

The Book of Proverbs

Resident Aliens vs. Cultural Christians

Upcoming Events

THE CHANGING FACE OF
HOUSTON
WHAT DO THE NEXT 10 YEARS HOLD?
The Gathering of Men
Tuesday, September 27, 2016
6:45 am to 8:15 am
The Junior League of Houston

Dr. Stephen Klineberg
"The Future of Houston"

Jeff Reeter
"A Corporate Strategy for a
Changing Environment!"

Reid Gettys
"How will YOU Change?"

Men's Bible Study

7:30 – Thursday Night

6:00 – Friday Morning

The Intertestamental Period

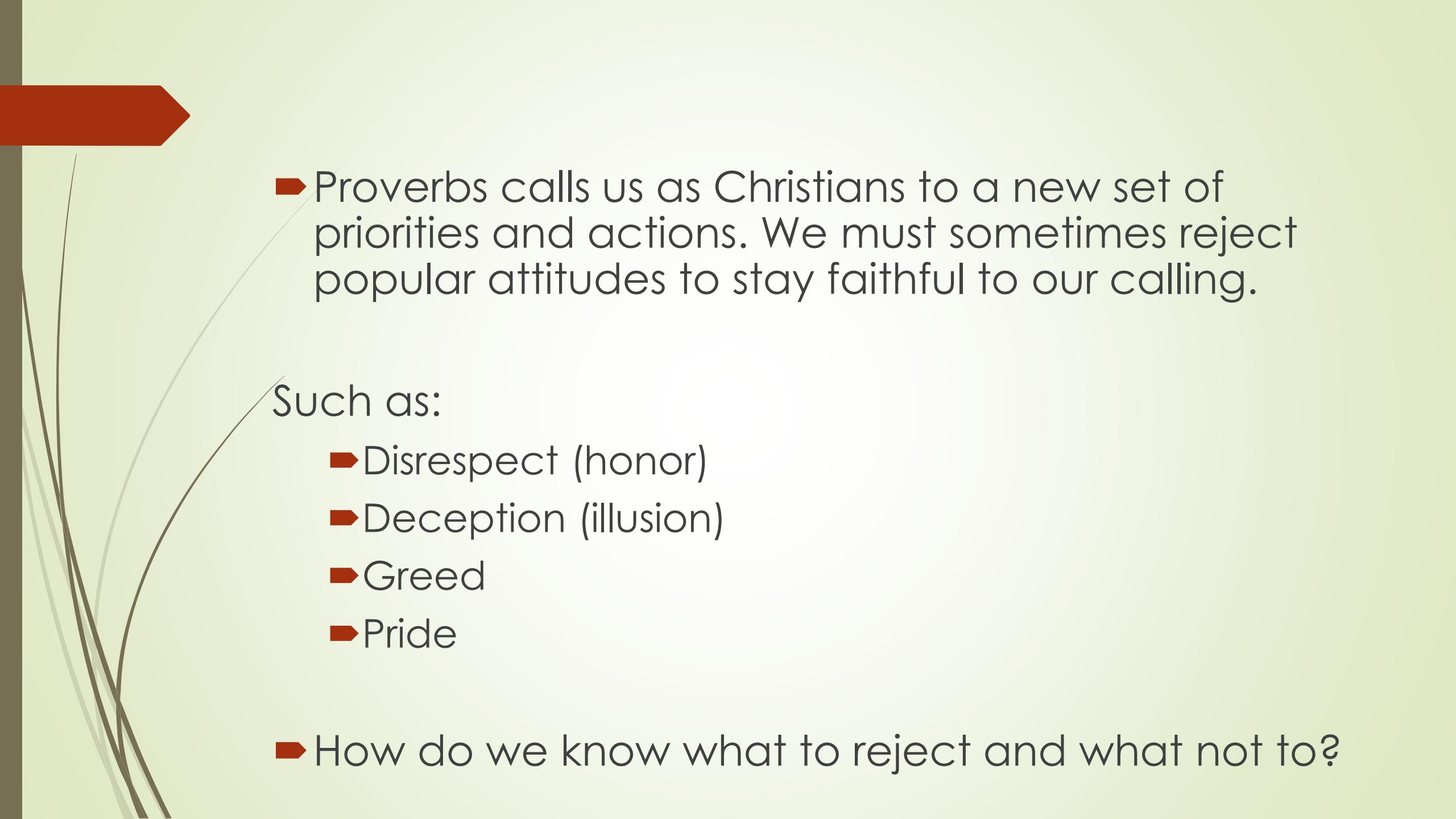
aka

“Here’s Where It Gets Crazy”



