

Bible Study
Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 7
Pastor Charles A. Hall – May 25, 2023

Theme: Living for God, Not the World

“Living for God, Not the World” means that we as true Christians and believers of Jesus Christ no longer place our own selfish desires, needs, and wants above our relationship with God, making God’s desires and will a priority in our life. This means that what God wants for us, always supersedes, what we want for ourselves in any area of our life.

Foundational scriptures for our theme:

2 Corinthians 6:17 WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH the LORD, AND TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING; AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU,

1 John 2:15-17 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love 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 pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (17) And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

In March we adopted the theme of “Living for God, not the world” and since that date we have broken this theme into 5 lessons which are listed below:

Prior Lessons:

- Lesson #1 Living for God not the world
- Lesson # 2 How do we live for God, how do we stop living for the world, and why is it so difficult to live for God.
- Lesson #3 The difficulties and challenges of living for God
- Lesson # 4 The Struggle Within
- Lesson # 5 The Influence Without
- Lesson # 6 Living Spiritually

Being able to recognize God’s Voice

As we move through our daily lives, many of our decisions are based on the inner voice that we hear speaking to us. When we are trying to live for God not the world, it is imperative that we are able to discern (separate) His voice from the voice of the world. First of all, in this present time God’s speaks to his children primarily through His written word the “Bible”. There are times when God speaks to us through our conscience, and through circumstances we encounter in our life’s journey, and yes even through the exhortation or (council) from some of His other children. We must remember that only God’s children can truly comprehend His voice. The world or natural person is not able to examine and scrutinize what is biblically true, without the aid of the holy spirit, because God’s word are spiritual words. The unspiritual person does not have the ability to understand the evidence, and truth of God’s word.

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- **Psalm 85:8** I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.
- **2Timothy 3:16-17** All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (17) That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
- **1Corinthians 2:14** But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.
- **John 10:27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.
- **John 8:47** He that is of God heareth God's words ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

If it is not God's voice, who's voice is it?

Many times we react, or make decisions in our life based on what we think we hear in our spirit or conscience. Often times we claim that what we hear is from God, however in actuality the influence that is guiding our decisions are coming from the prince of darkness, the devil. His influence pulls or leads us in a direction that is in opposition to where God wants us to be

- **John 8:43-44** Why do ye not understand my speech? Even because ye cannot hear my words. (44) Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

How can we know God's voice from Satan's voice?

God's voice is confirmed through His word. God's word is pure and perfect, God instructs us not to add anything to His word, nor take anything away from his word. Satan is a liar, he will do anything to trick you into following him,. One of his favorite tools is to put a little truth on top of a big lie, then he sells us the truth, downplays the lie, and the damnation that comes with the lie. We should always test the voice that we hear in our spirits to make sure where the voice is coming from. If the voice does not line up with the true word of God than the voice is not from God, because God cannot lie.

- **Deuteronomy 4:2** Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish aught from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.
- **1John 4:1** Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
- **Number 23:19** God is not a man, that he should lie, neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said and shall he not do it" Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?