

Pastor Ron Case
2/12/23

“Trust Trade-off” (2)

“...They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.” (Romans 1:25)

Trusting in Created Beings

Genesis 3:1-5 – (1) Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’ (2) And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, (3) but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’ (4) But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. (5) For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’”

Jeremiah 17:5-6 – (5) “Thus says the LORD: ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. (6) He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.”

Jesus’ Wariness Regarding People

John 2:23-25 – (23) “Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. (24) But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people (25) and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.”

Bitter Betrayals in the End Times

Mark 13:12-13 – (12) “And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. (13) And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.”

People will Fail Us; God Will Not.

Psalm 27:10 – “Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.”
(NIV)

Isaiah 63:16 – “For you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name.”

Micah 7:4-7 – (4) “The best of them is like a brier, the most upright of them a thorn hedge. The day of your watchmen, of your punishment, has come; now their confusion is at hand. (5) Put no trust in a neighbor; have no confidence in a friend; guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your arms; (6) for the son treats the father with contempt, the daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; a man’s enemies are the men of his own house. (7) But as for me, I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.”

2 Timothy 4:16-17 – (16) “At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! (17) But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion’s mouth.”

Practice Political Pragmatism

Psalms 146:3-6 – (3) “Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. (4) When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. (5) Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, (6) who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever”

Choose the Lord

Joshua 24:14-15 – (14) “Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. (15) And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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