



The WORLD (and its values)

Called out of
the world

#6

WHY this focus on the "WORLD"?

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

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 sin 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 ...

**OUR
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 only to the extent that it is used in a way that honors and glorifies God.

**OUR
CONDITION**

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

1 Corinthians 3:23 (NLT)

- Yet all have sinned, and are by nature unsaved (unless God saves them).

... TO EVIL.

THE RESULT OF OUR SIN: AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION

- It is impossible for an unsaved person to use the WORLD with an intent to honor God. (It's contrary to his very nature.)
- Therefore, it is impossible 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 death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

Romans 5:12 (NLT)

(TO CLARIFY...)

It may be possible for an unsaved person to do reasonably GOOD things on a person-to-person level.

But unless he repents and is saved, it is impossible for him to do good on a person-to-God level.

THE NEXT FEW "MISSION MOMENTS" will NOT be for followers of Jesus.

THEY WILL BE FOR THE UNSAVED!

*** INCLUDING THE RELIGIOUS FAKES ***
(who claim to be "Christian")



FOR ALL WHO BELONG TO THE WORLD
(according to the Bible)



FINALLY... A MISISON MOMENT FOR ME!

BUT FIRST, WE NEED TO SAY SOMETHING TO THOSE WHO ARE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS.

WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?

SOMETHING THEY NEED TO REMEMBER... AND NEVER FORGET!

IF YOU ARE FOLLOWING JESUS



YOU WERE ONCE ONE OF



THEM

AND IF YOU ARE DIFFERENT TODAY, IT IS BECAUSE OF GOD, NOT BECAUSE OF YOUR OWN EFFORT.

IN THE PAST: YOU WERE*
LIKE THE UNSAVED...

(You were one of them.)

✓ Totally without hope and without God.

... without hope and without God in the **world**.

Ephesians 2:12b (NIV)

* (PAST TENSE, NOT NOW.)

- ✓ **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)

Now: YOU WERE* CHANGED AND ARE* CHANGING...

(You are becoming quite unlike the unsaved.)

- ✓ You were given to Jesus (by the Father), out of the world.

VERSE 6 = THE APOSTLES

VERSE 24 = THE REST OF US

"...these men ... They were in the **world**, but then you gave them to me.

Father, I want these whom you've given me to be with me, so they can see my glory.

John 17:6b, 24a (NLT)

* (A PAST OCCURRENCE WITH PRESENT EFFECTS.)

- ✓ 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... 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 saved 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 fact based; and those facts influence the conduct 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 God's Spirit, not the world's 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 him 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.

Psalms 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 you changed and they didn't.

REMEMBER THESE THINGS!

**AND GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT
IS DUE!**



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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