



## Mighty in the Word

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;  
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1.18).

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)

The Wise Still Seek Him

of the  
Lord  
Jesus Christ

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## Be Not Conformed to this World!

Be not joined with them

What is it to be joined to the world? To join another is to become one with them. In the Greek, it is to be glued to another. Becoming one with them is to walk with them, those who belong to the enemy, Satan, those who are walking on the broad road that leads to destruction. The Bible tells us that this road is broad because "many there be which go in thereat."

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves (Mt 7.13-15).

We cannot walk with one foot on the broad road and one on the straight and narrow way. The Bible tells us "few there be that find it." You cannot walk both ways. You may proceed to act like you are walking both ways. You may deceive many people with your endeavoring to walk both ways, but it is deception because you cannot straddle the fence. It is like a marriage. You are either married or you are not. If you are married, the Bible says, to an harlot, you are one with the harlot. You are conformed, joined, to that person. You cannot walk with the world and deceive yourself into thinking you are walking with the Lord on Sundays because you are a church-goer – no matter what the one on the pulpitum may say. We must seek the Truth of the Lord God in His Holy Word. The following clarifies that.

What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit (I Cor 6.16, 17).

When we are walking with the Lord, conformed to Him, joined to the Lord, we are one with Him. We are called to walk with Him in obedience to Him, to walk a life of holiness unto Him each step of the way.

In the Word of God, II Chronicles 20, we are told of Jehoshaphat King of Judah joining himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, a god-less, wicked king we are told.

wavier; we cannot be on one side of the fence today and on the other side of the fence tomorrow. If you are on the wrong side one day and go back and forth, you have not made a decision for Jesus. You are walking with the enemy.

I have a Saviour; He's pleading in glory,  
A dear, loving Saviour, tho' earth-friends be few;  
And now He is watching in tenderness o'er me,  
And, oh, that my Saviour were your Saviour, too.

Chorus:

For you, I am praying, For you, I am praying.  
For you I'm praying, I'm praying for you.

S. Omally Cluff

Mrs. Bettie L. Lowery, M.R.E., Deaconess    The Rev. Mrs. Dr. C. S. Cole, Pastor, Ret.

*Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ*

*Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).*

II Ch 20:35 And after this hath Jehoshaphat king of Judah joined himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, (he did wickedly in so doing),

Hosea reveals to us what happens among his people all too often. They are destroyed, all too often, for lack of knowledge. The Hebrew is their lack of wisdom, of seeking the Lord, lack of discernment and understanding. They walk in their own ways, walking against the Lord God and His command to walk in obedience. They, all too often, choose to walk with the world, lacking in discernment and wisdom to know the Truth of God in Christ Jesus.

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

As they were increased, so they sinned against me: *[therefore]* will I change their glory into shame.

They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity (Hos 4.6-8).

And the Word goes on to reveal they worshipped idols (vv 12-19). Oh, how like today! People say, "Oh, we are all worshiping the same god – just different names." How many times have I heard that. Then there are those who believe they will lead them to their ways if they join the pagans not realizing they have already given in to the gods of this world the moment they chose to join the idol worshippers. You cannot walk with one foot with idol worshippers and one foot in the will of the Lord Jesus Christ.

All who know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior must walk in obedience to the Lord who gives to us His Word in Romans 12.2.

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.

How can we tell the world about Jesus Christ if we are not walking with Him, if we are not being transformed by the Lord Jesus Christ? How can we live a life in Him, a life of righteousness, of holiness in Him – if we are not joined to Him and enjoined by Him?

There are those that are hungry for the Lord Jesus Christ. They are waiting for someone to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with them, to lead them to the Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. They are looking for someone who is one with the Lord, one who is joined to the Lord Jesus Christ – as I Corinthians 6.7 teaches.

Philippians, Chapter Three, is important as we endeavor to know the Lord and walk with Him. Jesus Christ loves us so much that He gave His life for us, for our sins. He was crucified on the Cross of Calvary, shed His blood for our sins, died, and rose victoriously over sin, hell, and the grave.

Paul makes it clear what is important to him, a life in Jesus Christ. Paul suffered much, persecuted, mocked, put before the government officials standing trial for his beliefs – no, for his love for the Lord Jesus Christ. He has an understanding of what is important to him in this life, and it is not what the world deems to be

significant or important. He makes it clear that what the world sees as important, necessary, gain in this present world is but dung. He makes it clear that his life is about the Lord Jesus Christ, to live a life for him – come what may; yes, come what may, the sufferings that come with *Living for Jesus* as he is walking the *Via Dolorosa*.

Phi 3:7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

Phi 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *[but]* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *[but]* dung, that I may win Christ,

Phi 3:9 **And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, **but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:****

Phi 3:10 **That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;**

Phi 3:11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Believers are to dedicate themselves, their lives to God, to be changed into the likeness of the Lord, to be renewed.

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 (Rom 12.2).

When we are no longer conformed to the world, but transformed into the likeness of the Lord in our daily living, walking with the Lord, we will come to understand what Paul wrote, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Yes, those walking with the Lord Jesus Christ have been persecuted all through the centuries and continue to be in other countries, and, I believe, soon to be here. However, the Lord is with His followers. When the world comes against the followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord will have the last say, and we will spend eternity with Him – though the world perhaps mocks us during the times of persecution not realizing the Lord Jesus has already won the victory and is for His followers.

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *[to be]* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Rom 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? **If God *[be]* for us, who *[can be]* against us?**

Our prayer must be Philippians 3.10: "**That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.**"

We must realize that we cannot walk straddling the fence. We have to make a choice. To go with the world is to reject the Lord Jesus Christ. The world says to you, "do this just this once" or "it is okay, God understands" or "what is so-o wrong with doing this or thinking this or saying this – just this once?" "Just this once" will take you another step and another step away from making the decision to walk with the Lord. Joshua said to the Israelites, "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." Yes, we have to come to the place of making a decision. We cannot