THE WORLD

One of the passages I have always remembered since my early days of preaching is James 1:27 “Pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.” And another is 1 John 2:15 “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.” (Emphasis mine.)

In fact, the Bible has a lot to say about the world and its influence. The word “world” is used more than 230 times in the scripture, and three times in the 1st John quotation above.

My judgment is that by and large we have failed to live up to the requirements of scripture in this respect. More and more we see the world having such influence on the church and that the church in some instances, take a back seat to the world.

A church in Tennessee several years ago dismissed their Sunday evening service because several of the boys, children of members, had a Little League game scheduled that night. In fact, I attended a gospel meeting one time where the late E. R. Harper was preaching and the attendance was low because of Little League games.

It isn’t just Little League when you take a close look and really not that close, you will see exactly what I am talking about.

Are you listening???

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