

## Living in Two Worlds - Aaron Heinly

Ask the kids (boys) what kind of father they want to be. What are some things they want to do as a father.

Ask the girls what kind of fathers they hope their husbands will be.

What kind of Father is God?

Take answers from crowd.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Jeremiah 1:5

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;  
Before you were born I sanctified you;  
I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

Romans 8:15-18

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

You received a Spirit of Freedom not of bondage to fear.

What have you feared in the past?

The fear of your own sin? The fear of not living up to expectations? The fear of disappointing God? The fear of disappointing others? The fear of not having your needs met? The fear of abuse? The fear of who you’ve

become because of what's happened to you? The fear that this is all life amounts to? The fear of what others think? The fear of losing what you love? The fear of not getting what you want?

No! Your loving Father has given you a Spirit that has no fear! No fear because you are loved as a child of God!

Break those chains by recognizing what your loving Father has done for you!

1 John 4:18-19

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.  
19 We love Him because He first loved us.

Because we have become children of God, we are aliens on Earth.

1 Peter 2:11

Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,

1 Peter 2:9 KJV

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light;

John 17:13-19 (Jesus' prayer)

13 But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify[a] them by Your truth. Your word is truth. 18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

Ephesians 2:6 NIV

And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

So, we are in the world but not of it - we walk this earth but are seated in heavenly places.

What does that mean?

We are going to spend the rest of the teaching answering that question as well as these others:

What's the point of living in 2 worlds?

How do you respond to trouble when you live in 2 worlds?

Can you live in one and not the other when you are in Christ?

How do you deal with consequences of your own sin when you live in 2 worlds?

So we'll start with what does it mean to be seated in heavenly places in Christ - to live in 2 worlds at once?

It means you get to fear nothing for you are secure in love.

You do not fear death. Luke 12:4-5

“And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

- Why don't you fear death? Because you never really die! You only live fuller! What should you fear? Not accepting the gift of salvation he offered to prevent us from true death - hell.

Living in 2 worlds means you are secure in love and you do not fear being wronged.

1 Corinthians 13:5 concerning love

(LOVE) does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, [c]thinks no evil;

How would you like to be unprovokable? You are because He has given you His Love! Notice the little footnote marking on Thinks No Evil. That's a terrible translation. The footnote tells us how it should be translated:

"Keeps no account of evil"

You do not fear being wronged because you keep no account of it. His grace has covered all of it and His love has cast that fear out!

Living in 2 worlds means you don't fear disappointing God.

Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Can principalities separate you from the love of God? No!

Can things to come separate you from the love of God? No!

Then can you separate you from the love of God? No!

Yes, sin separates from God but what did Jesus do with your sin?

Was He successful?

In that case, can your sin separate you from the love of God?

Then can you disappoint God? No!

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Jeremiah 1:5

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;

Before you were born I sanctified you;

If He knows everything about us and sanctified us in Christ before we were born, can we disappoint Him? No!

Write this down:

HE KNOWS YOU. HE CHOSE YOU. HE GROWS YOU.

Now there is a difference between disappointing God and not pleasing Him. The bible tells us there are ways to please God. And ways to not please God.

A heart of obedience will please God. And knowing you cannot disappoint Him, knowing His great love for you, will actually empower you to please God by submitting to His beautiful authority.

Living in 2 worlds means you fear nothing because you are secure in love.

That answers What does it mean...but what's the *point* of living in 2 worlds.

Ephesians 2:4-7

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

- 1) The point is He loves us! "Because of His great love"
- 2) The point is to display His grace "that...He might show (display)...His grace"
- 3) The point is to demonstrate His kindness through Christ (glorifying Christ in us)

WARNING

Romans 8:12-14

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

We are debtors. But to what? To love! Romans 8:38 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

So we can't disappoint God but we can live according to the flesh (live in 1 world - the Earthly world to the neglect of the other). If we do that, what is the result?

Just reverse the point of living in 2 worlds.

- 1) We ignore the fact that He loves us
- 2) His grace is not displayed in us
- 3) His kindness through Jesus is not demonstrated in our lives.

What happens if you ignore the earthly world and only focus on the heavenly?

You can't!

Either you will be deceiving yourself - studying the things of God intellectually - using your brain which is flesh - all the while really having nothing to do with the heavenly

OR

As you focus on the reality of the other world - the incomparable love of God that casts out all fear and breaks your bondages, your heart will so overflow with love for others that you won't be able to contain yourself.

Mark 12:29-31

Jesus answered him, "The [a]first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' [b]This is the first commandment. 31 And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Why is love others 2nd?

When you embrace your standing in the heavenly world, you become qualified for earthly world.

Finally, how do you deal the the consequences of your own sin when we live in 2 worlds?

The same way you handle your successes. With humility and rejoicing in the grace of God.

Because neither the good nor the bad you've done has anything to do the great love God has lavished on us through the cross.

1 John 3:1NIV

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Two biblical examples of accepting consequence are the woman at the well and the thief on the cross.

Luke 23:39-43

39 Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us."

40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

43 And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Our response to reaping consequences should be "I receive the due reward for my deeds but Jesus is the innocent one who reaped the real due rewards for my sin. Jesus remember me.

And then the woman at the well.

John 4:28-30

The woman then left her water pot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, 29 "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" 30 Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

Yes, everybody, I did it. I sinned. But come and see the man who showed me just how sinful I really am. Come see the Christ! He's here. He's real! Forgive me for my sin, my friend. I know I have consequences to deal with

now. Whatever. All I know is I came with an empty water pot but **now I've left the water pot behind!**

The Greek word for repent is metanoia. Which means "a transformative change of heart or mind"

If you feel like your stuck in the physical world only and need to repent - need a transformative change of heart or mind regarding your life - come and receive ministry.

If you don't know Jesus, He is the good Father's gift to you this Father's day. Come and repent. Come experience a transformative change of heart and mind and live in 2 worlds at once as you were born to.