

“Perverts or Converts?”

1 John 2:15-17

October 13, 2013

Perversion: late 14c., *"action of turning aside from truth; a.k.a. corruption, distortion" (originally of **religious beliefs**), a sense of "disorder... in which satisfaction is sought through abnormal channels..."*
A practice or act... considered deviant.

“Worldly Examples” that most would not believe...

**Episcopal Church in Avon, CT now
blessed by leaders to be Mosque**

**Belgium - “mercy killing” legislature
(i.e. sex change, deaf, children...)**

Amos 5:10 = *They hate him who reproveth in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks the truth.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Mark 13:20

Do Not Love the World

15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves 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 boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. **17** The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

Matthew 10:16 = *"Behold! I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as serpents and as innocent as doves."*

1 Samuel 16:7 = *the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."*

See Parable of the Soils

Matthew 13:22 = *As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the **cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches** choke the word, & it **proves unfruitful**.*

Love of the world = weeds in the cemetery

GRAPHIC: "Cemetery Weeds"

Spiritual Growth vs. Self-Actualization

Beatitudes...

Me-attitudes

Poor in spirit	v.	Self-esteem
Mourn	v.	Cheap Grace
Meek	v.	Self-serving
Hunger/Thirst after "R"	v.	"Ends/Means"
Merciful	v.	"Get even"
Pure in heart	v.	Manipulative
Peace-makers	v.	Divisive
Persecuted for "R"	v.	Politically Correct

A.W. Tozer...

Failure and Success: *(The Scramble for Popularity)*

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.—[Matthew 5:11-12](#)

Popular Judaism slew the prophets and crucified Christ. Popular Christianity killed the Reformers... When it comes to religion, the

crowds are always wrong. At any time there are a few who see, and the rest are blinded. To stand by the truth of God against the current religious vogue is always unpopular and may be downright dangerous.... Christianity's scramble for popularity today is an unconscious acknowledgment of spiritual decay & decline. Her eager fawning at the feet of the world is grieving the Holy Spirit and embarrassing the sons of God. The lick-spittle, (pandering) attitude of popular Christian leaders toward the world's celebrities would make such men as Elijah and history's most courageous martyrs sick to their stomach....

Lot (the nephew of Abraham) was a "popular believer." He sat in the gates of Sodom. But when trouble struck, he had to send quickly for Abraham to get him out of the jam. And where did they find Abraham? Out on the hillside, far away from the fashionable crowds. It has always been this way... For every Elijah, there have always been 400 "popular prophets of Baal." For every Noah, there is always a vast multitude who will not believe it is going to rain.

We are sent to bless the world, but never are we told to compromise with it.

"Lord, give me the spirit of Elijah; give me the faith of Noah. Deliver me from the scramble for popularity and strengthen me to serve alone, oblivious to the roar of the crowds. Amen."

"Whatever you do, do to the glory of God..."

(1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17 & 23)

James 1:27 = *Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.* **(unstained by this world)**

CONTRAST your **"Love for"**
WORLD vs. **WORSHIP**

Parable of Pharisee & Tax Collector	(Character)
Demas vs. Silas	(Koinonia)
Zacheaus vs Rich Young Ruler	(Calculations)
Contrast thief on the cross w/ Judas	(Cross-talk)
Parable of Owner/Hireling	(Commitment)
Old Woman mite vs. Ananias & Saphira	(Church)
Time	(Calling)
Talent	(Capabilities)
Treasure	(Cash)
Popularity	(Company)

See Galatians 1:4 = *Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live.*

"Whose Your Master?" **GRAPHIC**

Romans 6:16-23 = (Slaves to Righteousness)

16Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? **17**But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, **18**and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. **19**I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

20For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. **21**But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. **22**But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. **23**For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 17:6-18 = **6**"I have manifested Your name to the people whom You gave Me **out of the world**. Yours they were, and You gave them to Me, and **they have kept Your word**.

9 I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. **10** All Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. **11**And **I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world**, and I am coming to You. **Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given Me, that they may be one, even as We are One...**

14 I have given them Your word, and **the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.**

15 I do not ask that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

18 As you sent Me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

KEY:

“Not of.... BUT... SENT into!”

See: Romans 1:1

See: Hebrews 11

- Heroes...

- Moses... (vv.24-26)

- “others” (sawn in two)

See: Luke 9:23... Luke 14...

CLOSE:

1 John 2:15 & 17

...Do not love the world nor the things in the world...

The world is passing away...

VIDEO:

Challenger Tragedy...

(What if you knew in advance???)
*** *Spiritually....* you do!!! ***

John 17:[18](#) *As you sent Me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.*

= Jude... “snatch others from the fire”

Whose Your Master?

Romans 6:15-23

Lord
(Savior)

"...you are slaves of the one whom you obey." - Romans 6:16

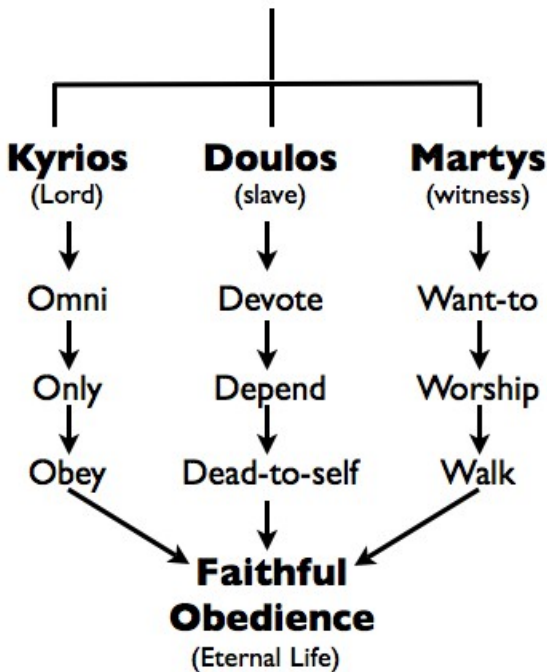
Liars
(Satan)

"You cannot serve 2 masters." - Jesus Christ



Biblical Christianity

Everything Else...



J
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4:4 "You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God."

J
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8:44 "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire... he is a liar and the father of lies."

J
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r
44: 16 "We will not listen to the message you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD!"



Deceptive Disobedience
(Damnable Death)