice and blossom with spring crocuses. **2** Yes, there will be an abundance of flowers and singing and joy! The deserts will become as green as the mountains of Lebanon, as lovely as Mount Carmel or the plain of Sharon. There the Lord will display his glory, the splendor of our God. **3** With this news, **strengthen** those who have tired hands, and **encourage** those who have weak knees. **4** **Say** to those with fearful hearts, "**Be strong, and do not fear, for your God is coming to destroy your enemies. He is coming to save you.**"