

Bible Study
Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 9
Pastor Charles A. Hall – June 15th, 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
- Lesson # 7 Being able to recognize God’s Voice
- Lesson #8 Staying Committed to your faith

Living in according to the righteousness of God

What does it really mean to live in according to God’s righteousness, first let’s consider the biblical definition of the word righteousness; the quality of being right in the eyes of God (morally acceptable behavior). This includes our character (nature), our conscience (attitude), and our conduct (action). However, each of these qualities must be done in accordance with God’s command (word). So now, what does it mean to Live in accordance with the righteousness of God? In short, it means to exhibit characteristics and behavior that are consistent with the standards and characteristics of God. To walk and live our daily lives in a manner that is reflective of God’s righteous attributes revealed in His Holy Word. True believers who are born again of the spirit of God are given a special gift by the Holy Spirit. This gift is the revealing of God’s righteousness (moral divine standards) to those who possess faith and trust in God. This gift of righteousness is imputed unto each of us when we receive salvation

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- **Romans 3:21-26** - But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets. (22) Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: (23) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (24) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: (25) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: (26) To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Living beyond the pressure of this present world

With all the prosperity preaching that is taking place all around the world, and with all the hype from television and social media, it is becoming increasingly difficult to live in accordance with God's righteous standards as opposed to the standards of man. We profess to have been saved from sin and death by the shed blood of Jesus Christ, but yet we don't want to dedicate our lives to being like Him, as much as humanly possible. We are forever searching for things that satisfy our flesh, and things that give us a temporary emotional charge, without ever considering the cost of our fleshly lust. If we truly considered the cost, we would realize that we could gain wealth and fame, and yet lose what is most important, our soul! We can not live in accordance with the standards of the world and be Kingdom bound at the same time, if we want to enter into the kingdom of God through the narrow gate, then our righteousness must exceed the moral standards of the world!

- **1Peter 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: BY WHOSE STRIPES YE ARE HEALED
- **Matthew 16:26** – For what is a man profit if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul.
- **Matthew 5:20** - For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the Kingdom of heaven.
- **Roman 4:4-6** – Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of Grace, but of debt. (5) But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. (6) Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness.

Allowing God to transform us into righteous seekers

If we are to live unto righteousness, our hearts and minds must be transformed from a place of worldliness to heavenliness. The only power that can transform our hearts and minds is the power of God.

- **Romans 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.