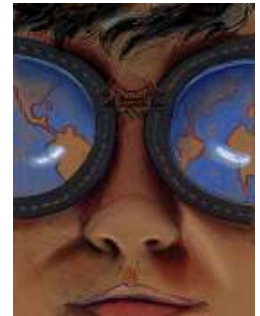


The Christian's Perspective of THE WORLD

(Selected Scriptures)



Introduction:

What is the believer's viewpoint of the world?

What perspective does God want us to have?

I. **We are to be good stewards of the World** (The physical Earth)

Genesis 1:28 - And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

II. **We are in the world but are not of the world** (We don't belong to the world nor will we permanently remain here)

John 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. (Compare John 17:14; John 17:16)

III. **We are not to be conformed to the world** (not pressed into it's mold)

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.

IV. **We are to love the people of the world.**

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

V. **We are not to love the world's system** (arrangement and philosophies which are contrary to God's ways)

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.

VI. **We are to use the things of the world but not worship them or love them**

1 Corinthians 7:31 - And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

Three Things to Remember:

1. Remember what is coming to this world (Is. 13:6-13; II Pet. 3:10-13)
2. Remember where your citizenship is (Phil. 3:18-20)
3. Remember you can't take it with you (I Tim. 6:7, 17)
Don't seek to fill your pockets, they will be empty when you leave!

Colossians 3:1-2 - If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.