

How to Dump a Country

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John 17:1-11 (CEV)

¹ After Jesus had finished speaking to his disciples, he looked up toward heaven and prayed: Father, the time has come for you to bring glory to your Son, in order that he may bring glory to you. ² And you gave him power over all people, so that he would give eternal life to everyone you give him. ³ Eternal life is to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent. ⁴ I have brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you gave me to do. ⁵ Now, Father, give me back the glory that I had with you before the world was created. ⁶ You have given me some followers from this world, and I have shown them what you are like. They were yours, but you gave them to me, and they have obeyed you. ⁷ They know that you gave me everything I have. ⁸ I told my followers what you told me, and they accepted it. They know that I came from you, and they believe that you are the one who sent me. ⁹ I am praying for them, but not for those who belong to this world. My followers belong to you, and I am praying for them. ¹⁰ All that I have is yours, and all that you have is mine, and they will bring glory to me. ¹¹ Holy Father, I am no longer in the world. I am coming to you, but my followers are still in the world. So keep them safe by the power of the name that you have given me. Then they will be one with each other, just as you and I are one.

John 17:9; 11 (CEV)

⁹ I am praying for them, but not for those who belong to this world. My followers belong to you, and I am praying for them. ¹¹ Holy Father, I am no longer in the world. I am coming to you, but my followers are still in the world. So keep them safe by the power of the name that you have given me. Then they will be one with each other, just as you and I are one.

How Do We Live in a Foreign Land?

1) We can embrace our foreignness.

John 17:14 (NLT)

¹⁴ I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

SERMON NOTES

Christian vs. the World

Christian's value truth in a world that distorts and disdains the truth.

Christian's value money as a tool to serve God and others in a materialistic world that worships money.

Christian's value life in a world that values convenience and expedience.

Christian's value sex in marriage between one man and one woman in a world that just values sex (with anyone/anywhere/anytime).

Christian's value creation as an act of the Creator's divine love for His creation. In a world that values evolution. Reducing people to a cosmic accident with no divine purpose.

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

2) We can survive as foreigners by seeking God's protection.

John 17:15 (NLT)

¹⁵ I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one.

"Do not love the world or anything in the world" (1 John 2:15, NIV).

"The desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches" and says that these things do not come "from the Father but from the world" (1 John 2:16).

3) We can survive by staying connected with our own.

"So that they may be one," Jesus says (v. 11, NIV).

4) Attitude is important.

"So that they may have my joy made complete in themselves" (v. 13, NIV).