

# Changing the Way You Think

## Church and Culture (Part 6): The Lies We Believe

- A Crucial Contrast of Jesus’ Kingdom and the World’s Culture is How differently each defines Truth:

**Purpose \* Identity \* Success \* Beauty \* Love \* Hope**

- They Don’t Mix
  - One of the main contributing reasons the Church is sick, and losing influence – especially among believers – is the unwillingness of many to acknowledge and live by these differences.

### James 4:4-6

**You adulterers!** Don’t you realize that **friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God**? I say it again: **If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.** Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that **God is passionate that the spirit He has placed within us should be faithful to Him. He gives grace generously.** As Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

### Galatians 5:19-25

When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control... Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.



- Two Paths; Both Trying to Reach the Same Destination With Radically Different Results
- Great Harm Awaits in the Lies We Believe

### Matthew 7:13-14

“You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow path. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

## 2 Cor. 10:3-5

We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. <sup>4</sup>We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. <sup>5</sup>We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ.

- It is War, Not against People, But Against Ideas and Concepts That Promise Much and Destroy The Lives and Souls of Human Beings.

**Purpose \* Identity \* Success \* Beauty \* Love \* Hope**

- Lies About These Subjects Take Root and Become Our Core Beliefs – Translating Into Our Life's Direction...
- This is Where Church and Culture Clash In Origin and Results.
- Christ-Followers Rely On "God's Mighty Weapons" to Fight This Battle For the Minds & Hearts of Humanity:

- **The Word of God**  
(Hebrews 4:12; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
- **The Spirit's Leading**  
(Gal. 3:19-25; 1 John 2:20-21, 27)
- **The Fruit Test**  
(Matthew 7:15-20)
- **Spiritual Discernment of Good & Evil**  
(Hebrews 5:14)

What sorrow awaits for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter. What sorrow awaits for those who are wise in their own eyes and think themselves so clever.  
**Isaiah 5:20-21**

## Heb 5:11, 14

We have much to say, but it is hard to get it across to you since you've picked up this bad habit of not listening... "[Our] powers of discernment [must be] trained **by constant practice** to distinguish good from evil."

**Purpose \* Identity \* Success \* Beauty \* Love \* Hope**