

Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

We Become Like What We Love – Acts 14:8-23

Sermon Outline

1. Introduction – illustration of the King Leonidas
2. Two Loves
 - a. Love for the World
 - b. Love for God
3. Two Charges
 - a. Charge to Graduates
 - b. Charge to Congregation
4. Conclusion – choose this day whom you will serve

Scripture Passages Referenced

- Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all else and desperately sick. Who can understand it?
- Psalm 115:8 - Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.
- 1 John 2:15 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- Malachi 3:6 - For I the Lord do not change.
- Numbers 23:19 - God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind.
- 3 John 4 - I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.
- Joshua 24:15 - Choose this day whom you will serve.

Discussion Questions

- As we close this series on the first half of Acts, why is it important for us to study the early stages of the church of Jesus Christ?
- Why must we never think that the solution for the church today is to simply return to the 'good ole days'?
- How does the idea of 'we become like what we love' impact your view of life?
- In what ways do you see a love for the things of the world creeping in to your heart?
- What does it look like for you to keep God at a safe distance so He doesn't 'interfere' too much with your daily life?
- If our idols are worthless, how do we become worthless if we love them?
- Why does the doctrine of the impassibility of God seem difficult at first?
- How does the fact that God does not have passions and emotions like we do offer us hope rather than make us afraid?
- In what ways can you rest in the fact that because of Jesus, God can never stop loving you because he never started?
- What can we learn from the zeal of Paul and Barnabas for God's glory?
- How can you benefit from the challenge to continue in the faith?
- Why is it important to remember that it is through many tribulations that we must enter the kingdom of God?
- Who in your life is God calling you to commit to Him?
- What are some practical measures you can take to help your love for God grow?