

Thermostat or Thermometer

I. Function of a Thermometer:

- A. Thermometer is effected by the atmosphere and conditions around it
 - 1. It allows it's environment to determine what it's temperature will be

II. Function of a Thermostat:

- A. A Thermostat is the exact opposite of a thermometer
 - 1. Because the thermostat impacts the atmosphere, conditions, and temperature of it's environment

B. Christians are one of the two:

- 1. They are either allowing the culture they are in ... the environment they are in, the world they are in set their spiritual temperature
 - A. Or they are impacting the cultural, environment they are in by them
 - Setting the spiritual temperature by the:
 - 1. Christ in them
 - 2. The Word of God in them
 - 3. The anointing in them

III. Which of the two are you in relations to your spiritual condition:

- A. Are you a **Thermometer** that is influenced by the conditions and Atmosphere of the world around you... allowing the world to set your spiritual temperature:
 - 1. Or are you a **Thermostat** that influences and brings change and sets the spiritual Atmosphere, conditions, and environment for:
 - a. Your life, home, church, society, the market place and world we live in
- B. In this message I want each of us to be asking ourself:
 - 1. Am I a thermometer or a thermostat
 - a. I want us to take a look at our spiritual temperature

b. And that will reveal which of the two we are

2. Romans 12:1-2

[1] I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

[2] And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

(1) Spiritual Thermometer:

a. A person who is a **spiritual Thermometer** fails to do the following:

(1) Fails to present their bodies holy, as a living sacrifice unto God

(2) Becomes conformed to this world:

1. **Def Conformed:** to fashion alike, to pattern after / Dwell

(A) A person who is a **spiritual thermometer** becomes conformed to the atmosphere and condition of the environment, the world it is in because of:

(1) failing to **renew their mind** with the Word of God

(2) Their thinking remains carnal and worldly instead of spiritual

(3) they have a worldly view of life instead of a biblical view

(B) Also: they become unable to prove the "**good, and acceptable, And perfect will of God**" for their life and situations they face

(1) because they Have not surrendered their will to the will of God

(C) a person who has become a **spiritual Thermometer** has **Has become so by:**

(1) failing to **Present their bodies holy, as a living sacrifice unto God:**

(a) They have not received the revelation of the necessity of the Born Again believer living a holy life:

(b) 2 Pet 3:11 "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,"

3. A believer who has become a **spiritual thermostat** has been **Transformed** into the image of Christ instead of the Image of the world
 - a. Gal 4:19 "Christ be formed in you"
3. Has **renewed their mind with** the word of God
 - a. Have a biblical view in every area of their life and not a worldly view
 - b. 2 Tim 2:15 "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
 - (1) with a renewed mind thru the study of God's word areas
Of their life where they once walked in shame and defeat
... they now walk in victory
4. They Can prove and have discovered the the **good, acceptable, perfect will of God** for their life and they follow the leading of the Holy Spirit ... willing to pay the price of obedience
 - a. They have surrendered their will to the Heavenly Father as Jesus did in: Luke 22:42 "Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

IV. Example of a person who became a **spiritual thermometer**: **Lot**

- A. Genesis 19:1 "And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;"
 1. Lot: "**sat in the gate of Sodom**"
 - a. The gates of the city is where the elders of the city sat, so people Can come to them with their issues, problems,, questions and get Matters resolved
 2. Instead of Lot becoming a Spiritual Thermostat and having an Impact on his environment, the city and society he lived in, he Choose to become a spiritual thermometer and allowed the people

And world around him determine his spiritual temperature:

a. 2 Pet 2:6-8

6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

(1) Note: "**JUST LOT**" ... **Def Just:** Righteous

(2) **Def Vexed:** to oppress

(A) Instead of being a witness, and stand for righteousness ... Lot allowed his righteous soul to be vexed / oppressed by the:

(1) vs 7 "filthy conversation of the wicked"

(a) **Def Conversation:** means more than just the words they were speaking

(1) but also it means the: the behavior

(B) Be it be sitting in the gates of the city or the Christian in the:

(1) home, on the job, in the market place, what ever gate God Has set you in to be His voice &

(A) to be a witness, to give godly counsel, to share the word of God

(B) Are you allowing the world, the environment you are in to Make you a thermometer and lower your spiritual temperature and vex your righteous soul

(1) or do you understand that you are to be are God's thermostat to change the spiritual atmosphere in that Place

(C) from what I see in the scripture in regards to Sodom and Gomorrah we are dealing with some of the same issues and sin in society as in that day:

- (1) Lot had no voice in regards to the homosexual and lesbian Life style of his day probably said nothing about the Same sex marriage taking place in his city allowed his Daughters to use transgender bathrooms
- (A) let alone all the other sins of darkness that had penetrated The society of his day
- (B) Matt 16:18 and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
 - (1) Lot was sitting in the midst of one of the gates of hell ... the city of Sodom
 - (2) yet Lot failed to be what God had called him to be
Lot failed to do what God had called him to do
 - (a) his voice was silent ... he became a thermometer
Instead of a thermostat in the gate he sat in
- (D) That was Lot how about you and I:
 - (1) God desires to set you in the midst of a gate of hell which Jesus promises will not prevail against you
The Born Again Church, but that depends on if:
 - (1) We are a Thermometer because my soul has become vexed
 - (2) Or am I a Thermostat by being a witness, standing for righteousness and bringing change in the spiritual atmosphere
In the lives of those walking in darkness

V. Example of a person who choose to be a spiritual thermostat:

Noah

A. Genesis 6:4-7

[5] And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

[6] And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

[7] And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from

the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing,
[8] But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord .

