

Bible Study
Living for God, Not the World - Continued
Pastor Charles A. Hall - March 23, 2023

Theme: Living for God, Not the World

“Living for God, Not the World” means that we as true Christians and believers of Jesus Christ no longer place our own selfish desires, needs, and wants above our relationship with God, making God’s desires and will a priority in our life. This means that what God wants for us, always supersedes, what we want for ourselves in any area of our life.

Foundational scriptures for our theme:

2 Corinthians 6:17 WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARTE, SAITH the LORD, AND TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING; AND I WILL RECEICE YOU,

- In these verses the apostle Paul is quoting Old Testament scripture from Isaiah 52:11, where the prophet Isaiah foresees a day when the unrighteous and unclean will no longer be allowed to enter the gates. In this verse the Lord is telling His people, those that are filled with His spirit to separate themselves from those who are worldly. This simply means don’t do as they do, and don’t believe what they believe is true.

1 John 2:15-17 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,. (16) 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. (17) And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

- In these verses the Lord tells us not to place our affection and emotion on things that are worldly, because if we love the world, and the things in this world, we cannot love Him, because God’s way is in conflict with the way of the world. In other words, a worldly lifestyle, and Godly lifestyle are opposites. The things in the world that are in opposition to God’s word, do not come from God, but rather from the prince of darkness. At the appointed time the things of the world will pass away, but those who do God will, will live forever!

How do we live for God?

To live for God, means to understand and accept that we are servants of the most High God, and not the servant of Man! We must be committed to living with a servant attitude and mindset. We cannot serve two masters, to do so would make us unstable. The question one might ask, is what is a servant of God?

According to the word of God a servant of God is one who is a devoted follower of God, with a humbled spirit. One who stands ready to act, when called or when the Holy Spirit inspires us to do so. A servant of God is called and inspired to help others and to be mindful of their needs, while always remembering that it is never about money or earthly rewards. The apostle Paul who wrote more books in the New Testament than anyone else and who planted more churches, always referred to himself as a servant of God. Sometime Paul uses the term minister, which in Latin mean servant: Romans 1:1, Colossians 1:23, Colossian 4:12; Philippians 1:1; and 1Timothy 4:6

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- **Galatians 1:10** For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For is I yet please men, I should not be the servant of Christ.
- **Matthew 6:24** No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

We serve God because He bought us with a precious price, His blood! We were set free from bondage because of the price He paid for us. Had He not made the sacrifice, and purchased us with His blood, we would be in bondage as servants of the devil!

- **1Corinthians 6:20** For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

A true servant of God knows and understand who the King is, and who is Lord over their life. As such, they will live their life in accordance with this understanding.

- **Galatians 2:20** I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live: yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me, and gave himself for me.

How do we stop living for the World?

The primary way to stop living for the world, is to stop aligning your life with the things and values of this world. But rather transform your mind, and you're thinking to be in alignment with God, and then live in accordance with this new mind set. Sometimes we live in accordance with the things of this world not because we like or agree with them, but rather we are afraid not to go along with the majority, which is usually the way of the world. The word of God tells us that we should not live our life in fear, but in power, love, and the soundness of mind.

- **Romans 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.
- **2Timothy 1:7** For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Why is it so difficult to live for God?

It is difficult to live for God in this world because the prince of darkness, the ruler of this world, Satan has sold us a bungle of lies, and have blinded our eyes so that we cannot see, and have hardened our heart so we cannot understand, and seek salvation.

- **John 12:40** HE HATH BLINDED THEIR EYES, AND HARDENED THEIR HEART; THAT THEY SHOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES, NOR UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED, AND I SHOULD HEAL THEM.