

Lecture 7 – Postmodernism D: Consequences I, Part 4; Consequences II, Part 1

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” 1 Peter 3:15

Key Terms

Suburbia, idolatry, truth

Objectives

- *Express how the modern suburban community challenges the biblical notion of community.
- *Identify the place and the role of idolatry in the postmodern mindset.
- *List and explain the challenges that the postmodern reality poses to the spread of the Gospel.

D. Consequences I (cont.)

4. Breakdown of relationships (cont.)

c. Loss of community in suburbia

- Suburban community:
- In the church:
- The pursuit of happiness:

5. Practical idolatry

Read: “How the World Lost Its Story” by Robert Jensen (at www.firstthings.com)

- idols of the mind
- idols of the will (people have no commandments to direct their lives)
- idols of the heart

6. The return to paganism

D. Consequences II

What is my neighbor thinking *about me*?

Three main questions to think about for this section:

1. What particular difficulties does this postmodern reality create for Christians?
2. Are we being faithful as we seek to serve God with these pressures?
3. What particular challenges does this create for us as we seek to reach out with the Gospel?

1. The loss of truth

- a. Truth claims are offensive.
- b. Do we hold on to truth?

2. The loss of moral direction

- a. Absolute moral commands are offensive.
- b. Do we hold on to God’s laws and love Him?

Questions & Answers