

Evangelism Series: You Shall Be My Witnesses

In the World but Not of the World (John 17:13-20)

I. Introduction

"I have but one passion--it is He, it is He alone. The world is the field, and the field is the world; and henceforth that country shall be my home where I can be most used in winning souls for Christ." – Count Nikolus Ludwig Von Zinzendorf (Moravian Leader)

II. Christ call us "out" from the world (John 17:13-14)

A. Having **Christ's JOY** is what distinguishes believers from the world (vs. 13)

B. Holding forth **Christ's WORD** is what distinguishes believers in the world (vs. 14)

1) "I have given them your Word"

The larger context: The Word became flesh

2) "They are not of the world" (vs. 14 and 16)

The immediate context: Those who belong to Christ are distinct from the world

- We are not of the world in the same way as Jesus is not of the world (15:16)
- We are hated by the world for the same reason the world hated Him (15:18 ff)
- We are given the Holy Spirit to carry out Christ's work in the world (15:26; 16:8-10)

III. Christ sends us "into" the world (John 17:15-20)

A. We are **left in the world** for Christ's purposes (vs. 20-21)

1) The glory of the Son and the Father provides the context for Christ's prayer (1-4)

2) Jesus does not want us extracted from the world (vs. 15a)

B. We are **protected in the world** for Christ's purposes (vs. 15b)

C. We are **sanctified in the world** for Christ's purposes (vs. 16-20)

1) The definition of our sanctification (16)

2) The means of our sanctification (17)

3) The purpose for our sanctification (18)

4) The ground of our sanctification (19)

IV. Homework: How can I be intentional in pursuing a gospel mindset in my life? What lifestyle changes can I adopt to meaningfully engage and connect with the unbelievers or "outsiders"?