

Conforming to the Culture

“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Galatians 3:26-28 NKJV

“Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.”

Ephesians 4:21-24 NLT

**Colossae is about 100 miles from
Ephesus**

“For you have acquired new creation life which is continually being renewed into the likeness of the One who created you; giving you the full revelation of God. In this new creation life, your nationality makes no difference, nor your ethnicity, education, nor economic status—they matter nothing. For it is Christ that means everything as he lives in every one of us!”

Colossians 3:10-11 TPT

Culture:

-the language, accents, slang, cursing, complaining, whining, lying, bragging, talking loud, talking softly, fast, slow, enunciating, dropping consonants.

-the customs: roast beef every Sunday

-the religion: nominal, committed

-the values: money, power, family, possessions, hard work, sports, reputation, etc..

-the arts: music, movies, design

-Culture that develops independently of God is fleshly and worldly.

-Worldly, fleshly culture becomes increasingly corrupt

-Culture targets small children.

Communist Russia, 1918-1991, Hitler Youth

-Culture forms character, Friend who's daughter was told to address her teacher by her first name, honoring and respectful

-Character produces conduct

-Culture, character, and conduct leave a legacy that is picked up by the next generation.

When I got saved, I received Jesus as my Savior and Lord, was born again with a new nature, and transferred into a Kingdom with a new culture.

Conforming to that culture clashes with the culture I absorbed before I surrendered to Christ.

“Don’t imagine that I came to bring peace to the earth! I came not to bring peace, but a sword. ‘I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. Your enemies will be right in your own household!’

“If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.”

Matthew 10:34-39 NLT

- 1. Kingdom culture will not share with my culture.**
- 2. Kingdom culture will not merge with my culture.**
- 3. Kingdom culture will not change.**
- 4. I will change, by allowing my culture to be cut away, and by becoming united with Jesus and His Kingdom.**

From the beginning, culture has been the performance of mankind's rebellion against God's ways. Salvation brings us into a kingdom which brings us into a culture that is as different as night and day from the one that took hold of us at birth.

Man forms his own culture apart from God

God chooses a people to bless that will accept a godly culture and provide an alternative to the rest of the world.

They mix with other cultures and lose the godly one given to them by God.

God sends His Son to redeem a nation of spiritual sons and daughters empowered by the Holy Spirit to be..."are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,

His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”

I Peter 2:9-10 NKJV