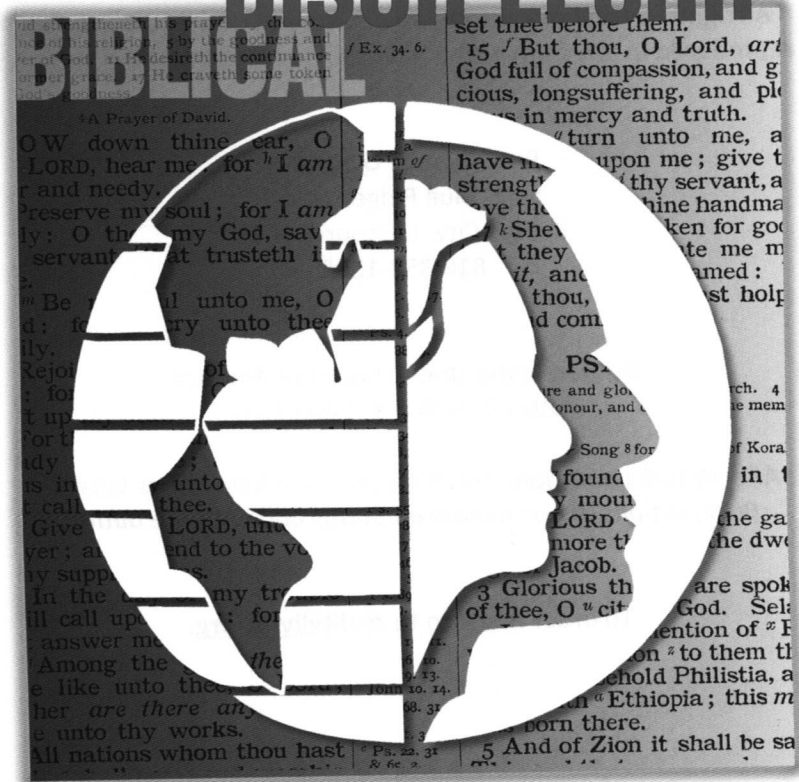


THE LOST WORLD

15

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LESSON 15: THE LOST WORLD

“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. At the same time, we are to reach lost men and women who live in it for Jesus Christ.

This lesson is designed to show you 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.

- I. Learn to expect opposition from the world if you live for Jesus Christ.
 - 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, you will not be opposed.

II Timothy 3:12

II. Learn the area from which opposition will come.

- A. Your opposition will come from those closest to you, those who know you best – friends, family, fellow workers, and acquaintances.

Matthew 10:35-36; John 1:11; Mark 6:4

- B. Your opposition will come from lost people in general. The two spiritual families have **NEVER** gotten along and never will.

Galatians 4:29

- C. Your opposition will come 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, etc.). You must judge those things by the Word of God.

I John 2:15-17; James 4:4

- D. Your opposition will come from Satan himself.

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. Learn how to overcome this opposition.

- A. Give a soft answer. Avoid fights whenever possible.

Proverbs 15:1; Romans 12:18

- B. Please God with your life.

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 when He didn't have to do it. 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; 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

IV. Learn how the lost world should view you as a Christian.

- * A. They should know you love God – **NOT** by your mouth but by your life.

I Corinthians 8:3

- B. They should see your life-style as separate from the world and your behavior a testimony to others.

II Corinthians 6:14-18; I Peter 2:9

- C. They should view you as moderate in all things, but not so peculiar that you lose influence. This would include your dress – moderate, not weird.

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.
Philippians 2:14-15
 - F. They should see you as being of "good report."
I Timothy 3:7; Colossians 4:5-6
- V. Learn how you should view your place in the world.
- A. You are a pilgrim in a strange land.
Hebrews 11:13; 1 Peter 2:11
 - B. Your home is in heaven.
Ephesians 2:6; Philippians 3:20
 - C. Your mission is to reach the lost for Jesus Christ.
Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20

VI. Basic question: What are my responsibilities to my government?

- A. Government is one of three institutions ordained by God. The other two are 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.

Romans 13:1-2

- B. If you do what is right, you have no reason to fear. God will honor you for doing right.

Romans 13:3-5

- C. Render to the government what is due by law.

Romans 13:6-7; Matthew 17:24-27, 22:15-22

- D. Submit to their ordinances.

I Peter 2:13-15

- E. 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 most wicked king Rome ever had.

- F. Realize 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

Realize you cannot regulate morals or change mankind through political action. Man is by nature fallen and sinful and must be changed internally, from the inside out, through a personal saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Titus 2:14

THE LOST WORLD

Lesson # 15

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 the Christian can deal with opposition from the world. Briefly explain how the following verses can help you.
 - A. *Proverbs 15:1*

Discipleship – Lesson 15

B. *Proverbs 16:7*

C. *I John 5:4-5*

D. *Romans 12:20-21*

E. *Matthew 5:44*

F. *Proverbs 13:20*

G. *Romans 12:2*

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

A.

B.

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

C.

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

A.

B.

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

A.

8. Many "Christian" groups today are trying to force people through the passing of laws. Why would this process work?

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

Some popular attitudes among Christians are:

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.

From the Bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand these attitudes are false and why.

→Write any questions you may have concerning the subjects in this lesson.

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