

The word “world” is used in the sense of a system or a society or an institution or the world order that is under the power or influence of Satan (2 Cor. 4:4; Rev. 12:9), which promotes sin, sinful practices, sinful behaviors, and sinful philosophies. It is the “world” that promotes godlessness. It is a carefully crafted system that entices and entraps the Christian to sin. As born-again believers we must recognize, and do battle against worldliness.

Key verse: 1 John 2:15 “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.”

Rom. 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 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.”

Gal. 1:4 “Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:”

Eph. 2:2-3 “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.”

James 4:4 “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”

1 Jn. 5:19 “And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.”

Worldliness is using any of the sinful elements of the world for personal use or worship/service to God.

How to do battle and be victorious against worldliness:

- A. Realize that true fellowship with God is the cure to worldliness. (1 Jn. 2:17)
- B. Remember the Agents of Change: The Word of God and the Spirit of God. (Jn. 17:17; Jn. 16:3)
- C. Resolve to undergo spiritual training and exercises. (2 Tim. 4:7)
- D. Replace worldliness with virtue. PUT OFF (Eph. 4:22; Col. 3:8, 9) and PUT ON (Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10)
- E. Rejoice in your new level of faith and obedience. (2 Jn. 1:4; 3 Jn. 1:3)