**What Distorts How we see God?**

**We are in a terrible times and not because of what you may think** - 2 Tim 3:1- But **MARK THIS**: There will be **terrible times** in the last days.

**Simply put we stopped worshiping God as GOD** - Rom 1:21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him **AS GOD** nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

*** The reason people get disappointed in God & frustrated with God is because they want God to pursue them and their desires and not them pursuing God**!

- Humans stopped searching for God
- Churches stopped teaching God
- Parents stopped raising in God
- Man stopped living for God
- Man started living for God their way

**Man stopped just being in the world but strived to be PART OF the world** - 1 John 2:15-17 - 15 **DO NOT** love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For **everything in the world** — the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does — **COMES NOT FROM THE FATHER BUT FROM THE WORLD**. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

> **We gave in to the World to cater to self which started the decline** - James 1:14-15 - 14 but each one is tempted when, by **HIS OWN** evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. 15 Then, **after desire has conceived**, it **gives birth to sin**; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

**We missed that the Bible tells us that Christianity can only exist on one foundation** - 1 Cor 3:10-11 - 10 By the grace God has given me, **I laid a foundation** as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should **BE CAREFUL** how he builds. 11 For **NO ONE CAN LAY ANY FOUNDATION OTHER THAN THE ONE ALREADY LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST**.

> **Still wanting to be called Christians, we distorted the foundation** - 2 Tim 4:3-4 - 3 For the time **WILL COME** when men will **NOT PUT UP WITH SOUND doctrine**. Instead, to **SUIT THEIR OWN DESIRES**, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their **itching ears** want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

**We reset our value system which distorted our purpose** - Matt 6:19-21 - 19 "**DO NOT** store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But **STORE UP** for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For **where your treasure is**, there your heart **WILL BE** also

**What MUST be done for the sake of clarity?**

> **We need to go back to the beginning and be shook up** - Prov 9:10 "The **FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING** of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Ps 111:10, Prov 1:7)
>
> **We must get back on the TRUE Path and stay there** - John 14:6-7 - 6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 **If you really knew me**, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."
>
> ***We got rid of getting to know Christ and started forming Christ into someone we desired to know**
>
> **We MUST change our focus** - 2 Cor 5:7 We live by faith, **NOT** by sight.
>
> **We have to make up OUR OWN minds to LIVE for Christ and doing it CHRIST'S way** - Phil 3:7-11 - 7 But whatever **was** to **MY** profit **I now** consider loss **for the sake of Christ**. 8 What is more, **I consider** everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of **knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**, for whose sake I have lost all things. **I consider** them rubbish, that I **may gain Christ** 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.
>
> **The Church body MUST work on becoming ONE**
>
> 1 Cor 12:23-26 - 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that **THERE SHOULD BE NO DIVISION IN THE BODY**, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.
>
> **Though we are different we must be the same** -Phil 2:2-3 - 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.
>
> ***We must realize the things that make us different must take a back seat to what makes us the Same…CHRIST!**