



Pergamum: God's Church In My Culture

THE SEVEN - The Kind of Church God Wants #3

Tim Gill - January 29, 2017

What does God want me to know as I live in my culture?

1. I'm not going to get along with my culture.

I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.

Revelation 2:13 (NIV)

Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be treated badly.

2 Timothy 3:12 (NIRV)

If you find the godless world is hating you, remember it got its start hating me. If you lived on the world's terms, the world would love you as one of its own. But since I picked you to live on God's terms and no longer on the world's terms, the world is going to hate you.

John 15:18-19 (MSG)

2. I must be a godly influence wherever I am.

I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me... where Satan lives.

Revelation 2:13 (NIV)

Dear brothers and sisters, you are foreigners and aliens here. So I warn you to keep away from evil desires because they fight against your very souls.

1 Peter 2:11 (NLT)

*I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world...
¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.*

John 17:11, 15-16 (NIV)

People who do not believe are living all around you and might say that you are doing wrong. Live such good lives that they will see the good things you do and will give glory to God on the day when Christ comes again.

1 Peter 2:12 (NCV)

3. I must resist compromising with my culture.

If a godly man compromises with the wicked, it is like polluting a fountain or muddying a spring.

Proverbs 25:26 (TLB)

Nevertheless, I have a few things against you. There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. ¹⁵ Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

Revelation 2:14-16 (NIV)

You should know that loving what the world has is the same as hating God. So anyone who wants to be friends with this evil world becomes God's enemy.

James 4:4 (ERV)

Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God.

Romans 12:2 (MSG)

4. God will take care of me.

To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

Revelation 2:17b (NIV)