[9] These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. ...

1. I want you to take note of the **spiritual atmosphere that Noah faced:**

- a. Vs 5 "God saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth"
- b. "Every imagination of the thoughts of his (man's) heart was only Evil continually"

(1) The spiritual atmosphere was so bad that the bible tells us in Vs 6 "it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth"

2. I want you to know that it does not matter what the spiritual Atmosphere may be around us:

- a. We we can still be a spiritual thermostat, impacting the the Spiritual Atmosphere of the world we live in: because the bible tells us:

(1) vs 8 "Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord"

(2) This Apostle Paul discovered the power of grace when the Spirit of God told him in:

(A) 2 Cor 12:9 "My grace is sufficient for thee"

(B) In the midst of the spiritual darkness in his day, by the grace of God, Noah:

(1) vs 9 "was a **just man**": **Def just**: righteous /**Dwell** !!!!!

(2) Noah was "**Perfect in his generation**": **Def perfect**: blameless

(A) in other words Noah lived a life that was a witness

(3) "**Noah walked with God**"

B. Noah refused to become a thermometer and allow the world around him to set the spiritual temperature of his life:

- 1. Noah made no excuses due to the spiritual conditions around him Rather he choose to become a thermostat and be their Witness

God had called him to be:

a. 2 Peter 2:5 "**a preacher of righteousness,**" / **Dwell**

2. Noah was a spiritual thermostat in his day, he did not live a life
Of compromise

a. Noah did not have a "User Friendly Message"

(1) Noah did not compromise the Word of God / the Word of The
Lord that God gave him to preach to his generation ...

Noah was faithful to do what God had called him to do:

(A) Hebrews 11:7 "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things
not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving
of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and
became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

(1) By Faith Noah preached the message / the warning God
spoke to him ... regardless of who did or dot not agree

(2) By faith Noah kept building the ark ... doing what God had
called him to do / even though people mocked him

(1) Which resulted in his family being saved from judgement:

(A) vs 17 "**prepared an ark to the saving of his house**"

(B) "1 Peter 3:20 "while the ark was a preparing, wherein few,
that is, eight souls were saved by water.

C. That **Ark Noah built was a prophetic picture of: Jesus Christ**

1. If we want our family to be saved

2. If we want to be a witness and impact society today, we cannot
Be a spiritual thermometer we must become a spiritual
Thermostat

a. Living a holy / blameless life by grace as Noah did in his day

b. Being Just / Righteous men and woman of God

c. Do what God has called us to do for His glory

d. And being a preacher of righteousness

(1) Philippians 2:15 -16.

[15] That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God,

without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation,
among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

[16] **Holding forth the word of life;"**

3. Are you building an Ark for:

a. You life

b. Your family

c. Are you preaching righteousness / telling people about Jesus

(1) are you a thermometer or a thermostat in your:

(A) home

(B) on the job

(C) in the market place

(D) in the lives of people God brings you into contact with

D. I want to show you another **spiritual Thermostat: Enoch**

1. Genesis 5:24 "And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for **God took him.**"

a. The result of Enoch walking with God ... being a spiritual thermostat instead of a thermometer was he was raptured

2. Hebrews 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because **God had translated him:** for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

a. Because Enoch had a godly personal testimony, His life Pleased God

(1) Because of being a spiritual thermostat instead of a thermometer: ... Enoch was raptured

3. Jude 1:14-15

[14] And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

[15] To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly

sinners have spoken against him.

- a. Along with walking with God ... having a life that was pleasing to God ... having a godly personal testimony
 - b. **Enoch was also a preacher of righteous to his generation ...**
and Listen to his message ... it was not a user friendly. ... but it was The word of God
- (1) 14 "prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,
[15] To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have the ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

E. Will we join these men of faith, who refused to become spiritual thermometers by allowing the world they lived in determine their spiritual temperature

- 1. Will we determine to become spiritual thermostats and impact our family & society by:
 - a. Walking with God
 - b. Having godly personal testimonies as a Born Again Christian
 - c. Doing what God has called us to do for His glory
 - d. And being a witness ... a preacher of Righteousness ... declaring to The generation of our day:
 - (1) Jesus is coming have you got in the Ark
 - (A) have you repented of your sin.
 - (B) are you living a holy life
 - (C) will you be raptured or will you face judgment for you sin?
 - (1) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 KJV

[13] But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

[14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

[15] For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

[16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump Of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

[17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

[18] Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

VII. Are you a thermometer or a thermostat?

A. Have you allowed the spiritual darkness of this present world

Set your spiritual temperature for your life:

1. Lost in your sin
2. Backslid in your walk with God

B. Or are you a thermostat?

1. Impacting the world you live in

a. Overcoming this present world and the power of sin, flesh and the devil

(1) Thru the Grater One who lives in you: Jesus Christ