

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
Speaker, Robert Emerson
Study Sunday 10:00 AM
Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor:

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“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ...”



—Philippians 3:20

Servants during February:

Songleader: Larry (7), David (14), Peter (21), Stanley (28)

Reading: Robert

Announcements: Stanley

Table: Larry, Mike Beckman, Mike Mitchell, Peter

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley

(3), Kris (10), Larry (17), Stanley (24)



Hays Mill church of Christ

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The Bible Examiner

“Examine everything carefully...” —1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

Volume 3

February 21, 2021

Number 44

Do Not Be Conformed To This World

By Roger Hillis

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

Is it just me or does it seem like, in many ways, Christians are just exactly like the world?

We are supposed to be so different from the world that everyone can tell the difference. Do you think that distinction is as clear as

it ought to be these days?

Christians are referred to in the Bible as “sojourners, strangers, and pilgrims,” cf Heb 11:8-16; 1 Pet 2:11. Those terms indicate the idea that as foreigners, whose citizenship is in heaven, Phil 3:20,21, we are temporary non-residents of the earth—in the world, but not of it. We are to live here without involvement and defilement by the wickedness that is here.

Two specific words in the New Testament show this separation from the world. The first is the word “church” itself. The *ekklesia* of Christ is to be called out of the world. We are called out of Satan’s



domain and power and into the kingdom of Christ. “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light,” 1 Pet 2:9.

The second word is “sanctified.” This emphasizes the set apart nature of the children of God. “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish,” Eph 5:25-27. This is also the basis for the common word “holy.” We are to be pure and holy, just as God is holy, 1 Pet 1:16.

In the first century there was such a marked difference between Christians and the people of the world that the disciples were easy marks for persecution. Their purity condemned the ungodly and the Christians were often punished by the heathen. Is there still that marked difference? Or do we blend right in?

All too often, Christians wear exactly the same fashions as the world. Clothes that are too tight, too short, too low-cut, or too revealing are sometimes seen on Christians. Not all in-fashion clothes are immodest, 1 Tim 2:9,10, but many are. It is the very worldly that set the fashion standards, not the godly.


Some Christians are just as

covetous as the world. Materialism is eating up the people of God and we are often blind to it. We can see and recognize greed in others, but it is harder to admit in our own lives, isn't it? Covetousness is a form of idolatry, Eph 5:5.

When it comes to recreational habits, I am really amazed at some of the things that some Christians try to defend: R-rated movies, social drinking, smoking, mixed swimming. We are not supposed to do things just because they are popular! And if we don't, some will ridicule us. “For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in licentiousness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you,” 1 Pet 4:3,4.

Christians have the same problem controlling the tongue as the people of the world. We lose our tempers, gossip, and sometimes tell or laugh at dirty jokes.

Worldliness is not just immorality. It is an attitude of heart and mind that puts anything else before God.

Part of our problem in converting people to the Lord is that they often do not see any difference that being a Christian has made in our lives. We live like the world, talk like the world, go where the world goes, and dress like the world. Some serve God on Sunday and live like the world the rest of the time. We must do better. 

The “Christian Position”

By Wayne Jackson

What should be the “Christian position” relative to the carnal engagements of the nations (Iraq, Israel, Syria, etc.)? Our position platform should be this:

All responsible people of every nation are lost without a comprehensive acknowledgement that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the Savior of man from sin, Rom 3:23,26; John 14:6; Acts 4:11,12, God loves the whole of humanity in all nations, and he does not wish to see a single soul lost, Jn 3:16; 1 Tim 2:4; 2 Pet 3:9.

Salvation may be accessed only through the divine plan of redemption that is set forth in the New Testament, Mt 28:19,20; Mk 16:15,16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom 6:3,4,17; Gal 3:26,27, etc.

Christians have a burning obligation to love all mankind, and to work to the end that people everywhere are exposed to the truth of the gospel of Christ, Mt 28:18-20; Mk 16:15,16.


God can, and will, deliver judgments—both temporal and eternal—against the wicked,

Acts 17:26; 2 Cor 5:10, consistent with his own program of operation. But man is not privy to the intricacies of his movements.

All Christians should obey the authorities under which they live—so long as such obligations do not conflict with the revealed will of God, Rom 13:1ff; 1 Pet 2:13ff; Acts 5:29.

Pray for peace to the end that the cause of Christ may flourish in a tranquil environment, 1 Tim 2:1-4.

Followers of Christ should trust God in his providential operations, and be confidently comforted by the reality that all things will be worked out for the ultimate good of the eternal plan that the Lord is implementing, Rom 8:28; Eph 3:10-11.

The conflicts this article references are physical; yet, while we have obligations primarily as citizens of the kingdom of heaven, and cannot forget those we have secondarily as citizens in the land in which we sojourn, consider how the same points relate to ideological/political issues... 

Remember in Prayer

Please remember **Lois Adams'** family; she passed from this life this morning, at home. Pray often for Joyce as she deals with cancer.

Please continue to pray for **Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis,** and **Tim and Dot Hice.** 