

“WHERE ARE WE?”

Before the days of a GPS in every pocket, I would occasionally get lost. My wife and I moved to a new city early in our marriage, and I wasn't given her keen sense of direction. Therefore, I was the one often left asking, “Where are we?”

It's an important question to ask, that is, if you want to get where you are going.

What is true directionally, is also true spiritually. If we want to follow Jesus faithfully, and fruitfully, we need to answer the question, “Where are we?”

The answer is that we are between two worlds.

On the one hand we live in this present world. When Jesus began his earthly ministry he said, “*The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.*” (Mk. 1:15) For those who have responded with faith to this gospel, we are citizens of God's kingdom in this world.

On the other hand, we live in a world that is still to come. For elsewhere, Jesus says, “My kingdom is not of this world.” (Jn. 18:36) The Apostle Paul says, “But our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Phil. 3:20)

We live between two worlds: *this present world, and the world to come.*

So what? If we forget we live in this present world, our temptation is to have wrong expectations and focus. We expect heaven on earth now. We forget that in this world, we will still struggle with sin, suffering and pain. Or, we can forget that we are here to fulfill a mission, a God-given purpose: to live as ambassadors for Christ.

We can also forget we live with one foot in the world to come. We give in to despair. We forget that real change and transformation is possible, by God's grace and power.

I plan to write on this blog weekly. My hope is to encourage the Church in her calling. My desperate longing is that we would know and honor Christ in all things.

It starts with orienting ourselves. Where are we?
We live... Between two worlds.

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