

The Problem Of Unbelievers

Introduction.

1. One of the problems facing the Christian is "The Problem Of Unbelievers."
 - a. The vast majority of the world has rejected Christ and His teachings or has never heard of Him.
 - b. The Christian is surrounded by people who have little regard for the Lord and His teachings.
 - c. The wickedness of the ancient world is still with us. (Rom. 1:18-31).

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Rom 1:19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

Rom 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Rom 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Rom 1:22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

Rom 1:23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

Rom 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

Rom 1:25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Rom 1:26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

Rom 1:27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

Rom 1:28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,

Rom 1:29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; {they are} gossips,

Rom 1:30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

Rom 1:31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;

- d. The sins Paul condemned are still with us. (2 Tim. 3:1-6).

2 Tim 3:1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

2 Tim 3:2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,

2 Tim 3:3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,

2 Tim 3:4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

2 Tim 3:5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

2 Tim 3:6 For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses,

1) "last days" are not referring primarily to the end of time, but are referring to the Christian dispensation. (Acts 2:17; Heb. 1:2; 2 Pet. 3:3).

2) These words have described people in every century even until now.

3) As long as the devil is free, there will always be much evil in the world.

2. It is imperative that we examine this problem and how to live in an unbelieving world as Christians honoring Christ and glorifying God.

3. This is a great challenge and sadly many soldiers of the cross have abandoned their faith to follow the ways of the world.

World

1. The Christian must live in the world and cannot avoid contact with evil people. (1 Cor. 5:9, 10).

1 Cor 5:9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;

1 Cor 5:10 I {did} not at all {mean} with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world.

a. Jesus did not avoid all contact with sinners, but are with them and taught them. (Matt. 9:10-13).

Matt 9:10 Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining {at the table} in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples.

Matt 9:11 When the Pharisees saw {this,} they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?"

Matt 9:12 But when Jesus heard {this,} He said, "{It is} not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.

Matt 9:13 "But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for I did not come to call the righteous.

b. Luke 7:36-50 relates a story of Jesus interacting with a sinful woman.

Luke 7:36 Now one of the Pharisees was requesting Him to dine with him, and He entered the Pharisee's house and reclined {at the table.}

Luke 7:37 And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining {at the table} in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume,

Luke 7:38 and standing behind {Him} at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume.

Luke 7:39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner."

Luke 7:40 And Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he replied, "Say it, Teacher."

Luke 7:41 "A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.

Luke 7:42 "When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?"

Luke 7:43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged correctly."

Luke 7:44 Turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

Luke 7:45 "You gave Me no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet.

Luke 7:46 "You did not anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume.

Luke 7:47 "For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little."

Luke 7:48 Then He said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven."

Luke 7:49 Those who were reclining {at the table} with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this {man} who even forgives sins?"

Luke 7:50 And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

c. Jesus converted the sinful Samaritan woman and many of the Samaritans. (Jn. 4:5-42).

2. Jesus taught the world would hate the Christian. (Jn. 15:19, 20). See also 1 Jn. 3:1

John 15:19 "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.

John 15:20 "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

1 John 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and {such} we are. **For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.**

a. Jesus taught that Christians who faithfully endure persecution will be blessed. (Matt. 5:10-12).

Matt 5:10 "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matt 5:11 "Blessed are you when {people} insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

Matt 5:12 "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

b. 2 Timothy 3:12 warns "all" Christians of persecution.

2 Tim 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

1) "All" is a hyperbole meaning "many" or "most."

2) Not every faithful Christian has been persecuted, that is, received physical persecution.

3. The Christian must proclaim the gospel and make a diligent attempt to convert the world. (Mk. 16:15; Matt. 28:19, 20).

a. Christians are to "do good to all men." (Gal. 6:10).

b. The Christian must not conform to the world nor love it. (Rom. 12:1,2; Jas. 4:4; 1 Jn. 2:15-17).

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, {which is} your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

James 4:4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

1 John 2:17 The world is passing away, and {also} its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

c. Christians are to be “the light of the world.” (Matt. 5:14-16; Phil. 2:15; Eph. 5:8).

