Today is 9/11.

1. Do you remember when it happened?
2. Do you remember how you felt?
3. Take a moment for silent prayer-
   a. for the survivors,
   b. for the families affected,
   c. for our country,
   d. for the upcoming election,
   e. for the divisions in our culture.
4. Figure out how God is calling you
to be part of HIS answer to your prayer.

Today is 9/11.

But Thursday and Friday of this week,
I was not focused on 9/11.

Meet Max-
Thursday and Friday, Nancy and I were busy hugging on and snuggling our first grandson.

And it made for a very jarring juxtaposition-
The hatred and horror that was 9/11, and the love and caring that comes with bringing at least some infants into the world.

And then there was my sermon text for this Sunday-
I Corinthians 7, a chapter all about how to handle different relationships.

The sermon title was supposed to be on relationship status-
Relationship status- interesting concept, right?
Facebook lists 11 options-

![Relationship Status:](image)
And you know what?
   It seems like I Corinthians 7 fits “relationship status”
   in our culture to a “T.”

Something for everybody.
   So I encourage you to read I Corinthians 7.

If you have questions
   about what Paul is saying in this passage, call me,
   and we can set up a time to talk about it.
It’s good stuff, but it IS complicated.

But in addition to Max being born, and it being 9/11,
   I had my annual eye exam this week.

Now this is more complicated than it sounds.
   Last year, I met with the optometrist,
   quickly and confidently answered all his questions,
   2 weeks later got my new glasses
   and the prescription was dead wrong.
Now I could blame him and all,
   but he was very gracious
   and agreed to repeat the procedure.

This time I took my time and answered more thoughtfully,
   more cautiously.
We ordered the new lens, and they were spot on.
   The problem was not with him,
   but with how I looked at things,
   what I thought I saw,
   without taking my time and being careful.
So here we are- 9/11, Max coming into the world, relationship status- “It's complicated,” or is it?

Where do all these lines cross?
Resolution, an optical term, has to do with the ability to see between two lines, how fine is the resolution.

Is it THIS, or this? THIS, or THIS?
(Are you all with me here?)

So here we go- optical quiz for the morning-
Do we want to live in a world with THIS, 

or with THIS?
THIS, or THIS?

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."
Matthew 25:35

Or this?
This, or this?

Or this?

Or this?
This - or this?

This - or this?

or this?

or this?
How’s YOUR vision this morning?
   Was this a tough eye test, or heart test, to take?

Is it really complicated,
   or at the core of what matters in life,
   is it really pretty simple?

I frame it a slightly different way-
   1. What kind of world do you want to live in,
   2. What kind of world do you want to leave
      to your kids and grandkids,

This,
Or this? Here’s my choice-

Let’s pray.