

Who Will Be God?

Conflicting Loyalties in Our Postmodern World

Joshua 24:14-15

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Just as in the days of Joshua, there are numerous competitors for our loyalty. Of all the competitors, one stands out—SELF. Let us examine this powerful enemy to learn how it operates and how it can be defeated.

Back to the Garden

- The first temptation was the most successful of all
- The invitation to be God (Gen. 3:1-7)
- Why would Satan change this tactic if it works so incredibly well (cf. I Jn. 2:15-16)?

The Pride of the Thing

- Babel (Gen. 11:1-8)
- Babylon—and more (Isa. 14:12-13)?
- Tyre—and more (Ezek. 28:1-2, 11-15)?
- The self-serving idol of greed (Col. 3:5)
- The nature of idols (Rom. 1:22-23)
- A failure to appreciate the value of simplicity (II Cor. 11:3)

Postmodern “Me” Worship

- No absolutes, just me and what I want (cf. Jud. 17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25)
- Everything is relative, so it is up to me.
- A culture that has accepted the invitation to be God.

We Are Not Qualified

- Lacking in omniscience
- Lacking in omnipresence
- Lacking in omnipotence
- Doomed to failure

Postmodern Thinking is Only a Secular Problem, Right?

- Wrong!
- Consider the relativistic ring of “Attend the church of your choice.”

- Or what about, “As long as you are sincere, it doesn’t matter that much what you believe.”
- And then there is, “That is just your interpretation.”

A Word from Jesus

- Matthew 5:17-19
- Matthew 7:21-23
- Luke 6:46
- John 17:17, 21-23
- I Corinthians 1:10

The Cure

- Matthew 10:39; 16:25; Mark 8:35; Luke 9:24; 17:33; John 12:25
- Luke 9:23
- John 5:19, 30; 6:38; 8:28; 12:49; 14:10
- Matthew 11:27-30

Being God would be a heady accomplishment, but we are not qualified. Better to let God be God. Better to gain through loss.