

THE LOST WORLD

LESSON 15

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"As a Christian, How Do I Relate to the Lost World?"

The Bible is very clear that the present world system is contrary to God's eternal purpose. The Word of God commands His children to be separate from this world system, yet at the same time, to reach lost men and women who live in it for Jesus Christ.

This lesson is designed to show Christians how to live a balanced and consistent life in order to influence people for the Lord Jesus Christ, without the world influencing them for evil.

1. You must realize that if you live for Jesus Christ, you will encounter opposition from the world.
 - A. You will be opposed because Jesus Christ was opposed. John 15:18-21
 - B. You will be opposed only if you live for Him. If you go along with the world, they will not oppose you. II Timothy 3:12
- II. What areas will this opposition come from?
 - A. Your primary opposition will come from those closest to you who know you best - friends, family, fellow workers, acquaintances. Matthew 10:35-36; John 1:11; Mark 6:4
 - B. From lost people in general. The two spiritual families have NEVER gotten along and never will. Galatians 4:29
 - C. From society in general. The nature and course of this present world system is against God. This opposition is communicated subtly through the media (literature, television, radio, internet, etc.) You must judge those things by the Word of God. I John 2:15-17; James 4:4
 - D. Of course, the mastermind behind this opposition is satan.

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II Corinthians 4:3-4

1. He is your adversary. I Peter 5:8
2. He is currently at work in lost people. Ephesians 2:2

III. How can I overcome this opposition?

- A. Give a soft answer. Avoid fights whenever possible. Proverbs 15:1
Romans 12:18
- B. Live in a manner pleasing to God. Proverbs 16:7
- C. Have faith in God. I John 5: 4 - 5
- D. Love your enemies and help them. Jesus Christ loved His enemies enough to die for them even though He didn't have to. The world cannot understand this type of love, and those who are seeking the truth will be drawn to it. Romans 12:14, 20, 21
- E. Pray for your enemies, and pray with pure motives. Matthew 5:44
- F. Keep good company. Associate with people who love God and want to serve Him. Proverbs 13:20; I Corinthians 15: 33
- G. Immerse yourself in the Word of God. Romans 12:1-2, Psalm 119: 9, 11

IV. How should the lost world view me as a Christian?

- A. They should know you love God - Not only by your mouth but as much as by your life. I Corinthians 8:3
- B. Your lifestyle should separate you from the world, and your scriptural behavior should be noticeable to them. II Corinthians 6: 14 - 18; 1 Peter 2: 9
- C. However, you should not seem so peculiar so that you lose influence. The lost should view you as morally pure, and trust worthy in matters of lifestyle.
Philippians 4:5, I Corinthians 9:22
- D. They should see you as being open and honest in all matters.
II Corinthians 8:21; Romans 12:17
- E. They should see a living testimony of the grace of GOD.

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Philippians 2:14-15

- F. Generally, you should be of "good report." I Timothy 3:7;
Colossians 4:5-6
- V. How should I view the world?
- A. You are a pilgrim in a strange land. Hebrews 11:13; I Peter 2:11
- B. Your home is in heaven. Ephesians 2:6, Philippians 3:20
- C. This world is a "mission field" of lost people to be influenced and reached for JESUS CHRIST. Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20
- VI. Basic Questions.

A. What are my responsibilities to my government?

1. Government is one of three institutions ordained by God, the other two being the family and the church. All governments are controlled by Satan (Luke 4:5-6) and, therefore, are essentially against God. However, you are still to submit to the ordinance of God. Rom. 13: 1-2
2. If you do what is right, you have no reason to fear. God will honor you for doing right. Romans 13: 3-5
3. Render to the government what is due by law. Romans 13: 6-7; Matthew 17: 24-27; 22: 15-22
4. Submit to their ordinances. I Peter 2: 13-15
5. Honor those in authority, even the wicked, without partaking of their wickedness. Commit any adverse situations to God, and let Him handle them. I Peter 2: 17-23 - When Peter wrote these words, Nero was king, perhaps the wicked King Rome ever had.
6. Realize that you cannot legislate morals or change mankind through political action. Man is by nature fallen and sinful and must be changed individually, from the inside out, through a personal saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. Titus 2:14

Notes

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Lesson # 15

Your Name _____

1. As a Christian you will encounter some opposition from the world. Why is this?

- A.
- B.

2. List the sources of opposition you will face.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

3. There are ways that the Christian can deal with opposition from the world. Briefly explain how the following verses can help you.

- A. Proverbs 15: 1
- B. Proverbs 16:7
- C. I John 5: 4-5
- D. Romans 12:20-21
- E. Matthew 5:44
- F. Proverbs 13:2
- C. Romans 12:2

4. When unsaved people observe your life, what should they see?

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.

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5. As you look at the lost world, what is your position?

- A.
- B.
- C.

6. God has ordained three institutions for man. List them.

- A.
- B.
- C.

7. As Christians, we have responsibilities concerning our government. List four primary responsibilities.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

8. Many "Christian" groups today are trying to force morality on people through the passing of laws. Why won't this process work?

9. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson.

Key memory verses (write these verses on the back of this page):

II Timothy 3:12; I John 2:15-16; 1 Corinthians 8:3

True/False

- 1. Christians are to be totally separate from lost people.
- 2. I should do anything to keep people from being upset with me.
- 3. The best way to fight opposition is with an aggressive approach.

Write below any questions you have concerning this lesson or any other lesson so far.