

## RESPECTABLE SINS

*Confronting the Sins we Tolerate*

.....

We are quickly coming to the end of our study of Respectable Sins. Tonight, we want to address the topic of worldliness. To mention the sin of worldliness tonight will conjure up in our minds different things. There are many ways that we define this term. Most often it is defined by our \_\_\_\_\_ more than biblical \_\_\_\_\_. But tonight, we want to try and change from that fatal direction.

### SCRIPTURAL EXPLANATION

To help us properly understand the concept of worldliness there are a few passages of Scripture that we need to consider.

#### 1 John 2:15-16

- The Apostle John writes and exhorts us to avoid \_\_\_\_\_ this world and the things of it. There is a danger for the believer to be drawn away from the Lord as we allow our affections to be set upon this world or the things of it.
- We are drawn away by
  - the lust of the \_\_\_\_\_
  - the lust of the \_\_\_\_\_
  - the \_\_\_\_\_ of life

#### Colossians 3:1-3

- We are not to set our affections on the things of the world.
- We are commanded to set our affections on the things above.

#### Matthew 6:18-24

- Our treasure is to be in heaven not on earth
- We cannot have \_\_\_\_\_. It is either/or not both/and

#### 1 Corinthians 7:31

- There are \_\_\_\_\_ purposes and uses for the things of the world, but we must handle them with \_\_\_\_\_.
- In all things Christ must remain the \_\_\_\_\_ of our lives, lest we slip into worldliness.

From these passages we find a two-fold definition of worldliness: a primary and secondary definition.

**Primary** - “being attached to, engrossed in or preoccupied with the things of this temporal life.”

**Secondary** - “accepting the values, mores, and practices of the nice, but unbelieving, society around us without discerning whether or not those values, mores, and practices are biblical.”

### PRACTICAL APPLICATION

With the reminder of our time tonight, let me try and make some practical application by looking at three areas where this attitude of worldliness might rear its ugly head in our lives and go undetected.

#### Money

- 1 Timothy 6:10 tells us that “the \_\_\_\_\_ of money is the root of all evil.”
- It is common in our culture to “\_\_\_\_\_ the money”.
- The world has for years advanced the idea that we should pursue the \_\_\_\_\_ of a better life, which means wealthier life.
- The idea is to get all that you can get seeing you only get to live \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Immorality

- We condemn immorality openly, yet we secretly condone it which Bridges calls \_\_\_\_\_ **immorality**.
- Seen in our love for all things \_\_\_\_\_ and in our \_\_\_\_\_ in dress.

#### Idolatry

- Yet we fall short and become worldly when we allow anything or anyone take a \_\_\_\_\_ place of importance than God.
- Could be career, vacations, hobbies, sports, etc.
- What is more important that worshipping the Lord? What is given higher priority?
- If God is not \_\_\_\_\_ then in reality we are being worldly!