

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 3-5-23
Christianity 101 – Message 27 Part 7
“Why have you done this?”

1. Introduction:
 - a. Taking a look back:
 - 1) The Angel of the Lord – **Judges 2:1-3**
 - a) Was there repentance?
 - 2) A generation arose that did not know the Lord.
 - a) Would this be concerning to you?
 - 3) Joshua had told them to **“put away the gods which your fathers served...”**
 - b. Taking a look ahead:
 - 1) Are we in any danger of making the same mistake?
 - 2) Are there idols today that we should be concerned with?
 - 3) The slow fade of faith...
 2. How does this slow fade begin?
 - a. Friendship with the world: **James 4:4**
 - 1) **“friendship”** –
 - 2) **“friend”** –
 - 3) What is the truth about friendship?
 - b. Look at the context:
 - 1) God uses the picture of adultery.
 - 2) **“a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”** You take your stand against God.
 - 3) What could be destructive to a marriage relationship?
 - 4) Friendship with the world means you are cheating on Jesus.
 - c. This is a daily battle:
 - 1) It is the list, the fleshly lusts that you are warring against.
 - 2) **Galatians 2:20** –
 - 3) **Galatians 5:17** –
 - 4) Flesh in the life of a believer is really self/selfishness.
 3. The slow fade continues as you are now:
 - a. Spotted by the world: **James 1:27**
 - 1) James is investing some truth to remember –
 - a) Verse 19-20 – **“be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.”** Verse 21 – get rid of the old life. Verse 22 – **“Be doers of the Word and not hearers only...”** Verse 22-24 – consequence of hearing and not obeying. Verse 25 – obedience brings blessing.
 - b. James continues to reveal key principles:
 - 1) James continues investing truth -
 - 2) **“keep himself unspotted from the world”** –
 - a) **“unspotted”** – being unblemished physically, morally. Uncontaminated from the world.
 - b) I Cor. 15:33 – evil companionships corrupt and deprave good manners, morals, character.
 4. Love for the world: I John 2:15
 - a. John really has a heart for people:
 - 1) **“and hereby we do know that we know him if we keep his commandments”** Vs. 3
 - 2) John exhorts them to love their brothers.
 - 3) John encourages believers at different stages of their growth.
 - b. Love not the world:
 - 1) **“love”** – loving in a social or moral sense.
 - 2) **“world”** – an invisible spiritual system that is opposed to God and His Son Jesus.

- 3) “**things**” – ideas, people, activities, purpose –
- c. It may be important to ask:
 - 1) How did we get here? To love the things of the world instead of loving God?
 - 2) Have we truly separated the friendship we had with the world before Christ?
- d. What is all of this revealing?
 - 1) The indifference you have is because of your love for the world.
 - 2) Two thoughts here –
- 5. The slow fade ends with:
 - a. Conformed to the world: **Romans 12:2**
 - 1) As a living sacrifice –
 - 2) “conformed” – living in the same pattern as the world.
 - 3) “be transformed by the renewing of your mind” – change your SOURCE!
- 6. Today’s Take Away:
 - a. Church, Believer -