Matt 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;

Matt 5:15 nor does {anyone} light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

Matt 5:16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Phil 2:15 so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

Eph 5:8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light

1) Christians cannot be the light of the world if they totally withdraw themselves from all contact and association with unbelievers.

2) In contact with unbelievers Christians must show them the way of Christ by word and example.

3) Some or many in the world can be won to Christ if they see Christ living in us.

4. The world attempts to pull us down and persuades us to follow its wicked philosophies and ways.

a. Some want us to make “little” compromises - lie a little, drink a little, steal a little, curse a little, etc.

b. Others want us to go all the way and abandon Christianity. (1 Cor. 15:32).

1 Cor 15:32 If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE.

5. It is dangerous to have close associations with unbelievers. (Psa. 1:1; Prov. 4:14, 15; 1 Cor. 15:33).

Psa 1:1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

Prov 4:14 Do not enter the path of the wicked And do not proceed in the way of evil men.

Prov 4:15 Avoid it, do not pass by it; Turn away from it and pass on.

1 Cor 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

6. Christians are warned not to be unequally yoked [bound] together with unbelievers. (2 Cor. 6:14-16).

2 Cor 6:14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or

what fellowship has light with darkness?

2 Cor 6:15 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

2 Cor 6:16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE

Note:

- “Belial” means “worthlessness, wickedness.” The Greek text has “belial” [beh lee **ahl**] or “beliar” [beh lee **ahr**] translated into English as “Belial.” The term is used in the New Testament to apply to Satan who is the personification of all that is bad.
- “heterozugeo” [heh teh rah zoo **geh oh**] is translated “do not be bound together” here and means “to be unevenly yoked, mismatched.”
- It originally referred to a man mismating or yoking a larger animal to a smaller animal. (Deut.22:10).

Deut 22:10 "You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together.

- Being unequally yoked was injurious or deadly to the smaller animal.
- Paul was cautioning the Christian about his relationships with unbelievers in business, friendships, marriage, and in every other relationship.

- a. This passage is not an absolute prohibition against all associations with unbelievers.
- b. It must be interpreted in light of other revelation we have on this subject that require or encourage contact with the world.
- c. Paul uses this language to refer to a Christian’s relationship to unbelievers.
- d. So many Christians have been spiritually injured or destroyed by being unequally yoked [bound together] with unbelievers.
- e. Paul’s warning must not go unheeded.

5. We must overcome the world.

- a. Faith (1 Jn. 5:4,5).

1 John 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

1 John 5:5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

- b. Worship (Heb. 10:24,25).

Heb 10:24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,

Heb 10:25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging {one another;} and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

- c. Fellowship (Acts 2:42-47).

Acts 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

Acts 2:44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common;

Acts 2:45 and they {began} selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.

Acts 2:46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

Acts 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

d. Scripture (Psa. 119:11).

Ps 119:11 Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.

e. Work (Gal. 6:9, 10).

f. Put on the whole armor of God. (Eph. 6:11-18).

g. Prayer (Matt. 6:11).

Business

1. The Christian must beware of dishonest and worldly employers.

a. Those who encourage us to lie, cheat, etc.

b. Those who encourage and demand we forsake the assembly, drink, curse, etc.

2. The Christian must beware of dishonest partners. (2 Cor. 6:14).

2 Cor 6:14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

a. It is hard to be honest if joined to a crook.

b. It is hard to have a business with Christian principles if joined to a person with worldly values and principles.

c. Great caution must be exercised in forming and maintaining partnerships with unbelievers.

3. The Christian must beware of his work environment.

a. Our work environment is usually less than perfect!

b. We must use caution or it will cause us to compromise our convictions.

c. This may mean changing jobs and working for less money.

d. No job is worth our soul. (Matt. 16:26).

Matt 16:26 "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Marriage

1. Thousands of Christians are married to unbelieving partners.

a. Some are cooperative.

- 1) They permit the Christian to live the Christian life without much or any opposition.
- 2) Some will even attend church with the Christian and adopt some or all of the Christian morals.
- 3) Few, if any, encourage and inspire the Christian to greater service and faithfulness.
- 4) Cooperation or tolerance is not the same as encouragement and joint participation.

b. Some are non-cooperative.

