

Friends and Enemies

Choose Life Series (CL-04)

February 25, 2024

- James 4:1–4

Friendship Initiated, Restored, Rejected

- 1 Corinthians 6:9–11 Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God?
 - Some of you were like that
 - You were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus
- Revelation 2:4–5
 - Possibility of its light being removed
 - No longer a viable church
 - Personal or individual application toward those that are making themselves enemies of God?
- Hebrews 6:1–6
 - People once enlightened
 - Experienced the good things of heaven
 - Shared in the Holy Spirit
 - Tasted the goodness of the word of God
 - Tasted of the power of the age to come
 - And then turn away from God
 - Impossible to bring such people back to repentance
 - Rejecting the Son of God – nailing him to the cross – holding him up in public shame

Deconstructed/Deconverted or Shipwrecked Faith

- Views of the Deconstructed
- Our culture celebrates uncertainty
 - You question everything
 - You cannot be certain about anything
 - You can't tell me you know truth
 - Truth evolves
- The Bible
 - A stone-age moral philosophy
 - Harmful to a lot of people
 - A false perspective that you can't love people and not accept or agree with them
 - View the gospels as a mix of religious propaganda and history

- Hebrews 3:12–14 ...so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God..
- Timothy 1:19–20 ...their faith has been shipwrecked.

Fallen Leadership in the Church

- 1 Timothy 3:6–7
 - Most visible to those outside the church
 - Good or bad reputation of leadership makes for good or bad view of the church
 - The Devil's trap – the thief comes to steal, kill, destroy
- Colossians 4:5 (NLT) — 5 Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:12 (NLT) — 12 Then people who are not believers will respect the way you live...

The short of Calvinism – people are predestined for heaven or hell – once saved always saved

- If you have deconstructed it means you were never constructed in the first place
- Reasoning
 - John 10:27–28
 - 1 John 2:19
 - However...1 Timothy 4:1–2
- Signs of a dead conscience
 - No sense of conviction of sin
- Acknowledgement of the wrong concept of “Just pray the prayer”
- Matthew 7:20–23
- 1 John 5:16–21
- The inclusive of “anything that might take God's place in your hearts.”
- Detailed
 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
 - Galatians 5:19-21
 - Exodus 20 – the Ten Commandments
 - Romans 13:8-10 – fulfillment of the law – Love your neighbor as yourself
 - Matthew 22:37-40
- Dealing with temptation starts with relationship
 - Friendship with God
 - Not friendship with the world
- 1 John 2:15–17