

#### **TODAY'S MESSAGE:**

# **WITH - Life Under God**

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What comes to your mind when you think of God is the most important thing about you.

- A.W. Tozer

# Revelation 21:3 (NIV)

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

### What do we mean by Life Under God?

### Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> **For** we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

How Jesus pushes back on Life Under God?

How can you see Life Under God in YOURSELF? Church?

## Galatians 3:1-3 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. <sup>2</sup> I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? <sup>3</sup> Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?

Unhealthy Fear of God Fearing His judgment

#### 1 John 4:15-18 (NIV)

<sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

**Evangelism focuses on morality and not Jesus.** 

We think a healthy spiritual life is simply avoiding sin.

#### **Reflection Questions:**

- 1. If you were to stand before God and He asked you why should you be allowed into eternity with Him, what would you say? Why is our answer to this question so important?
- 2. How would you describe your personal experience of God? How do you relate to Him?
- 3. How would you describe to someone the "Life Under God" posture of relating to Him? In what way(s) is this posture of relating to God incomplete or inaccurate? How can it lead to distance or disconnection from God?
- 4. How have you seen this posture in yourself? Others? The Church? Give some examples to explain.
- 5. How can Life Under God posture lead to an unhealthy fear of God and/or insecurity in our standing before Him? (Read 1 John 4:15-18)
- 6. How can Life Under God posture lead us to pride and judgment and lack of compassion for others?
- 7. How would you describe your motivation for being obedient to God and avoiding sin? What should be our primary motivation for obedience and avoiding sin?
- 8. What are some examples of Jesus correcting and challenging the error of the Life Under God posture of relating to God? How do you need to correct this in your own life?

