JESUS IS THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR LIFE

Social Christianity is when Jesus is reduced down to an additive to our life.

Biblical Christianity is being so convinced of **WHO** Jesus is and so grateful for **WHAT** Jesus has done that we willingly choose to **DO** what Jesus says!

Jesus is to be the framework of our life!

We experience tension when we have to surrender to Jesus and His Word through obedience.

It becomes an issue of control! Will I relinquish control of my life to Jesus and His ways?

Our life is to be an autobiography of Jesus in how we live life!

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. **Galatians 2:20** (niv)

We live in uncertain times where the foundations of our Christian lifestyles are being shaken.

Matthew 7:24-27 (erv) "Whoever hears these teachings of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. ²⁵ It rained hard, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house. But it did not fall because it was built on rock. ²⁶ "Whoever hears these teachings of mine and does not obey them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ It rained hard, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house. And it fell with a loud crash."

Our responses to adversity, uncertainty and disruptive times reveal the strength of our relationship with Jesus and His Word.

How should we, the Church respond to the uncertain times we live in now?

- Jesus has left the Church with a cause to pursue – The Great Commission.
- Jesus has also given the Church Kingdom values and principles to live by.

Mathew 5:13-16 (erv) "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its taste, it cannot be made salty again. Salt is useless if it loses its salty taste. It will be thrown out where people will just walk on it. ¹⁴ "You are the light that shines for the world to see. You are like a city built on a hill that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ People don't hide a lamp under a bowl. They put it on a lampstand. Then the light shines for everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, you should be a

light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.

We are to be Jesus in the society and world around us!

"The Son of man (Jesus) came to seek and save those who are lost." - the ungodly! (Luke 19:10 NLT)

People who were nothing like Jesus *liked* Jesus and He *liked* them back.

If **WE BE** Jesus in our communities, we will be **ATTRACTIONAL**.

We will attract those far away from Jesus to Jesus by being Jesus to them!

The Church is to represent God's Kingdom on earth.

Jesus' intention for His Church is to set the moral direction in society in how we live according to the Scriptures.

The Church is to guard against being distracted from pursuing Jesus' purpose for the Church.

Jesus is working in our midst, despite what is happening around us in our society.

...In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. **John 16:33**

Jesus is our hope and our peace in uncertain times and when we are being persecuted.

Ephesians 6:10-18 (erv) ... be strong in the Lord and in His great power. 11 Wear the full armor of God. Wear God's armor so that you can fight against the devil's clever tricks. 12 Our fight is not against people on earth. We are fighting against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world's darkness. We are fighting against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ That is why you need to get God's full armor. Then on the day of evil, you will be able to stand strong. And when you have finished the whole fight, you will still be standing. ¹⁴ So stand strong with the belt of truth tied around your waist, and on your chest wear the protection of right living. ¹⁵ On your feet wear the Good News of peace to help you stand strong. ¹⁶ And also use the shield of faith with which you can stop all the burning arrows that come from the Evil One. 17 Accept God's salvation as your helmet. And take the sword of the Spirit - that sword is the teaching of God. ¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times. Pray with all kinds of prayers, and ask for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready. Never give up. Always pray for all of God's people.

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