We are living in a fast-pace world that is ever-changing and calling for us adjust. There are many politically correct issues that we as the church need to discuss concerning the world that we live in. This morning's sermon is going to be that type of lesson. Prepare yourself this morning to take on the social issues of Global Warming, Saving the Environment, Equal Justice, Relativism, Animal Rights and Immigration Reform.

### I) Global Warming

- We should be very concerned over the global warming that is headed our way concerning how it will all turn out in the end..
- 2 Peter 3:7 But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.
- 2 Peter 3:10-12 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. <sup>11</sup> Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, <sup>12</sup> looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!
- 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 "...the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, <sup>8</sup> In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:"
- Luke 12:49 "I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish it were already kindled!
- Revelation 21:8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part *will be* in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

### II) Saving the Environment!

A) Save the environment of the congregation.

- <u>Good Environment of worship</u> (John 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.")
- <u>Good Environment of leadership</u> Hebrews 13:17 (Obey your leaders and submit *to them*, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.
- <u>Good Environment of Ministries</u> (2 Timothy 4:5 But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry)
- <u>Good Environment of Discipline</u> (Revelation 3:19 'Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.)

### B) Save the Environment for your children.

- <u>Be spiritual role models.</u> (Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.)
- <u>Train them up in the LORD.</u> (Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.)

• <u>Surround them with a solid core group of young saints.</u> (1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

### III) Equal Justice!

#### A) Embryonic Justice

- Job 31:15 confirms that we as people are made in the womb.
- Eccl 11:5 talks about the formation of our skeletal structure in the womb.
- Isa 49:1 says that Isaiah was ordained from the womb to be a prophet.
- Jer 1:4-5 says that Jeremiah was consecrated from the womb to be a prophet.
- Luke 1:41-42 mentions that Elizabeth's baby leaped in her womb. The passage further refers to Jesus while in the womb as blessed.
- Gal 1:15 states that Paul was set apart from his mother's womb unto salvation.
- Ps 139:13-14 For Thou didst form my inward parts; Thou didst weave me in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup> I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Thy works, and my soul knows it very well.

#### B) Geriatric Justice

- Job 12:12 "Wisdom is with aged men, {with} long life is understanding.
- Job 32:7 "I thought age should speak, and increased years should teach wisdom.
- Prov 20:29 The glory of young men is their strength, and the honor of old men is their gray hair.
- 1 Tim 5:1-2 Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but {rather} appeal to {him} as a <u>father</u>, {to} the younger men as brothers, <sup>2</sup> the older women as <u>mothers</u>, {and} the younger women as sisters, in all purity.
- Lev 19:32 'You shall rise up before the grayheaded, and honor the aged, and you shall revere your God; I am the LORD.

### C) Saintly Justice

- Psalm 94:1-2 O LORD, God of vengeance, God of vengeance, shine forth! <sup>2</sup> Rise up, O Judge of the earth, Render recompense to the proud.
- Romans 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath *of God*, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.
- Revelation 6:9-10 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; <sup>10</sup> and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

### IV) Relativism

- Nothing could be further from the truth. The Bible is filled with many absolutes that we can bank on. Here are just a few.
- John 5:28-29 "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, <sup>29</sup> and will come forth; those who did the good *deeds* to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil *deeds* to a resurrection of judgment.

- Acts 17:31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.
- John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.
- Ephesians 4:4-6 *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

### V) Animal Rights

There is much discussion from those in the media and activist arm of the planet to make sure you know the topic of animal rights. Let us also spend a couple minutes on this to make sure that we covered it biblically.

### A) You have a right to put animals on your plate.

- Gen 9:3 "Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you; I give all to you, as *I gave* the green plant.
- Acts 10:9-16 On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. <sup>10</sup> But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance; <sup>11</sup> and he saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground, <sup>12</sup> and there were in it all *kinds of* four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air. <sup>13</sup> A voice came to him, "Get up, Peter, kill and eat!" <sup>14</sup> But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean." <sup>15</sup> Again a voice *came* to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no *longer* consider unholy." <sup>16</sup> This happened three times, and immediately the object was taken up into the sky.
- Matthew 15:11 "It is not what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man."
- 1Timothy 4:4-5 For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: <sup>5</sup> For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

### B) You also have a right to <u>not</u> put animals on your plate.

- Romans 14:2-3 One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables *only*. <sup>3</sup> The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him.
  - C) You never have a right to have "animal on your plate" stumbling blocks.
- 1 Corinthians 8:8-9 But food will not commend us to God; we are neither the worse if we do not eat, nor the better if we do eat. 9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

#### VI) <u>Immigration Reform</u>

If you have not noticed this in the news as of late, it is because you are under a rock. What would a controversial sermon like this be without covering the issue of Immigration Reform?

### A) Reform your migration plan to worship on the first day of the week with the saints.

• Hebrews 10:24-25 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another;* and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

### B) Reform your migration plan to attend the small group Bible studies.

- Acts 2:46-47 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.
- Acts 5:42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus *as* the Christ.

#### C) Reform your migration plan to be in heaven on that last day.

- John 18:36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."
- Philippians 3:20-21 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; <sup>21</sup> who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.
- Ephesians 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,

This is really what is important in the end, are you in heaven with God or not. If you have not participated in this plan of immigration, then it is time to change your citizenship to reflect God in your life. Cross the border of heaven and earth, being immersed for the forgiveness of your sins, knowing that your soul is transferred into the loving arms of God.