

Old Paths Advocate Blog

Jeremiah 6:16 Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

Worldliness

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(<https://oldpathsadvocate.files.wordpress.com/2014/06/image.jpg>).

As Christians we should not let the world color our thinking. When we allow the world into our lives, God is crowded out. In this article I have given 3 warnings found in God's word given about worldliness. With this article in mind, would you not consider your life and see where you stand?

WORLDLINESS

One of the greatest problems facing the church today is the problem of worldliness. As we will see in this article this problem has always plagued God's people and numerous warnings are given in God's word.

The word “worldliness” is not found in the standard versions of the Bible, but there is no doubt that the trait is often referred to. In defining the word “worldliness” we would say it is the condition of being worldly. The Bible tells us that the “world” we are not to embrace is not just the world we live in, but it is the moral and spiritual chaos that is opposed to and alienated from God. Any person who loves the world and who is influenced by it stands in opposition to God and is alienated from Him. Worldliness is being disposed to things pertaining to this temporary world; not regarding the spiritual or religious realm but being secular. In this article we will notice 3 warnings given against worldliness and the world.

First, we see that we are not to be fashioned by the world. Rom.12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. The apostle Paul is telling his readers, to not fall in step with the people of the world. Christians are constantly being pressured to be like the world. People of the world do not want to live right and they are not too happy about having people around them who live right. They don't want anyone to rebuke them for their evil behavior. People of the world will often use harassment, ridicule, and other techniques in an attempt to make the Christian conform to their standards. Paul says, “Be not conformed”. Don't fall in step with the modern world. Christians should not allow worldly people to determine how they talk, dress, and how they spend their leisure time. If one is a Christian, then Christ sets the standards. When a person lets the world dictate his behavior, he is not a follower of Christ.

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Second, we see that we are not to be lovers of the world: 1 John 2:15-16 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. John could not be any clearer; a choice must be made between loving the world and loving God. He tells us what the world is made of and what we

must avoid; Lust of the flesh is what feels good, Lust of the eyes is what looks good, and Pride of life is what makes me look good. Love for these things excludes love of God and vice versa. All that the world stands for is opposed to God and will perish.

Lastly and third, we are not to be stained by the world. James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. The life of the Christian should not be stained by worldly behavior. People who see nothing wrong with worldly activities such as drinking, dancing, vile language, immodesty, and so on are showing their love for the world. Unfortunately, when people in the church act in such a manner, they lower the standards of the Gospel. They want to behave like the world and maintain respectability in the church. This is impossible. To practice “pure and undefiled religion” one must abstain from all appearance of evil, 1 Thess. 5:22.

In conclusion, Christians are to be the “light of the world, a city that is set on a hill”, Matt 5:14. Light is no good unless it penetrates the darkness. If light becomes darkness, how great is the darkness? That is what happens when Christians, become worldly. The power is in contrast, not comparison. 2 Corinthians 6:17-18 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. May all those who wear the name Christ come out of the world and be separate.

Rick Martin

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