

The Word on Worldliness: Worldliness Escaped

Various Passages

Pastor Conley

Review:

How can we escape sin? How can we break free from worldliness? The answer is not, "Write a bigger rulebook!" God's Word has given us clear answers to how we can escape worldliness. Application questions will be listed below each passage. (The questions to help diagnose worldliness will be on a separate sheet below.)

Scripture list:

1. Titus 2:11-14
 - According to vs 14, to what did God save us? What does the word zealous mean? What hobby, pastime, sport, or recreation do you pursue "zealously?" Would you say that your pursuit of "good works" is as zealous as your pursuit of that pastime?
2. Romans 12:1-2
 - What are the "mercies of God?" How are we to be transformed? How do we renew our minds? In a given week which do you do more: watch TV, play video games, or renew your mind?
3. I Peter 2:9-11
 - Has your "favorite team" ever won the championship? Did you enjoy talking about it the next day? Are you ever excited to talk about the excellencies of the Christ who called you out of darkness and into light?
4. II Peter 3:11-13
 - How much "living" do you do for stuff that won't be around 10, 100, or 1000 years from now?
5. John 17:14-18
 - We are all in the world. How much of the world is in you? If we are sanctified by truth, how much truth are you bringing into your life? How can you bring more in?

Diagnostic questions to discern what is worldly:

1. Does this activity, thing, pursuit take my heart away from God?
2. Does it sabotage my communion with God and my walk in the Spirit?
3. Does it undermine or seek to displace my relationship to Christ as the power of my life?
4. Does it attempt (is it designed) to do so?
5. Does it feed the self-centered, appetite-driven, God-hating part of me called the flesh?
6. Does it inflame my desire to disobey God's commands?
7. Does it produce pride, contention, immorality, or any other behavior contrary to the love of God and the love of others?
8. Does it lure me into obsession with what is earthbound and temporal versus what is heavenly and eternal?