



Pastor's Comments

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Northampton Assembly of God

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Annihilation

Annihilation. Now there's a word for you. It sounds like an extreme adjective, conjuring up images of a totally devastated landscape with no, or few, human survivors as the result of a nuclear attack or some such evil.

While the term "annihilation" can mean the complete destruction or demolition of a people or a place, its other meaning is to "**cause to be of no importance or without effect.**" Those who adhere to an 'annihilation philosophy' believe that life is meaningless—it's simply nothing, so all structures of life can be destroyed, often **by subtly changing the effectiveness of the foundation.**

Through the ages there have been those who've tried to annihilate God's Word—**attempting to change it from foundational truth to a myth.** Attempts are made to alter the scriptural foundation for marriage by the acceptance of homosexual lifestyles, the sanctity of life is dismissed as a "choice" to be made by a woman, virginity is mocked, and men become increasingly irreverent. So **what would be the result of an annihilation of God's Word?** Not pleasure and freedom, but darkness and emptiness, annihilation worse than that inflicted by a nuclear holocaust.

The antonym of annihilation is protection. And though we may have all been guilty of not giving God's word proper reverence and attention at some given time in our lives, His desire for us and our families is summed up in this plea that Jesus prayed over Jerusalem, "...how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings..." (Matthew 23:37). And as the writer, David, wrote in Psalm 17:8 we can pray, "...hide me under the shadow of thy wings." --Submitted by pastor's sister-in-law, Grace Lundmark.