

Worldliness

Part III
12 February 2006

Introduction:

Paul tells us that the mind of the flesh is not governed by the laws of God as is the mind of the spiritual (Rom. 8:5-9). Those who are in Christ are individuals who know and keep God's words (Rom. 8:10; I Jn. 2:5). There are thereby two directions one may take in life; i.e., a spiritual or fleshly rout (cf. Matt. 7:13-14). Walking after the flesh is equated to choosing the present world over an eternity with God (I Jn. 2:15-17). This lesson shall examine many aspects of our lives where we must make a choice as to whether we will walk by the spirit or of the fleshly ways of the world.

I. The church of Jesus Christ

- A. The world's mode of worship as opposed to God's authorized practices.
- B. The organization of the church.
- C. The work of the church.

II. The home

- A. Shall we take the world's view of the home or God's?
- B. Roles in the home or roles in the world?

III. Entertainment

- A. Shall we be entertained like the world?
- B. Many are heavily convicted about the church and home; however, when it comes to their entertainment they have no problem filling their minds with violence, filthy language, and sexuality found in the movies they watch (cf. Matt. 7:1-5; Rom. 2:3; Phil. 4:8).

IV. Fashion

- A. Shall we dress like the world (cf. I Pet. 1:14)?
- B. The word of God is clear on the subject of dress:
 - 1. We are not to dress to draw undue attention to our wealth (I Tim. 2:9ff).
 - 2. We are not to dress to draw undue attention to our bodies (I Pet. 3:3-5). If there were no such thing as "lust of the flesh" and "fornication" no need would exist to discuss these things; however, lust does exist (cf. I Jn. 2:15-17).

V. The things we "care" for:

- A. Shall we care for the things of the world (riches, fame, fornication, attention, gross entertainment, and churches that contradict the Lord's authoritative teaching) (cf. Matt. 13:18-23)?
- B. The world is filled with anxiety over "things" (cf. Matt. 6:25-32).
- C. The world is filled with anxiety of the future of their investments (Matt. 6:34).

Conclusion:

The Christian can avoid the disease of worldliness by growing spiritually (II Tim. 3:15). We can solve our problems of anxiety with prayer (Phil. 4:6; I Pet. 5:7). Saints can have

Godly churches, homes, and dress appropriately by taking into consideration spiritual things (Phil. 4:8).