

What about other gods?

What challenging times we are living in. It seems that everything around us that could go wrong is going wrong. Our economy is experiencing recession and hard times, the national debt is out of sight, there is deep concern for the current trade deficit, savings and loan greed, Wall Street fraud, greedy and immoral politicians, rampant immorality throughout our nation, pornography everywhere, alcohol and drugs out of control, homosexuality an accepted lifestyle, abortion on demand, uncontrolled killings on our streets, stealing, brother suing brother, rape and murder, high rates of divorce, ministers of the Gospel falling prey to overt sin, and on and on.

What is happening? In 2 Timothy 3:1-5 we are told "But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; holding to a FORM OF GODLINESS, although they have denied its power..."

It appears to me that we are without question in the last days and that we are experiencing what this portion of scripture has already prophetically promised. How does this involve you and me as Christians? Many of us have entered into the sin of our time by allowing our ears and feelings to be tickled and placed under the control of the humanistic society that we live in today. We have compromised our faith and walk in Jesus Christ and are walking after other gods. We have bowed to the philosophy of SELF which says, "get what you can in whatever way you can so that you can be a success and feel good about your SELF."

What is success? The world's standard is based upon how much you have accumulated and how many credentials you have with little or no concern for others. All of this to bring glory to SELF instead of God. What does God say about the world's standards? In Matthew 6:19 He says, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal." In verse 20 He shows us a better way "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in and steal;" and then He makes a profound statement in verse 21 "for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." The lesson to be learned is; when we change our focus from the Lord to SELF; that is where our allegiance will be. We become as gods unto ourselves. No wonder the world is having a hard time distinguishing who the Christians are.

I believe it is past time for the church to wake up and quit hiding its head in the sand. It is time for God's people to make a positive unwavering stand against the mediocrity and compromise of God's Word in their lives. It is time for each one of us to be truly imitators of Christ lest we bring God's judgment upon our land through our disobedience.

As we put away our other gods and stand up for Jesus Christ and make a new commitment to walk in obedience to His Word we can be a part of changing this world for Christ. God has given us His marching orders in Ephesians 5:1-3,15,16 "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you as is proper among saints; Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise making the most of your time, because the days are evil."

LET'S NOT CONTINUE TO GRIEVE THE LORD, LET'S MAKE OUR WALK LINE UP WITH OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH, LET'S PUT AWAY OUR OTHER GODS AND OBEY HIM!