ALL OR NOTHING

I Don't Want to Move July 22, 2018

<u>Introduction</u>: We find ourselves from time-to-time torn between two loves – a love for this world, and a love for God. We know we are not supposed to love this world, but its enticements have a way of drawing us in. We often find fulfillment in the temporary instead of the eternal. Why do we keep moving back and forth between these two worlds? Is it lack of commitment? Are we lukewarm Christians? What would move you to be all-in?

Scripture Reading: Revelation 3:14-16

...For whatever **overcomes a person**, to that **he is enslaved** (2 Peter 2:19b).

The Middle – That Which Exists Between

¹⁴ "And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: 'The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation. ¹⁵ I know your works: **you are neither cold nor hot**. Would that you were either cold or hot! ¹⁶ So, because **you are lukewarm**, and neither hot nor cold, **I will spit you out of my mouth**'" (Revelation 3:14–16).

I. The Divine Response

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for **you were bought with a price**. So glorify God in your body (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but **present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life**, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness (Romans 6:13).

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship (Romans 12:1).

II. The <u>Human</u> Response

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

³⁸ "And whoever does not take his cross and follow me **is not worthy of me**. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and **whoever loses his life for my sake will find it**" (Matthew 10:38–39).

⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸ For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, **whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's** (Romans 14:7–8).

¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will **entrust their souls to a faithful Creator** while doing good (1 Peter 4:19).

- A. Am I willing to give myself totally to God?
- B. Am I willing to give up self-reliance?
- C. Am I willing to denounce self-exaltation?
- D. Am I willing to be utterly <u>dependent</u> on God?

III. The Worldly Appeal

¹⁵ **Do not love the world** or the things in the world. If anyone **loves the world**, the **love of the Father is not in him**. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father **but is from the world** (1 John 2:15–16).

IV. Delayed Gratification

if we **endure**, we will also **reign with him**; if we **deny him**, he also will **deny us** (2 Timothy 2:12).

For **you have need of endurance**, so that when you have **done the will of God** you may **receive what is promised** (Hebrews 10:36).

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