- 1) They are negative or hostile to the Christian because of his or her devotion to Christ.
- 2) They will seldom, if ever, attend church and may seek to discourage or forbid the Christian from attending services and living the Christian life.
- 3) They do not like it if the Christian has fellowship with other Christians, and do not like Christians coming into the home.
- 4) They talk down Christians to the children and do not encourage them to be Christians and may forbid it.

2. Marriage to unbelievers is not forbidden. (1 Cor. 7:12-15).

1 Cor 7:12 But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.

1 Cor 7:13 And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.

1 Cor 7:14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.

1 Cor 7:15 Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such {cases,} but God has called us to peace.

a. As already noted the New Testament cautions us against being "unequally yoked." (2 Cor. 6:14-18).

b. If 2 Corinthians 6:17b is interpreted to forbid marriages with unbelievers, then all such marriages must be immediately dissolved.

1) Other revelation on this subject reveals this interpretation is false. (1 Pet. 3:1,2).

2) Other scriptures reveal that these marriages are not to be dissolved by the believer merely because their husband or wife is an unbeliever. (1 Cor. 7:13, 14).

- c. Marriage to unbelievers is very dangerous.
 - 1) It is like playing Russian roulette with all the chambers of the gun loaded but one or two.
 - 2) Most unbelievers are never converted to Christ, but thankfully there are some success stories.
 - 3) Most believers are weakened by such marriages, but not all!
 - 4) Many fall away from the faith because of such marriages.
- 3. Christians married to unbelievers should not leave them (1 Cor. 7:11-15), but should try to convert them.
 - a. Some are receptive to teaching and will listen to God's word.
 - b. Some can be converted by example. (1 Pet. 3:1,2).

1 Pet 3:1 In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any {of them} are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives,
 1 Pet 3:2 as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.

 - 1) Those "disobedient "to the word"... "may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives."
 - 2) There is power in a Christian example.
- 4. Those married to unbelievers need to associate with strong Christians as much as possible. (Acts 2:46; Heb. 3:13; 10:24,25).
 - a. This is vital to the Christian and the children.
 - b. All need Christians need good examples and encouragement to remain healthy spiritually.
 - c. This may lead the unbelievers to Christ if they participate in some or all of this fellowship.

Family

- 1. We should be very thankful if we have a Christian family to help and encourage us.
 - a. Many shamefully take this blessing for granted.
 - b. We should constantly give God thanks for this blessing.
- 2. An unbelieving family can be a big problem. (Matt. 10:34-37; Lk. 14:26).

Matt 10:34 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.
 Matt 10:35 "For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW;
 Matt 10:36 and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD.
 Matt 10:37 "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

Luke 14:26 "If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. "Hate" is used in the sense of "love less." (Matt. 10:37).

3. Some parents may discourage children from doing right and even insist the children do wrong.
 - a. Some unbelievers demand their children lie, cheat, steal and do abominable things.
 - b. Others do all they can discourage their children from living the Christian life.
 - c. Some denounce the children and force them to leave home if they serve Christ.
4. Children may rebel against us and discourage us from living the Christian life.
 - a. Some Christians have given up because of the children ceasing to live the Christian life.
 - b. They feel they are utter failures and give up.
5. Brothers and sisters and other family members may oppose us or even hate us because we are Christians.

Friends

1. The friends we select have more influence on us than the world.
 - a. Peer pressure can be great and even overwhelming, and many people conform to the standards of their associates.
 - b. This is most often a gradual change, but it can become a deadly change.
 - c. It is sometimes difficult to get off of a slippery slope especially if one does not recognize he/she is on it.
 - d. Friends will usually make or break us emotionally, physically and spiritually.
2. We must select good friends. (1 Cor. 15:33; Psa. 1:1).

1 Cor. 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals." NIV "good character." NKJV "good habits."

Psa. 1:1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

- a. A good friend is not perfect, but is one who will have a positive influence on us.
 - b. A good friend will stick with us through thick and thin, good times and bad, and will help us live close to God.
 - c. A good friend is one with whom we can work and have fun, pray, study and serve God.
3. We must transform the world, not conform to it. (Rom. 12:1,2).
4. We can do this through Christ. (Phil. 4:13).

Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

5. We can do this by following the admonitions given in the book of James. (Jas. 4:7,8).

James 4:7 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded

Some Closing Remarks

1. We should always remember that all men have been created by God, and are made in His image and likeness. (Gen. 1:26, 27).

a. God wants “all men” to be saved. (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9).

b. We should not ignore unbelievers, but should seek to lead them to Christ by word and example.

2. We should recognize we have a very special place in the unbelieving world. (1 Pet. 2:9-12).

1 Pet 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR {God's} OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

1 Pet 2:10 for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

1 Pet 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

1 Pet 2:12 **Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles**, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe {them,} glorify God in the day of visitation.

3. We should have understanding of the different types of unbelievers - not all are the same.

a. There are **weak Christian** who technically are not unbelievers, but pretty much live by their own standards and discourage others believers from being faithful and enthusiastic in their service to the Lord.

b. There are **unbelievers who have adopted many of the moral standards of the Bible** who are good parents in most ways, loyal friends and who have high standards for their lives.

c. There are **atheists** who believe there is no God and seek to discourage and destroy moral and spiritual values.

d. There are **humanists** who believe one can live a good life without religious beliefs. They reject the Bible as the standard for living and live by their own standards that constantly change with the times. There are no absolutes. They might have some kind of belief in a higher being, but are usually agnostics or atheists.

e. There are **people who do what is right in their own eyes** and only accept the Bible if it agrees with their own life style and philosophy.

f. There are believers who may have high moral standards, but **reject the idea we must have “a thus saith the Lord”** for all that we do. Many of these people believe doctrine is not very important and many believe they are saved regardless of how they live.

4. We are not to be troublemakers, but seek to be at peace with all men. (Rom 12:18; 14:19).

5. Though we live by a higher standard we must never have a self-righteous attitude toward others. (Lk. 18:9-14).
6. We must never claim sinlessness, but humbly confess our sins. (1 Jn. 1:8,10).
7. We must always keep in mind we are ambassadors for Christ and others judge Christ and the church by our conduct.
8. We must also obey the words of Peter. (1 Pet. 4:15,16).

1 Pet 4:15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;
 1 Pet 4:16 but if {anyone suffers} as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

9. We must obey the laws of the land unless they conflict with God's laws. (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:13-17; Acts 5:29).
 - a. We are to cooperate with the government in good works. (Tit. 3:1).
 - b. We must obey our taxes. (Rom. 13:6,7; Matt. 22:17-22).

10. We should never be ashamed of Christ and the gospel. (Mk. 8:38; Rom. 1:16).

11. Because we are out of step with the unbelieving world, we should expect teasing, ridicule and even persecution.
 - a. The world walks to a much different drum beat.
 - b. It does not understand what makes the Christian tick or if it does it prefers to walk in darkness and pursue the pleasures of sin.

12. We should constantly pray for our leaders and all men. (1 Tim. 2:1-3).

1 Tim 2:1 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties {and} prayers, petitions {and} thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men,
 1 Tim 2:2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.
 1 Tim 2:3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

13. We need to accept the reality that believers will always be the minority (Matt. 7:13, 14), but not let this acceptance lessen or destroy our zeal to do right and the desire to lead others to Christ.

14. We should remember this world is not our home, but we are pilgrims and sojourners in this world. (1 Pet. 2:11; Heb. 13:14-16).

1 Pet 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

Heb 11:14 For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own.

Heb 11:15 And indeed if they had been thinking of that {country} from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return.

Heb 11:16 But as it is, they desire a better {country,} that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

15. We should constantly remember heaven is our real home and in this world we are making preparation for the heavenly home. (1 Pet. 1:4; Matt. 5:10-12; Jn. 14:1-3).

Conclusion

1. Yes, living in a world of unbelievers poses many problems and challenges for the Christian.
2. It is vital that we stay close to God and faithful Christians if we are to be victorious.
3. God will provide the help we need to live in an unbelieving world if we seek His strength and help.

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