



DANEL

thriving in turbulent times -

Do you ever struggle to believe that God is both sovereign and good?

Do you ever struggle to know how to engage culture in a God-honoring way?

Googling for God



Seth Stephens-Davidowitz SEPT. 19, 2015

IT has been a bad decade for God, at least so far. Despite the rising popularity of Pope Francis, who was elected in 2013, Google searches for churches are 15 percent lower in the first half of this decade than they were during the last half of the previous one. Searches questioning God's existence are up. Many behaviors that he supposedly abhors have skyrocketed. Porn searches are up 83 percent. For heroin, it's 32 percent.

How are the Ten Commandments doing? Not well. "Love thy neighbor" is the most common search with the word "neighbor" in it, but right behind at No. 2 is "neighbor porn." The top Google search including the word "God" is "God of War," a video game, with more than 700,000 searches per year. The No. 1 search that includes "how to" and "Walmart" is "how to steal from Walmart," beating all questions related to coupons, price-matching or applying for a job.

Do you ever struggle to know what your purpose is in this life?

Daniel 1:1-7 p. 821

the Context

Daniel 1:1-2

covenantal unfaithfulness & the faithfulness of God

Leviticus 26:33

And I will scatter you among the nations, and I will unsheathe the sword after you, and your land shall be a desolation, and your cities shall be a waste.

BABYLONIANS

Psalm 137:8-9

O daughter of Babylon, doomed to be destroyed, blessed shall he be who repays you with what you have done to us! Blessed shall he be who takes your little ones and dashes them against the rock!

Psalm 137:1-3

By the waters of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung up our lyres. For there our captors required of us songs, and our tormentors, mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

Who's really in control?

And the Lord gave...

Matthew 10:29

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

the Challenge Daniel 1:3-7

the strategy of syncretism

Daniel | God is my judge

Hananiah | The Lord is gracious

Mishael | Who is what God is?

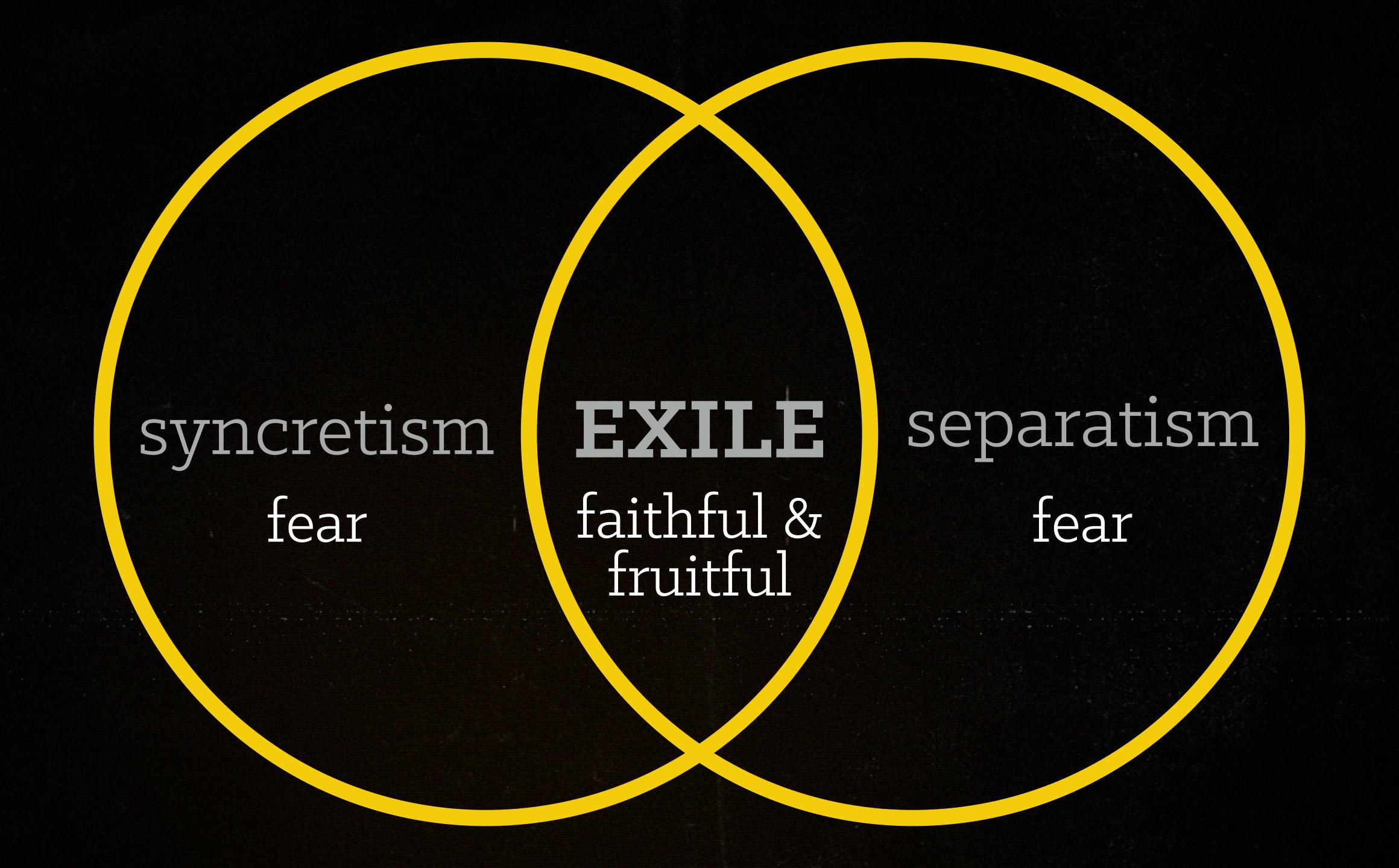
Azariah | The Lord is α helper

rationality narrative progressive narrative autonomous-self narrative

How do you see yourself in this time and place?

the Calling

Jeremiah 29:4-9 p. 732



seek the SHALOIM

In the book of Daniel, then, it is the exiles in Babylon who are truly counted to be God's blessed people. And to be asked to live in Babylon, as Daniel was, was to **find oneself at the center of God's positive mission to the world.**

- David Helm, Daniel for You

How will we do this?

GATHER renewal and resistance

G()

intercede. invest. invite.

GIVE

time. talent. treasure.

think

GENERATIONS

kids. youth. college.

GROWTH a church planting church



the Cost - John 3:16

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

PRAY

Pray for the flourishing of our community

Let's repent for the ways we have chosen self over others

Pray that our Sunday GATHERING would provide renewal & resistance

Pray that we would GO to live as faithful missionaries

Pray that we would GIVE sacrificially of our time, talent, and treasure

Pray for the GENERATIONS

CP Kids
Student Ministry
InterVarsity

Pray for gospel GROWTH as the Sullivans plant CrossPointe Jupiter

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