

# UNTETHERED

## Broken Thinking

### Judges 2:6-17 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup>When Joshua dismissed the people, the people of Israel went each to his inheritance to take possession of the land. <sup>7</sup>And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the LORD had done for Israel. <sup>8</sup>And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of 110 years. <sup>9</sup>And they buried him within the boundaries of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, north of the mountain of Gaash.

<sup>10</sup>And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And **there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.**

<sup>11</sup>And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals. <sup>12</sup>And they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the LORD to anger. <sup>13</sup>They abandoned the LORD and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth. <sup>14</sup>So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them. And he sold them into the hand of their surrounding enemies, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies. <sup>15</sup>Whenever they marched out, the hand of the LORD was against them for harm, as the LORD had warned, and as the LORD had sworn to them. And they were in terrible distress. <sup>16</sup>Then the LORD raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them. <sup>17</sup>Yet they did not listen to their judges, for they whored after other gods and bowed down to them. **They soon turned aside from the way in which their fathers had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the LORD, and they did not do so.**

### Several observations:

- 1) A rich spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ does guarantee a rich spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) A Godly heritage must be carefully and zealously \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Consistent \_\_\_\_\_ for God is met by divine \_\_\_\_\_ by God.
- 4) First, they didn't \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Then, they didn't \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) The result: intellectual, spiritual, moral \_\_\_\_\_

### Judges 17:6 (ESV)

In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

The Millennial Generation is becoming “**UNTETHERED**” from ...

... \_\_\_\_\_

... \_\_\_\_\_

... \_\_\_\_\_

## The Noetic Effect:

*The noetic effects of sin are the ways that sin negatively affects and undermines the human **mind and intellect**.*

"The Fall brought about the perversion of human faculties, but it did not destroy those faculties. Human reasoning abilities are affected but not eliminated. This can be seen in the fact that the writers of Scripture often appeal to the minds of unbelievers by citing evidence on behalf of their claims, using logical inferences in building their case and speaking in the language and thought forms of those outside the faith."

- J.P. Moreland and William Lane Craig, *Philosophical Foundations for a Christian Worldview*, ch. 1

### Romans 1:18-23 (ESV)

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. <sup>19</sup> For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup> For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

### 1 Corinthians 2:14 (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> The natural person does not accept **the things of the Spirit of God**, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

## Noetic effects of sin and The Fall:

### 1 Timothy 3:15 (ESV)

<sup>15</sup> ... if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

- The reason is hostile to God. We are bent away from the holy.
- Ignorance of facts—we don't know what we don't know!
- Forgetfulness—we lose information we once held.
- Prejudices (tribalism, etc.)
- Limited perspective—we can be only one place; we can only be one person.
- Distractedness—we are quickly knocked off course mentally.
- Intellectual pride—we are "puffed up" in what we *think* we know.
- Dogmatism—we hold too strongly to constructs we ought to abandon.
- Intellectual fatigue—we can't think hard enough, long enough.
- Illogical conclusions—inconsistencies in logic and worldview.
- Willful denial of data, also called "invincible ignorance."
- Intellectual apathy—we aren't passionate enough to pursue the truth ardently.
- Vain imagination—we create concepts that do not exist.
- Miscommunication—we fail to hear accurately and learn from others.
- Partial knowledge—we hold to incomplete sets of facts.
- Emotional reasoning—the mind is ruled by the emotions instead of the other way around.

Cited from Albert Mohler, *The Way the World Thinks: Meeting the Natural Mind in the Mirror and in the Marketplace*.

Per Friel: Our \_\_\_\_\_ is broken, our \_\_\_\_\_ is rotten, and our \_\_\_\_\_ is totally confused!

## Paul and the **Corinthian** Context:

### 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **Guidelines** for today:

1) Despite the seemingly overwhelming obstacles, don't \_\_\_\_\_.

*Why?*

2) Don't rely on clever or crafty ways. Trust the \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

3) Appeal primarily to \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_.

4) Don't make it about \_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_). Make it about \_\_\_\_\_.

5) Share the \_\_\_\_\_ Gospel.

6) Trust the \_\_\_\_\_ work of God.

**Conclusion:** The "backpack maker" and the limits of reason and apologetics ...

**NEXT WEEK:** The **Conscience** is the Key