

The WORLD (and its values)

Called out of the world

#6

Our attitude toward the WORLD is directly related to Our tendency to commit the killer sins* I CRAVE, I DEVOUR (consume), and I CLING. *(Representing any sin that seems so "innocent" that we tend to ignore it;

The "WORLD" - Seen from 2 perspectives

GOOD: (Our PREVIOUS focus.)

- We looked at the WORLD as a GIFT from God, to be used in ways that bring honor and glory to God.
 - ✓ This is how God created it, and intends it to be used.

EVIL: (Our CURRENT focus.)

- Because <u>sin</u> is now present, the world has taken a turn for the worse:
 - ✓ An OPPONENT much of what happens is by nature evil.
 - ✓ A SNARE even what is good can be twisted into evil.

THE HORRIBLE TRANSITION... FROM GOOD ...

also good things that have become distorted by a wrong emphasis.)

OBLIGATION

Whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do, you must do all for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31 (NLT)

- · God created the world for GOOD.
- But it is GOOD <u>only</u> to the extent that it is used in a way that honors and glorifies God.

OUR

For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard.

1 Corinthians 3:23 (NLT)

 Yet <u>all</u> have sinned, and are by <u>nature</u> unsaved (unless God saves them).

... TO EVIL.

THE RESULT OF OUR SIN: AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION

- It is <u>impossible</u> for an unsaved person to use the WORLD with an intent to honor God. (It's contrary to his very nature.)
- Therefore, it is <u>impossible</u> for an unsaved person to use the world in a way that is truly good.

WHEN PAUL DESCRIBED HIS OLD WAYS, HE WAS BEING HONEST!

I know that nothing good lives in me; that is, nothing good lives in my corrupt nature. Although I have the desire to do what is right, I don't do it.

Romans 7:18 (GW)

THIS INCLUDES **YOU**.

I'M NOT THAT BAD!

As the Scriptures say,
"No one is good—
not even one.

No one has real understanding; no one is seeking God.

All have turned away from God; all have gone wrong.

No one does good, not even one."

Romans 3:10-12 (NLT)

TRY LISTENING TO WHAT GOD SAYS!

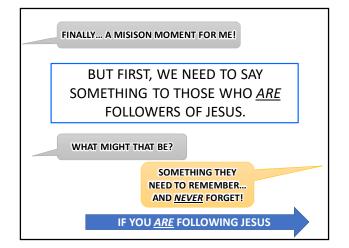
THE VERY FACT THAT
YOU WILL SOMEDAY DIE
TESTIFIES TO YOUR
SINFUL NATURE!

When Adam sinned, sin entered the entire human race. Adam's sin brought death, so <u>death</u> <u>spread to everyone, for</u> <u>everyone sinned</u>.

Romans 5:12 (NLT)

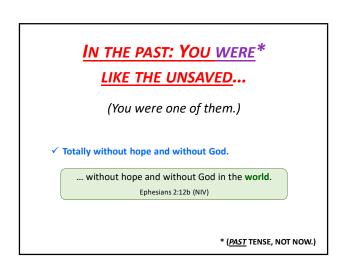












✓ Living in sin – Spiritually dead, and following the ways of the world and its ruler (the devil); objects of wrath.

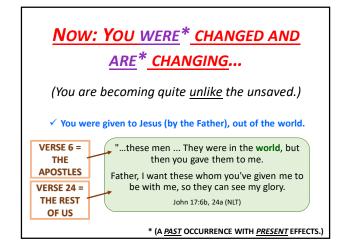
As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Ephesians 2:1-2 (NIV)

THE APOSTLE .
PAUL INCLUDED
HIMSELF IN THIS
CATEGORY!

All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

Ephesians 2:3 (NIV)



 You recognized who Jesus was... and responded appropriately.

JUST LIKE THE SAMARITANS DID

[Jesus] stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of what he said. [They said] "... we know that he really is the Savior of the world."

John 4:40b-41, 42b (ISV)

[IF YOU REJECT YOUR ONLY OPTION FOR SALVATION... \underline{YOU} LOSE]

[Jesus] – "... there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Acts 4:12 (ESV)

✓ Because of your union with Christ, you have rejected what the world offers you.

YOUR UNION

I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.

Galatians 2:20 (NET)

YOUR BREAK WITH THE WORLD – ITS VALUES, WAYS, ETC.

... the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Galatians 6:14 (LEB)

√ God has empowered you to share in his holy nature – to have a godly character that is incompatible with the world.

Through his glory and integrity he has given us his promises ... Through these promises you will share in the divine nature because you have escaped the corruption that sinful desires cause in the world.

2 Peter 1:4 (GW)

[THE WAY WE MAKE THESE PROMISES APPLY TO US:]

Because of this, make every effort to add integrity to your faith; and ... knowledge; ... self-control; ... endurance; ... godliness; ... Christian affection; ... love.

2 Peter 1:5-7 (GW)

✓ You are no longer content with a superficial "religion," but are determined to pursue the religion that characterizes a <u>saved</u> person.

LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR

= INCLUDES ALL,
EVEN THOSE

NEGLECTED BY THE

WORLD (such as the
two examples given)

LOVE FOR GOD = EXPRESSED BY MORAL PURITY Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that we must care for orphans and widows in their troubles, and refuse to let the world corrupt us.

James 1:27 (NLT)

IF YOU ARE FOLLOWING JESUS:

⇒ You know that, on your own, these things are IMPOSSIBLE.

⇒It has taken

THE POWER OF GOD

to accomplish it

√ You are aware that the POWER to do these things is not in you. Rather, you trust God, who makes it possible.

THE FAITH OF GOD'S PEOPLE

It isn't like the world's "faith," blind and irrational.

It is <u>fact</u> based; and those facts influence the <u>conduct</u> of those who have it. ...everyone who has been born from God has won the victory over the world. Our faith is what wins the victory over the world.

Who wins the victory over the world? Isn't it the person who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:4-5 (GW)

√ You are now CONTROLLED by <u>God's</u> Spirit, not the <u>world's</u> spirit.

Now, we didn't receive the spirit that belongs to the world.

Instead, we received the Spirit who comes from God so that we could know the things which God has freely given us.

1 Corinthians 2:12 (GW)

(THE WORLD SEES THINGS DIFFERENTLY)

They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.

1 John 4:5 (NIV)

THE END RESULT:

When Jesus says "follow," you are willing to do the "following" he requires.

You are also willing to give <u>him</u> the credit for your success.

GOD SAVES

AND SUSTAINS! For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

Though he* falls, he will not be overwhelmed, because the LORD supports him with his hand.

Psalm 37:24 (CSB)

* (SOMEONE WHO BELONGS TO GOD.

WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE PLIGHT OF THE UNSAVED:

REMEMBER THESE THINGS!

√ You were one of them!

✓ It's not because you were more special than they, that <u>you</u> changed and they didn't.

REMEMBER THESE THINGS!



AND GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT



He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of his mercy.

He washed away our sins and gave us a new life through the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5 (NLT)

Credits (1)

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Credits (2)

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