

## **BE NOT CONFORMED**

### **Romans 12:2**

#### **I. Worldliness is all thinking that is contrary to the teaching of the Bible.**

- It is all the unbelief operating at the present time through institutions literature, the media, conversation, and any other means of communication.
- It is all thought, opinion, values, aspirations, goals untouched by the Word of God. It is thinking devoid of divine wisdom.
- The world is a counter culture to that of biblical Christianity. God is left out. It is a kingdom that rivals God's kingdom.
- It is the sum total of all that is hostile to God and His purposes in the here and now.

#### **II. There are three typical features of the world.**

- Lust of the flesh – desire which acts in rebellion against God. It is all that is egocentric, exploitive, and selfish.
- Lust of the eyes – the eye setting the value of a thing. It is basing what is good and right on appearance. It is living by sight not by faith.

- Boastful pride of life – It is making the outward the pursuit of life.

#### **III. Worldliness has many manifestations (some examples).**

- Any alteration of the biblical teaching on the person and work of Jesus Christ.
- Any view of man which sees him as essentially good and having the divine presence within. The claim that human beings are unlimited in their potential.
- Acceptance of theories of human origins and the origin of the universe (evolution, uniformitarianism).
- It is the view that we how it ourselves to be happy and not allow others to tell us what is best for us.
- It is the view that matter exists eternally and is all there is.
- It is the belief that all religions have equal value and worth and that no one religion can claim to be the exclusive way to God.
- It is the belief that material prosperity will solve all social ills (poverty, disease, and ignorance).
- It is the belief that disarmament and nonviolence will bring about world peace.
- It is the belief that a woman has absolute control over her own body and no one can tell her what to do with it.
- It is the view that truth is relative, that there are no moral absolutes.

- It is the belief that ethics is related only to human beings (i.e. values are manmade).
- It is the idea that one must learn to love himself before he can love others.
- It is the value that asserts that sports, health, and physical fitness give meaning to life and in themselves are spiritual experiences.
- It is the belief that one's job, house, and income determine success in life.
- It is the persuasion that a marriage that doesn't work out well sometimes has to be ended by divorce.
- It is the opinion that it is alright to sleep with one's boyfriend or girlfriend before marriage.
- It is thinking of oneself more highly than one ought to think.
- It is placing a higher value on experiencing comfort than on enduring hardships for Jesus Christ.
- It is using one's eyes to ogle lustfully the opposite sex.
- It is the pursuit of amusement/entertainment as a means to happiness rather than the pursuit of holiness.
- It is the craving for food and drink that is gluttonous and does bodily harm.
- It is making personal appearance more important than the fear of God.
- It is the belief that same-sex marriage is a human right.
- It is using Facebook to spread gossip and slander.
- It is a life style that does not include a meaningful time in the study of the Bible, prayer, and witnessing to others about Jesus Christ.