

Who in the room wants to take the world for Christ? It's not going to happen by speed witnessing, poetry evangelism but rather looking into the word of God and seeing what it has to say about 'Living in Sin...well.' What characterizes our time in America today? Earthquakes, devastations, narcissism (self love that shuts out everyone else), crashing economy, sin, porn, drunkenness and on and on.

We even have stumbled truth today:  
Women vs. dogs – Terry Schiavo – starvation  
Capital crime vs. abortion  
Humans vs. spotted owls – embryos  
Porn vs. politics – broadcasting wars

We are 'Living in Sin.' For us today, it's an equivalent metaphor that we live in modern day Babylon. How are we to, 'Living in Sin...well?'  
527 B.C. Babylon rebelled against Persian rule -**Intermarriage with unbelievers was common, as was the increased adoption of their pagan beliefs and practices. This spirit of compromise led to a noticeable deterioration in the spiritual life of the people of Israel.**

Jeremiah – Babylon emerged as the first world super power. Babylon became the largest and most magnificent city in the world. In 600 B.C. a paved road led to the kings palace. When the gates opened this was place of Capitol and religion. CHRIST WAS THEIR ENEMY!

There was a moral decay; people were forced to live in sin. Well, God wrote them a letter. He wrote a letter to the captives. The ones who were forced to 'Live in Sin.'

Jer. 29

Introduction: If you were to write a letter, what would your letter tell them?

- A. Theology
- B. Ethics
- C. Eschatology

1. Look Upward (Theology)- VS 1

**I. This is a message to ALL!**

- a. Whom shall we trust, worship, serve and obey? This comes from looking upward.
  - i. VS 4, 7 and twice 14
- b. You're exactly in the place where I want you to be. In the middle of Sin. In the middle of the corruptness. I will bring you out of it.

- c. The first place you look is upward unto God. He's where we get our theology.

**II. We are to check our hearts while living in Babylon but we are NOT to park there.**

- a. Chapter 4 God says, "You have no understanding."
- b. Chapter 9 God says, "You have forsaken the law."
- c. Chapter 17 says, "Your heart is sinfully wicked."

**III. We are NOT the solution, God is!**

Our purpose must not be like driving a car with both eyes in the mirror. It's a recipe for wreck. We live the Christian life telling others, "well if only God would place me over there." Lord, "Place me over there will you?"

2. Look outward (Ethics) – Psalm 57:2 tells us I will cry out to God Most High, To God who performs all things for me.

**I. How shall we live?**

- a. Lay foundations
- b. Engage culture, as it exists. Become them.
- c. Marriage. Promote this core building block in society.
- d. Employ intergenerational strategies.
- e. Pray for Babylon
- f. Seek Babylon's welfare. Seek, what's your strategy? What are you doing in Babylon?

**II. The only way to make culture is to create it. Don't mimic it or copy it. We must be competent if we are going to LIVE IN SIN...WELL.**

This means we must have teachers, business owners, and judges, politicians who see this way. Jesus doesn't want a place at the table. He owns the table. We talk about politics, and when put our political party before God, we bring separation and we can't do that. We have to put God first.

You see...we are saved from and to and for.

**I. Pray for Babylon. Pray for those in authority, high places, judges, and all those who need Christ.**

- a. Church is life beyond the local church. Doing good to the city is our duty as God's people.
- b. Without spiritual engagement you will have spiritual immaturity.

3. Look Forward (Eschatology)

**I. Our living in sin will be temporary.**

- a. How long do we live in this battle? ALL OUR LIVES looking forward to our Blessed hope.

## **II. Suffering in Babylon**

- a. Not suffering for the Wii, xbox, Harley and more.
- b. You have to merge the Gospel with culture.
- c. Powerhouse fathfull is who God is calling you to be.

You have to take a leap of faith, engage in culture and see results.

What areas has the Lord called you to increase your Faith. We live in Babylon, do not trust in yourself.

Look upward, outward and forward.

Now let's get back to the first question.

Who wants to take this world for Christ?

“Those who want to win the world for Christ must have the courage to come in conflict with it.

Titus Brandsma – Martyr