“We believe that the designations of the church as a **colony** and Christians as **resident aliens** are not too strong for the modern American church – indeed, we believe it is the nature of the church, at any time and in any situation, to be a colony.” – Hauerwas and Willimon, Resident Aliens

- ▶ What does it mean for us to be different from our surrounding culture?
- ▶ Is it a matter of interior belief or external actions?



► Proverbs calls us as Christians to a new set of priorities and actions. We must sometimes reject popular attitudes to stay faithful to our calling.

Such as:

- Disrespect (honor)
- Deception (illusion)
- Greed
- Pride

► How do we know what to reject and what not to?



Disrespect / Deception

- ▶ What does disrespect look like?
- ▶ Why is it so important to God?
- ▶ What is the line between a “white” lie and others?
- ▶ What is the difference between illusion and deception?





Greed / Pride

- ▶ Why are we not satisfied?
- ▶ What does it say about our priorities?
- ▶ How do we build ourselves up to be more than we are?
- ▶ What is the difference between pride and self-respect?



So What?

Great, Thom, you've just told me the obvious that I've been taught all my life – what am I supposed to do with this?

- ▶ Do we have attitudes, ideas, or actions pulled from our larger culture that don't reflect a biblical worldview?
- ▶ What are our blindspots?

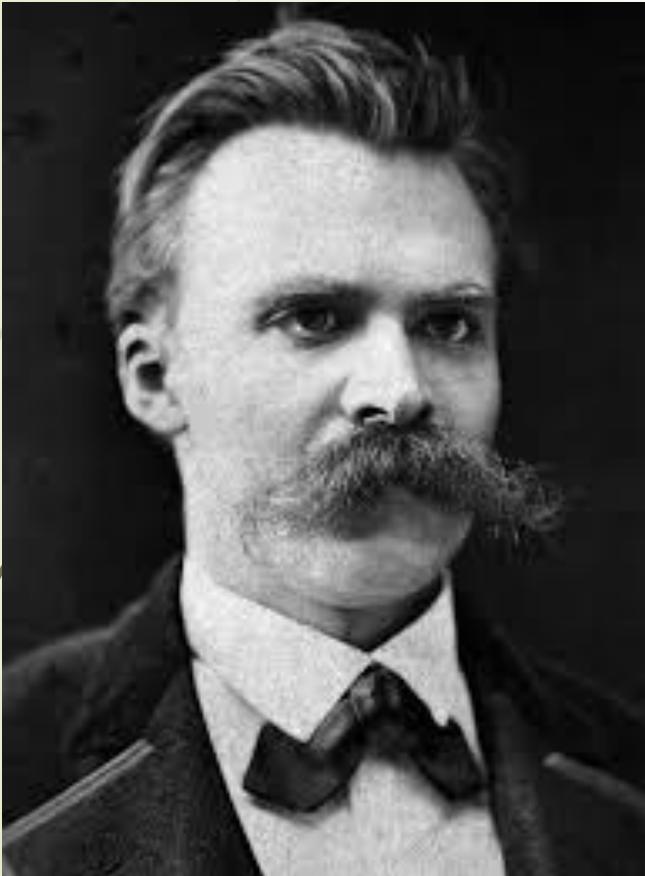


Our Community

- ▶ If our class was known for one thing, what would you want it to be?
- ▶ How do we do that?
- ▶ Individual level – study, reading, listening
- ▶ Group level – class, community, ministry



Resident Aliens vs. Cultural Christians



- ▶ Friedrich Nietzsche (1844 – 1900)
- ▶ “The Madman”
- ▶ A Christian faith that ultimately is defined by cultural expectations is dead.

We must be resident aliens.