

## NOT OF THIS WORLD

The Word of God is pretty clear that Christians are not of this world (John 17:14). But, we are spirit (John 3:6) and are part of the Lord's kingdom (John 18:36), having been delivered from the domain of darkness. This does not mean we are not to be here or have no purpose. In fact, we were sent here with a purpose out of the love of God as His representatives.

John 17:18

*“As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.”*

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

*“Now all {these} things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,*

*namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*

*Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”*

The world has been taken over by the evil one (1 John 5:19) who has deceived the inhabitants and have them bound in darkness (2 Corinthians 4:4). We are the Lord's ambassadors to break the power of the evil one (John 3:8). However, we must be careful not to be conformed to the world. Do not get caught up in the ways or systems of the world, for you either love God or love the world.

Romans 12:2

*“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

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.”*

We are set apart and are to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:16), a peculiar people, a holy priesthood (1 Peter 2:9). This is not easy because we are God's temple; the devil hates us and will cause the world to persecute us.

Matthew 5:10-11

*“Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are you when {men} cast insults at you, and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me.”*