

Sermon Discussion (11/23/2025)

The church is growing and so is the need to receive direction from Jesus. Paul is going to be in the cross hairs of the Kingdom of this World. The Kingdom of God is going to clash with the “Kingdom of this World” and Paul is going to feel the blowback.

Title: Our Relationship to the World

The Main Question: How do we view the “world”?

Points to Consider

1. The “World” is our mission field and our battlefield.
2. The Kingdom of this world and the Kingdom of God have different viewpoints and patterns.
3. The World is governed by a different spirit than the Kingdom of God.

Scripture References:

Acts 16:16–23 NIV

¹⁶ Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” ¹⁸ She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her. ¹⁹ When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. ²⁰ They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar ²¹ by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.” ²² The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. ²³ After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.

Application Questions

- Have you ever been confused about what the bible calls the “World” or the “Kingdom of this world?”
- What is it talking about?
- What does [1 John 4:4-5](#) say about our viewpoint?

Love God / Invitation / Relationship

We experience the love of God when we invite Him into our lives.

- Read [Acts 16:16-23](#).
- We experience the love of God when we invite Him into our lives. Where do you see the love of God?

Find Freedom / Learning / Clarity

Freedom is found when we learn a new way to think.

- Most of the people in this passage don’t want to learn to think differently. Why not?
- What is the resistance to the Kingdom of God?
- What are they afraid of losing?

See God / Prayer / Affirmation

It is much easier for us to “see” God when we are communicating with God. Prayer is how we communicate with God.

- Why can’t the people grasp the power of God?
- How does [Romans 12:2](#) relate to the dynamics at work in this passage?

Experience Healing / Serve Others / Opportunities

The brokenness in our hearts begins to heal as we serve other people.

- How does the world produce brokenness?
- What belief systems produce brokenness in the world?

Discover Joy / Gratitude / Community

The more grateful we are the more joy we feel.

- What do you think brings Paul joy?
- What do you think he is grateful for?
- What are the people grateful for?
- What brings them Joy?