Sermon Notes November 5, 2023

REDEMPTION CHURCH

Two Lies and a Truth | Culture Implodes

BIG POINT

Truth has stumbled because the church fell first. When the church fails, culture implodes. We are called to bring Kingdom culture to a corrupt, deceived culture —there is no "neutral". We can't build a foundation for society and culture on 'man's sin'.

REMINDER

Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.

-Isaiah 59:14-15

Last week we looked at how, when we see that truth has stumbled in the public squares, the Church fell first. What happens next? Culture implodes!

This week we walk through <u>Isaiah 59:4-13</u> as Steven compares and contrasts four differences between Kingdom culture and today's fallen culture. We're challenged to be representatives and defenders of Kingdom culture!

Notes:

No one enters suit justly; no one goes to law honestly; they rely on empty pleas, they speak lies, they conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity. 5They hatch adders' eggs; they weave the spider's web; he who eats their eggs dies, and from one that is crushed a viper is hatched. 6Their webs will not serve as clothing; men will not cover themselves with what they make. Their works are works of iniquity, and deeds of violence are in their hands. 7Their feet run to evil, and they are swift to shed innocent blood; their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; desolation and destruction are in their highways. 8The way of peace they do not know, and there is no justice in their paths; they have made their roads crooked; no one who treads on them knows peace. —Isaiah 59:4-8

Difference #1:

Lie: "Rely on empty pleas" (Is 59:4) confusion **Truth:** "Rely on God's word." (Isaiah 55:10-11)

- Kingdom culture trusts and builds everything on the Word of God, while fallen culture roots itself in and trusts confusion (see John 8:44-45).
- The enemy's strategy is, and has always been, deception. "Did God really say..?", "What is truth..?", "Who's to say..?"

Difference #2:

Lie: "They hatch...and weave...deeds of violence are in their hands." (Is 59:5-6)

Truth: "...rooted and built up in him..." (Colossians 2:6-8)

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John 8:44-45

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him.

When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.

Matthew 4:4

But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

NOW WHAT?

We are called to be lightbearers and salt spreaders who carry the message of the Gospel everywhere – including the public squares! In doing so, we bring truth and freedom to a lost, deceived, and dying world.

Notes continued...:

- Elemental = demonic. They are nice-sounding lies that are demonic and from the pit of hell.
- We see these lies disguised as ideas like "enlightenment," secular humanism, moral relativism, socialism, communism, progressive Christianity, social justice, critical theory, etc ...said another way, enslavement and DEATH!
- Matthew 4:4 warns us to 'watch what we eat.' Satan clothes his lies in "righteous" words and language, so we must remain hyper-vigilant and remain in the Word.
- Recommended reading, Fault Lines: The Social Justice Movement and Evangelicalism's Looming Catastrophe, by Voddie T. Baucham Jr.

Difference #3:

Lie: "Their feet run to evil..." (Is 59:7)

Truth: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" (Romans 10:15)

- They love evil and death...they enjoy it. The same Spirit that endorses Hamas endorses abortion. and the same theories mentioned above.
- We're called to bring life and hope with the Gospel.
- "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." Philippians 4:8

Difference #4:

Lie: "...they have made their roads crooked." (Is 59:8) **Truth:** "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:5-7)

• They love to twist words and take what is clear and straight and make it confusing and crooked.

Three Examples:

- Biblical Sexuality, "The Bible's not literal."
- Biblical inerrancy, "The Bible can't be trusted."
- Gender, "That's not what God meant."
- What does it lead to? Confusion and no peace.
- What is the opposite path? Following Jesus in His peace that passes understanding!