

Message: Neutral Goes Nowhere

Scripture: Psalm 39:4-5; Various texts from Acts

Speaker: Matt Ballard

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O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days, let me know how fleeting I am! Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you.' Ps. 39.4-5

We pay dearly for chasing after what is cheap **Alexander Slossenitzen.**

Some men die by shrapnel, some men die by flames, most men die inch by inch playing silly little games'
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We are shaped and fashioned by what we love." -- **Johann Wolfgang von Goethe**

"We are so utterly ordinary, so commonplace, while we profess to know a Power the Twentieth Century does not reckon with. But we are "harmless," and therefore unharmed. We are spiritual pacifists, non-militants, conscientious objectors in this battle-to-the-death with principalities and powers in high places. Meekness must be had for contact with men, but brass, outspoken boldness is required to take part in the comradeship of the Cross. We are "sideliners" -- coaching and criticizing the real wrestlers while content to sit by and leave the enemies of God unchallenged. The world cannot hate us, we are too much like its own.
Oh that God would make us dangerous!" Jim Elliot (1927-1956)

Acts. 17.5-6 ⁵*But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "**These men who have turned the world upside down** have come here'*

Acts. 14.19-20 ¹⁹Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. ²⁰But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city

Acts 5:41-42 ⁴¹The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. ⁴²Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Acts 4.13 ¹³When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.