

The Influential One

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“Regardless of what anyone may personally think or believe about Him, Jesus of Nazareth has been the dominant figure in the history of Western culture for almost two centuries. If it were possible, with some sort of super-magnet, to pull up out of that history every scrap of metal bearing at least a trace of His name, how much would be left? It is from His birth that most of the human race dates its calendar, it is by His name that millions curse, and in His name that millions pray.”

— Jaroslav Pelikan

1. Jesus is the Creator of _____.

A. Jesus is the Creator of all. (John 1:2-3)

B. Adam was commissioned into that cultivation from the beginning. (Genesis 2:15)

2. Satan deceives with a _____ culture.

(Genesis 3:1)

3. Since the Fall, the Lord has _____ mankind to live out His _____ culture. (Gen. 4:6-7; Gen. 22:18; Ps. 67:1-4)

A. Jesus invites His people to live counter-culturally. (John 14:12)

4. Jesus desires to _____ and _____ culture for His glory.

A. He wants to work through us. (Matt. 28:19)

B. Every ethne will bring Him praise. (Rev. 5:9; Rev. 7:9-10)

C. Jesus’ ways are a counter-cultural blessing. (John 6:68-69)

Matthew 5:13-14 ESV You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world.

Matthew 13:33 ESV He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.”

Discussion Questions:

1. What is one thing you learned in this message?
2. How has the counterfeit culture influenced you?
3. How has Jesus called you to bring about change in the culture around you?
4. Have you accepted the invitation to influence those around you for God’s Kingdom?
5. In what ways have you seen Jesus’s counter-culture be a blessing?

Next Week: The Only One