

LIVING WITH CONFIDENCE IN A WORLD GONE MAD

INTRODUCTION:

1. **Definition of Culture** - can be defined as all the ways of life including the arts, beliefs and the way of life that has been passed down from generation to generation.
2. We now live in what's known as the "**Cancel Culture**."
 - a) Cancel culture is the modern social attitude that controversial speech or behavior must be punished through public shaming, silencing, boycotting, firing, bankrupting, and de-platforming.
 - b) The result is that the offender's influence, presence, and/or reputation is "**called out**."
 - c) But Cancel Culture wants to make sure the abuser is held accountable.
3. Woke has to do with seeing racial discrimination in everything.
 - a) **Mark 12:31**
 - b) **Galatians 3:28**
4. **2 Corinthians 2:14**
 - a) "*But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession.*"
 - b) "*and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.*"
5. In these last days we must not live in fear and defeat!!
 - a) **2 Timothy 1:7**

WE MUST LEARN TO LIVE WITH CONFIDENCE

I. CONFIDENCE IN GOD

1. Christmas Message - "**A Christmas Secret**." Review
 - a) **Colossians 1:15-20, 27**

I. JESUS IS ABOVE ALL CREATION

A. PRIOR IN TIME

1. Vs 15a
 - a) "**image**" - icon
2. Vs 15b
 - a) "**firstborn**" - means prior
3. Vs 17a
 - a) "**and He is before all things**"

4. Vs 16-17

B. JESUS IS SUPERIOR IN POSITION

1. Vs 16-17b

a) *"and in Him all things hold together"*

2. The Immensity of the Universe.

- **Million:** 1,000,000
- **Billion:** 1,000,000,000
- **Trillion:** 1,000,000,000,000
- **Quadrillion:** 1,000,000,000,000,000
- **Quintillion:** 1,000,000,000,000,000,000

3. *Psalm 147:3-4*

4. The Complexity of the human body.

a) 37.2 trillion cells in the human body.

II. JESUS WAS BORN TO DIE

1. Vs 19

2. Vs 20

a) *"reconcile"* - means to exchange

3. Vs 21-22

III. A CHRISTMAS SECRET

1. Vs 26

2. Vs 27

a) *"which is Christ in you the hope of glory"*

II. CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S WORD

1. *1 Peter 1:23-25*

2. *Hebrews 4:12*

3. *Acts 4:31*

4. *Romans 10:17*

5. *Ephesians 6:17*

6. *2 Timothy 3:16*

7. *Proverbs 30:5*

8. WE MUST UNDERSTAND THE CARDINAL DOCTRINES OF THE FAITH:

a) These are **Non-negotiables**.

- 1) Deity of Christ - **John 8:24**
- 2) Salvation - **Galatians 5:4**
- 3) The Resurrection - **1 Corinthians 15:14**
- 4) Only One Way - **John 14:16**
- 5) Virgin Birth

b) **Four Reasons Jesus had to be born of a Virgin.**

1) To fulfill Prophecy

a. **Genesis 3:15**

b. **Isaiah 7:14; cf. Matthew 1:21-23**

2) **For Jesus to Be The Rightful Heir to the Throne of David**

a. **Davidic Covenant - 2 Samuel 7:12-17**

- Everlasting Kingdom - Vs 16
- Everlasting Throne - Vs 16
- Royal Lineage (seed) - Vs 12, 16

b. **Problem - A Curse**

- **Jeremiah 36:27-31**
- King Jehoiakim's son Jehoiakim burned God's Word
- **Matthew 1:6-11**
- The lineage of Christ from David through Solomon to the Christ was cursed. It was cut off.
- It went directly to Joseph, Jesus legal Father.
- Which allowed Him to have all the privileges of the throne.
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3) **For Jesus to be the True Seed of David**

a. Through Nathan - David's other son - **Luke 3:30-31**

- **Genesis 3:15**

b. Mary was the biological heir of David

c. Which entitled Jesus to the Throne.

- **Isaiah 9:6-7**

4) **The Virgin Birth was necessary for Salvation - Why?**

a. Sin is hereditary

- **Romans 5:12**

b. The Solution is the Virgin Birth

c. Jesus had no earthly father.

d. Yet a sinless physical body.

III. CONFIDENCE IN THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL - **Ephesians 4:17-19**

A. BEGINS WITH A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

1. The Christian life is fundamentally about change.

2. Ephesians 4:20

a) *"But that is not the way you learned Christ"*

1) *"the way"* - refers to unbelievers living in sin.

b) *"you learned Christ"*

1) *1 Corinthians 15:1-4*

B. BEGINS WHEN YOU HEAR CHRIST

1. Vs 21

a) *"assuming you have heard him"*

C. BEGINS WHEN YOU ARE TAUGHT IN CHRIST

1. Vs 21

a) *"and were taught in him"*

2. *2 Peter 3:18*

D. BEGINS WHEN YOU KNOW THE TRUTH THAT IS IN JESUS

1. Vs 21

a) *"as the truth is in Jesus"*

2. That's the truth about sin and righteousness.