

It is Time to Choose A
Side!

Wonderful Mercy Church - May 13, 2018

John 17:11–16 (Message)

For I'm no longer going to be visible in the world;
They'll continue in the world
While I return to you.

Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life
That you conferred as a gift through me,
So they can be one heart and mind
As we are one heart and mind.

As long as I was with them, I guarded them
In the pursuit of the life you gave through me;
I even posted a night watch.

John 17:11–16 (Message)

And not one of them got away,
Except for the rebel bent on destruction
(the exception that proved the rule of Scripture).

I gave them your word;
The godless world hated them because of it,
Because they didn't join the world's ways,
Just as I didn't join the world's ways.
I'm not asking that you take them out of the world
But that you guard them from the Evil One.
They are no more defined by the world
Than I am defined by the world.

Not Defined By the World

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Satan's Trap

- The enemy doesn't ask us to choose between Jesus and the world - he keeps us focused within the world.
- Those can be very important questions. We should exercise our discernment
- Satan starts to win the day when we start to choose up sides.

Choosing Sides is not Jesus' Way.

- “Racism is at war with the central reality of God’s love.” Pr. Graeme, May 6th
- *Anytime* you define someone as part of THEM, you are still at war with that central reality of God’s love.

Getting Out of the Trap

“Can we do it if God helps us? Yes, but what do we mean when we talk of God helping us? We mean God putting into us a bit of Himself, so to speak. He lends us a little of His reasoning powers and that is how we think: He puts a little of His love into us and that is how we love one another.”

Lewis, C. S.. Mere Christianity (C.S. Lewis Signature Classics) (p. 26). HarperCollins. Kindle Edition.

Yet, We Still Must Choose

- The Two Standards
- Choose the word Jesus gave his disciples and us, or choose the way of the world

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