Love Sacrificially in Delay

Matthew 25:31-46

LGBTQ Forum:

God's Design for Sexuality and Gender

Open for everyone!

November 2 @ 7 p.m.

Register online









“Thou, O Padishah, knows full well the great dissensions that are raging in Italy, especially, and in all Frankistan [Christian Europe] generally.

“In consequence of these dissensions, the Gaiours [infidels] are incapable of united action against us. The Christian potentates will never unite against us.

“When, after protracted efforts, they conclude something like a peace among themselves, it never lasts long. . . .

“No doubt they think much, speak much, and explain much, but after all they do very little. When they decide to do anything, they waste much time before they begin to act.

“Suppose they have even commenced something. They cannot progress very far with it because they are sure to disagree amongst themselves how to proceed.”

Zagan Pasha

In delay, we are called to . . .

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love sacrificially. (sheep/goats - 25:31-46)

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.” (31)

4 Big Ideas

1. **Contrast** - Everyone is **divided** into two groups.

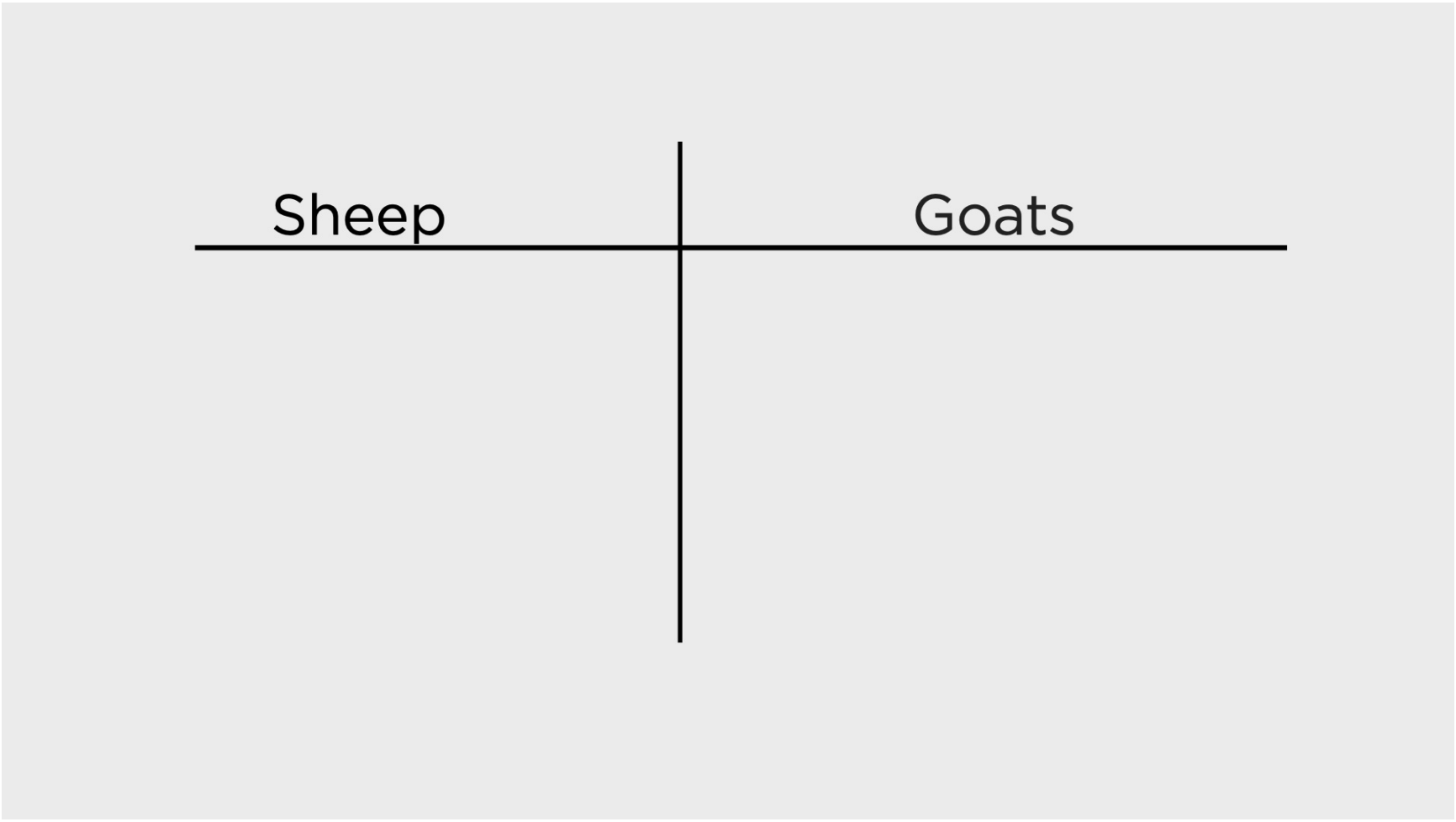
“Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

