

Sermon Notes

February 24, 2019

THE CHURCH: Seeking to Sanctify

Jesus speaks of two spiritual competitors for our belief in Jesus:

- The world around us.
- The Evil one, known also as Satan.

Statistics bear out the following:

- Worldwide, only about 32% claim to be Christian.
- In the U.S.
 - about 75% of all people say they believe in God.
 - Only 62% of those who believe in God would say that Jesus is God.
 - For the 75% who believe in a God:
 - About 46.5 % believe Jesus is God.
 - About 28.5% only believe in a God.
 - So when someone says they believe in God, more than half (53.5%) do not believe in Jesus as God.
 - More than half of all people will spend their eternity separated from God.

If Jesus prays for protection from the world/Satan for us, we should pray for it too.

When Jesus asks God to sanctify, Jesus is asking the Father to purify the disciple's soul.

- Jesus sanctifies himself that others may be sanctified too.
- We need to be purified that others may become purified too.

Weekly Devotions

God speaks to us today by the Holy Spirit. Jesus said about the Holy Spirit,

“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will *teach* you all things and will *remind* you of everything I have said to you.”

This week, begin your quiet time with God by having your Bible and some paper/notebook in which to write some observations from God on. Use the following instructions for your time with God:

1. Ask God to first quiet your heart and mind so that you are available to God.
2. Ask God to speak to your heart as you read the scripture for the day.
 - a. Write down the most meaningful part of the scripture you read today.
 - b. In one or two sentences, write down the impression you received as you read this particular part of the scripture.
 - c. Finally write down what you feel God wants you to learn or do as a result of what impressed you.

Scriptures to Read:

- **MONDAY– John 17:13-18**
- **TUESDAY – 1 Peter 1:13-2:3**
- **WEDNESDAY – 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5**
- **THURSDAY – Hebrews 13:9-17**
- **FRIDAY – 2 Peter 3:10-18**
- **SATURDAY – Ephesians 5:25-26** – Paul uses the analogy of how Jesus loved the church as an example of how a husband should love his wife.