

Sermon Notes August 23, 2020

WHEN THE STATE BECOMES GOD

Daniel 3:4-5 Matthew 22:21

IMAGES and their Influence...Whatever is considered of most value is worshiped.
Worship=WORTHSHIP

Communism: Atheistic...and yet the State assumes godlike status... Pastor's Youth Experience...I am your only god-Soldier to Pastor Superintendent's unwillingness to close the church

Image of Gold-Daniel 3-Dedication and Proclamation...Sounds-commanded to fall down and worship the Image Or...face a Blazing Furnace. Tipping Point for the exiled...Worship the Lord their God, Jehovah and him only...3 Hebrews refused to fall down and worship.

The King and Culture of Babylon assumed a role as god. Demanded worship of a lifeless image

JESUS: His culture and the God or Caesar question. Coin-Image of Caesar...money, taxes belonged to him. BELIEVER-Image of God, no money, no earthly value can eclipse that...Believers are to be-Given to God.

Caesar-a god or son of one of the many Roman gods. The empire's demands were many. Jesus did not dispute this. But he went a step further to reveal his knowledge of the Separate Kingdoms.

We see a sense of being in the world, engaged...yet other than...because of the Kingdom of God which was breaking in.

Kingdom: 1) Transcends this world, 2) Completely Acknowledges God alone as God, 3) Not Yet Consummated. The Revelation Expression: "The kingdom of the world, has become, the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign forever and ever!" (Revelation 11:15)

WE BELIEVE : We Believe in a God who is always with us. We Believe in a God who never forsakes us. We Believe in a God who is revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We Believe in a God who gives confidence to face everything which appears in this world as we await the fullness in the world that is to come.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray, Amen.