“And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’” (32-34)

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. . . .

“And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” (41, 46)


Sheep
Goats

Sheep	Goats
right	**left**

Sheep	Goats
right	**left**
“Come”	“Depart”

Sheep	Goats
right	**left**
“Come”	“Depart”
blessed	**cursed**

Sheep	Goats
right	**left**
"Come"	"Depart"
blessed	**cursed**
eternal life	eternal punishment

2. **Connection** - Everyone is defined by his/her **responsiveness to Jesus**.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me,

“I was naked and you clothed me,
I was sick and you visited me,
I was in prison and you came to me.” (35-36)

“For I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,

“I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” (42-43)

3. **Confusion** - Everyone is **surprised** by Jesus's explanation.

“Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?

“‘And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’” (37-39)

“Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’” (44)

4. **Clarity** - Everyone's **responsiveness to Jesus** is indicated by his/her responsiveness to the "**least of these**."

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’” (40)

“Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’” (45)

A Few Questions

Is Jesus teaching **salvation by works**?


JIMMY KIMMEL

“Matthew 25 tells us Christians exactly how we are going to be judged and how we are going to be saved: by feeding the hungry, by healing the sick, by welcoming the stranger.”

James Talarico

Salvation and Works

Salvation and Works

Works ➡ Salvation

Salvation and Works

Works ➡ Salvation

Faith + Works ➡ Salvation

Salvation and Works

Works ➡ Salvation

Faith + Works ➡ Salvation

Faith ➡ Salvation

Salvation and Works

Works ➡ Salvation

Faith + Works ➡ Salvation

Faith ➡ Salvation

Faith ➡ Salvation + Works

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Ephesians 2:8-10

“. . . the tree is known by its fruit.”

Matthew 12:33b

“We love because he first loved us.”

1 John 4:19

“If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.”

1 John 4:20

“He who is forgiven little, loves little.”

Luke 7:47b

Who are the “least of these **my brothers**”?

“For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

Matthew 12:50

“Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

Matthew 28:10b

* Jesus's followers **love one another sacrificially**!

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 13:35

“Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.

“We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.”

1 John 3:13-14

“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

“But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”

1 John 3:16-18

Why is this **kind of love** so important during delay?

