

AN UPSIDE DOWN WORLD

GETTING THE WORLD RIGHT SIDE UP

"...they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;"

~ Acts 17:5

1. The World is Upside Down

- a. *"these that have turned the world upside down"* - Acts 17:6
- b. Love not the world, nor things in the world - 1 John 2:15-16; 1 Tim 6:7
- c. God gives us all things to enjoy, but what makes it upside down is the perspective
- d. You would not know the world is upside down without the bigger picture

2. You Will Be Backward

- a. Grace teaches to live denying the world in which we live - Titus 2:11-13
- b. You will be seen as backward, but orientation is a matter of perspective
- c. What is seen as wise is foolish - 1 Cor 1:20; Not many wise or noble – 1 Cor 1:26-29
- d. Confident to walk by faith not sight? Are you blind? - 2 Cor 5:7-8
- e. You actually walk in the flesh, but you are supposed to walk in the Spirit – Gal 5:25
- f. The way to life is through death? – 1 Cor 15:36; Gal 2:20; Rom 6:3,11
- g. We are children of light, but are seen as ignorant, anti-science, irrational – Eph 4:17-19
- h. "Have faith!" We do not glory in appearance, but in heart – 2 Cor 5:12-13; Phil 3:18-19
- i. "Follow Jesus!", but Jesus wasn't talking to you – Matt 8:4; 15:24
- j. "Read the Bible!", but not all the Bible is to or about you.
- k. This is easier for some than others, but our confidence is found in God through Christ
- l. Your perspective and priorities are different. The Bible changes both.

3. Keep Yourself Oriented

- a. It takes something alive and moving to swim against the stream – your life is in Christ
- b. Your perspective and priorities need to be anchored to that of Christ's
- c. The best of us can be disoriented – see Demas – 2 Tim 4:10
- d. Going with the flow leads you down the drain, beware!
- e. Jesus as our Saviour and Head is a practical reality – Phil 3:20; Col 3:1-4