



# Christianity And Worldliness Don't Mix!

DISCOVERING GOD'S WORD BIBLE STUDY SERIES

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Some things just don't mix – and you would never consider combining them. The same thing is true if you are interested in serving God in your life. And, one combination that does not mix together in a way that will please God is Christianity and worldliness. "Christianity" refers to following the teachings and example of Jesus Christ (who never sinned). "Worldliness" refers to following the "wisdom" and ways of the world. And, whenever we think of the "world" in this way, we are considering that which has followed the ways of the devil. For, 2 Corinthians 4:4 refers to him as "the god of this age." Now, let's consider a few reasons why Christianity and worldliness do not mix.

**1) We cannot be of Christ and of Belial.** 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 teaches us that God's people cannot be joined together in practicing the sinful things of the world. For, it says that Christ does not have any part with Belial (Satan). So, those who want to serve God must choose to separate themselves from the sinful ways of the world and commit themselves entirely to following Jesus Christ! 2 Corinthians 7:1 says, "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

**2) The ways of the world are not of God.** 1 John 5:19 says that "the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one." Those who are living according to the sinful ways of the world are serving the devil. He has influenced them all to live according to his desires rather than God's desires. So, 1 John 2:15-17 instructs those who desire to please God not to love the world or the things in the world, saying that those who love the world do not love the Father. "For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world." The "world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."

**3) Friendship with the world makes us enemies of God.** James 4:4 says, "Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." We cannot be friends of God and friends of the world. We cannot serve God part of the time and live in the same sinful

ways as the world other times. For, God warns us that we make ourselves his enemies whenever we try to be friends with the world! And, we should take His warning seriously because the Scriptures plainly demonstrate that it never ends well for those who are God's enemies.

**4) We must not be conformed to the world.** Because of all the things we have just been considering, God directly instructs us not to resemble the world in our lives. Romans 12:2 says, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." We must not be cut from the same mold and resemble the world in any area of our lives. Instead, we must allow the word of God to transform us into exactly who He wants us to be. So, our thoughts must not resemble the world's sinful thoughts. Our words must not resemble the world's sinful words. Our priorities must not resemble the world's sinful priorities. Our conduct must not resemble the world's sinful conduct. Our clothing must not resemble the world's sinful clothing choices. Our habits must not resemble the world's sinful habits. And so it goes for every area of our lives!

Christianity and worldliness don't mix – if you want to please God and have a home with Him in Heaven! Have you lived your life separate from the sinful ways of the world? Or, have you attempted to mix your "Christianity" with worldliness?

**Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series**

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