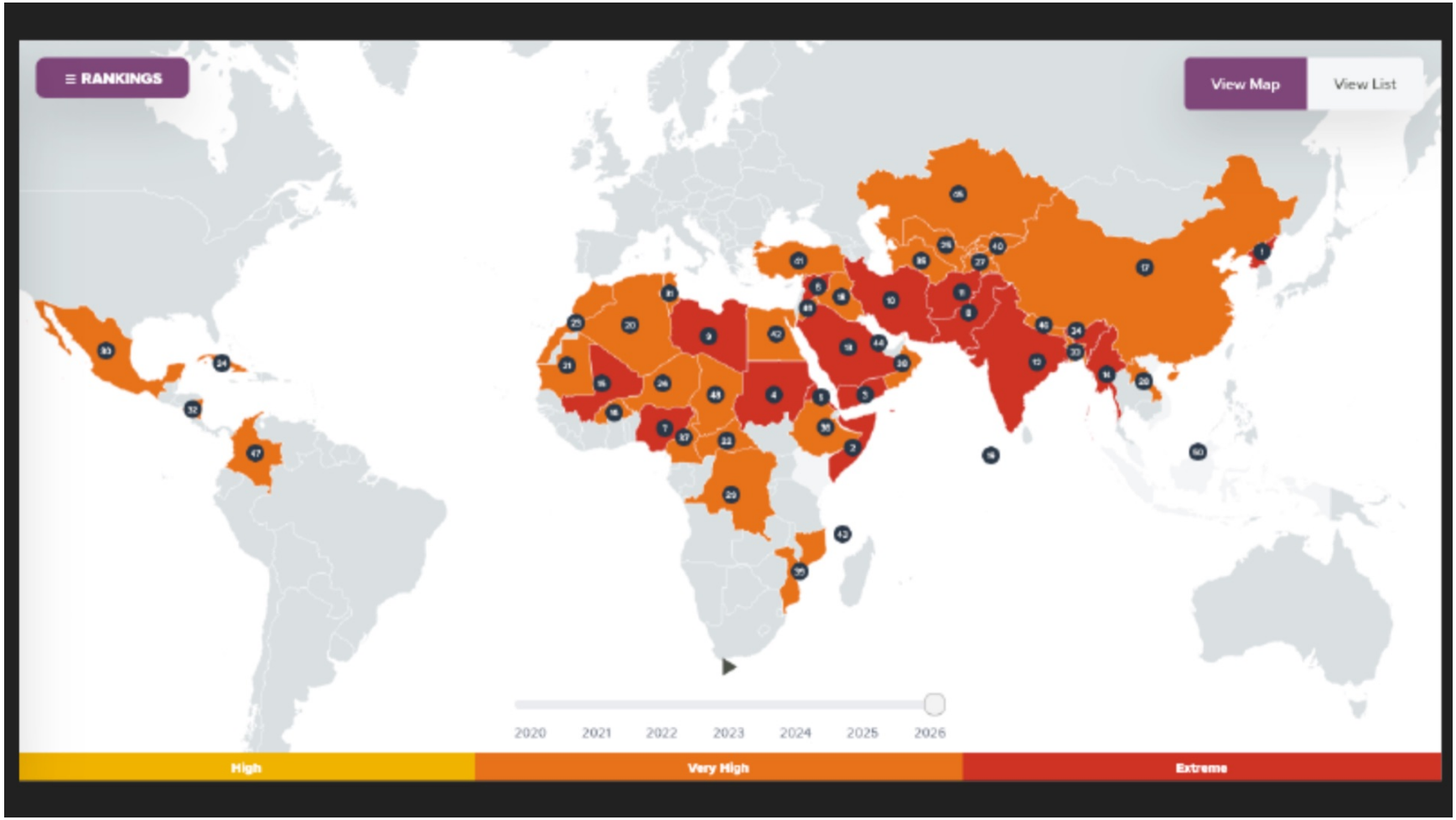
“For nation will rise against nation . . . and there will be famines and earthquakes . . .

“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name’s sake.

“And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another.

“And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, **the love of many will grow cold**.”

Matthew 24:7, 9-12


RANKINGS
View Map
View List
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
High
Very High
Extreme

Are we to show this kind of love **only to Christians**?

“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

Galatians 6:10

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

“But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.

“For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

“For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?”

Matthew 5:43-46

We show mercy to Christians because Jesus is in them.

We show mercy to Christians because Jesus is in them.
We show mercy to non-Christians that Jesus would be in them.