

Major Tests of Our Faith – *Lesson Nine* ***Worldly Surroundings***

We live in a corrupt world. And that's not a secret to everyone who has a concern for spiritual matters. As we look around, we see that immorality abounds, evil people lurk in the darkness because Satan is always on the prowl for those souls he can attack and destroy. And let's face it; the Christian's faith is constantly tried as a result of worldly surroundings, so we better be wise and aware. We can choose to love the world or to turn from its influences. Which will it be?

This for sure – ***Worldly surroundings will be a major test of our faith.***

1. There are some choices in life that bring an automatic, almost a predictable result. Read **1 John 2:15-16**
 - a. According to the Word of God, what happens if we *“love the world”*?

 - b. What three expressions of ‘the world’ are mentioned in verse 16?

 - c. Briefly, explain what each means.

2. Read **Romans 12:1-2**
 - a. According to this verse, how can one avoid being conformed to the world according?

 - b. What result does that produce in us?

3. Carefully read **Proverbs 4:23-27** and record what it says about one keeping your heart with all diligence.

4. From what does immoral conduct proceed, according to **Matthew 15:19**?

5. Make a list of some major influences in our society that can corrupt the hearts of Christians.

6. What can we do to avoid being corrupted by the filth that surrounds us?

7. List some Bible characters that had to overcome corrupt surroundings in order to serve God. (be prepared to discuss some of them)

8. According to **Colossians 3:1-3**, upon what is a Christian's mind to be set?

9. Think about this... does one have to be immoral to be worldly?

SOUL SEARCHER... Think fairly & honestly

Is there some interest, some affection, in my life that is drawing me away from my love for God and for the things that are spiritual and eternal?

(Be honest with yourself – your reward in heaven may depend on it)