

Review

12. When the Ephesians were “of the world” what 3 things determined their choices in life?

1. Course of this world.
2. Prince of the power of air.
3. Thinking of sons of disobedience.

13. What was the Ephesians condition when they “of the world”?

Dead spiritually due to their trespasses and sins.

14. In 1 Pet. 1:14-19, who molded these peoples “way of life” when they were “of the world” and why did they do this?

- forefathers
- inherited (tradition, their norm)

15. In I Pet. 1:14-19, what is to be the norm of their lives?

Be holy as written by the Holy One,
vs. 15-16

16. In Tit. 2:1, 10-14, what are 3 things that God's people are instructed to do?

- 1) deny ungodliness & worldly desires
- 2) live sensibly, righteously and godly
- 3) looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of God

Tit. 2:1, 10-14

1 But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine...

10 ...that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,

12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,

13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;

14 who gave Himself for us, that He might 1 redeem us from every lawless deed and 2 purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

- What are two reasons Christ died for us?

- What motivations are given in the text for Christians to renounce worldly ways and thinking and embrace the life that befits the doctrine of God?

10 Principles: Is It Right or Wrong?

OBJECTIVE:

SET FORTH SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLES THE CHRISTIAN MUST RESPECT IN DETERMINING HIS ATTITUDE AND CONDUCT.

1 – IS IT SINFUL?

Gal. 5:17-25

17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

- What conflict do Christians face?
- Circle the words in the text that correspond to the following categories.
 - Animosity
 - Sensuality
 - Intoxication
 - Partyism
 - Idolatry

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Circle the words in the text that answer the question. Draw a line from the question to the answer.

- What makes these things wrong?

AGAINST THE SPIRIT

- What motivations are given to help the Christian do the right thing in this conflict?

I John 3:4

4 Everyone who practices **sin** also practices lawlessness; and **sin** is lawlessness.

- What is another word for “**lawlessness**”?

I John 5:17

17 All **unrighteousness** is sin, and there is a sin not leading to death.

- What is another word for “**sin**” (1 Jn. 5:17)?

THE CHRISTIAN, SEEKING TO “LIVE SENSIBLY,
RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY” IN THE WORLD
CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN ANYTHING THAT IS
CLEARLY A VIOLATION OF THE LAW OF GOD.
THE SPIRIT OF “WORLDLINESS” DOES NOT
CARE WHAT THE LAW OF GOD IS. THE
CHRISTIAN, HOWEVER, LED BY THE SPIRIT,
NOT BY THE FLESH, DOES WANT TO KNOW
WHAT IS SIN BECAUSE HE WANTS TO AVOID IT.

2 - Is It DOUBTFUL?

Rom. 2:15

15 in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,

- What is the function of the conscience?

Rom. 14:23

23 But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because *[his eating is]* not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.

- Can a practice, not sinful in and of itself, be a practice that is sinful for a Christian to engage in? Explain.

YES. EATING MEATS OFFERED TO IDOLS BY ITSELF WAS NOT SINFUL.

1 Cor. 8:11-13

11 For through your knowledge he who is weak is ruined, the brother for whose sake Christ died.

12 And thus, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

13 Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again, that I might not cause my brother to stumble.

- Why must the Christian controlled by love (see 1 Co. 8:1) be conscious of another's conscience?

CAN SIN

THE CONSCIENCE IS CRITICAL TO RIGHT LIVING (SEE I TIM. 1:19). THE CHRISTIAN SEEKING TO LIVE “SENSIBLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY” IN THE WORLD WILL WANT TO AVOID ANYTHING THAT CAUSES HIM OR HER TO VIOLATE THEIR OWN CONSCIENCE OR THAT WOULD CAUSE ANOTHER TO VIOLATE THEIR CONSCIENCE.

3 - IS IT A STUMBLING-BLOCK?

Matt. 18:5-7,10

5 "And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me;

6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depth of the sea.

7 "Woe to the world because of its stumbling blocks! For it is inevitable that stumbling blocks come; but woe to that man through whom the stumbling block comes! . . .

10 "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Circle the words in the text that answer the question. Draw a line from the question to the answer.

- Who are "little ones" in the text?

BRETHREN, YOUNG IN THE FAITH

- What does Jesus warn not to do to the "little ones"?

CAUSE THEM TO STUMBLE

Rom. 14:13,15

13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this — not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way. . .

15 For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.

- Based on the passage in Romans, what is a “stumbling block”? (See also 1 Co. 8:11-13 —previous page.)

VIOLATES THEIR CONSCIENCE

- What is the attitude of the mature Christian toward “stumbling blocks”?

CHRISTIANS DEDICATED TO LIVING
“SENSIBLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY” IN
THIS PRESENT WORLD WILL DETERMINE TO
AVOID THAT WHICH WOULD HAVE A
DETRIMENTAL SPIRITUAL OR MORAL
INFLUENCE UPON OTHERS. THEY WILL THINK
OF OTHERS AND THEY WILL MAKE DECISIONS
IN THE FEAR OF GOD RATHER THAN SIMPLY
FOLLOWING SELFISH DESIRES AND THE
WORLDLY NORM.

4 - DOES IT STIR LUST?

Rom. 13:13-14

13 Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.

14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

- What will “putting on the Lord Jesus Christ” cause one to do?

MAKE NO PROVISION FOR THE FLESH

- Discussion (make appropriate notes). What are some examples of “making provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts”?

THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUS ABOUT LIVING
“SENSIBLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY” IN
THIS PRESENT WORLD WILL WEIGH, NOT
ONLY WHETHER SOMETHING IS CLEARLY
CONDEMNED, BUT WHETHER IT PROMOTES
AND FOSTERS WORLDLINESS AND
UNGODLY LUSTS—E.G., THE FRIENDS THAT
HAVE, THE PLACES THEY GO, THE THINGS
THEY DO, OR THE ATTITUDES THEY HAVE.

5 - DOES IT INVOLVE
ASSOCIATIONS THAT LEAD TO SIN?

Prov. 1:15

15 My son, do not walk in the way with them. Keep your feet from their path. 16 For their feet run to evil, And they hasten to shed blood.

- Mark the words or phrases in these passages that have to do with who your friends are.

Prov. 13:20

20 He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.

- Now mark the words or phrases that indicate the consequences of the wrong kind of friends.

Prov. 22:24-25

24 Do not associate with a man given to anger; Or go with a hot-tempered man, 25 Lest you learn his ways, And find a snare for yourself.

1 Cor. 5:6

6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough?

1 Cor. 15:33

33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

FOR THOUGHT: WILL THE SINCERE
DESIRE TO LIVE “SENSIBLY, RIGHTEOUSLY,
AND GODLY” IN THIS WORLD AFFECT WHO
WE CHOOSE AS OUR FRIENDS? WILL WE
CHOOSE THOSE WHO ENTANGLE US IN
ALLIANCES THAT DRAG US DOWN TO THE
WORLD’S WAY OF THINKING, SPEAKING,
AND LIVING?