



In the Beginning ... The Beginning of a Godless Society

NorthRidge Church

Derrick Whiteman

March 7, 2021

Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech. – Genesis 4:17-18

This passage helps us to see how a culture becomes godless, how a people who once walked with God have little or no place for Him. This is not a phenomenon unique to Modern America, it is the pattern of our enemy. Let's take note.

- Culture always moves from _____ as its Center, because the _____ is always the Center of Culture.
- To keep God at the Center of Culture is not impossible, but it will not _____.

The Rise of Two Cultures ... 4:17-26

I. The Rise of Cain's Family ... (4:17-24)

- _____ (17-18)
- _____ (19)
- _____ (20-22)
- _____ (22-24)

II. The Rise of Seth's Family ... (4:25-26)

- They determined to _____ a Godly Family.
- They determined to _____ God's Name.

Now What ...

1. The greatest need in a godless society is to develop _____.
2. In a godless culture, we must center our lives in _____ and determine to _____.

Truth for Life

For the week of March 7, 2021

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. If you were to describe our culture today, how would you describe it? What are the elements that are beneficial? Helpful? Instructive? Uplifting?

What are the elements that are challenging? Destructive? Demeaning?

What elements are anti-faith? Outside of God's design?

If we define culture as, "Culture is the characteristics and knowledge of a particular group of people, encompassing language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music and arts which provides the framework whereby that people live out life." How would you define the culture of the world in which you live?

2. Read Romans 1:28-32. Work through or talk through the list that Paul gives for the things that are "not fitting." How do we see these things present in our culture today? How would explain as to how these things are "not fitting" to God's design or desire?

As followers of Christ, we quickly see the error of the ways of those who practice such as the list above. Read the next verse, Romans 2:1. What is Paul seeking to correct? Why does he turn the table on those who live differently from the list above? Is it not that we are just as guilty because we judge others instead of judging ourselves?

3. Then how do we live godly in an ungodly world? What is our role? How do we function? What is our primary focus?

Psalm 51:10-13 2 Timothy 3:16-17 Proverbs 4:23 Psalm 119:11
Psalm 46:10 Psalm 139:23-24 Romans 12:2 Philippians 4:8

In God's design, He has chosen for us to live within this world. Read John 17:15. And He has chosen to allow the world to continue in its godless pursuits. Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5. And He has chosen for us to live out our faith in a godless culture. Read 1 Peter 2:11-25. What one thing from the list in 1 Peter stands out to you? What are we not doing well? Is there anything we do well? What one thing do you need to work on?

4. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
 - a. How does the popular man-centered gospel of our day ("God loves you and wants you to be happy and successful") differ from the biblical gospel? What is missing in the popular approach?



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- Culture always moves from **God** as its Center, because the **Enemy of God** is always the Center of Culture.
- To keep God at the Center of Culture is not impossible, but it will not **Happen Naturally**.

The Rise of Two Cultures ... 4:17-26

I. The Rise of Cain's Family ... (4:17-24)

- **Construction** (17-18)
- **Corruption** (19)
- **Culture** (20-22)
- **Crime** (22-24)

II. The Rise of Seth's Family ... (4:25-26)

- They determined to **Build** a Godly Family.
- They determined to **Proclaim** God's Name.

Now What ...

1. The greatest need in a godless society is to develop **Godly Families**.
2. In a godless culture, we must center our lives in **Worship** and determine to **Proclaim His Great Name**.

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