

## True Protection from Corruption

**We need to avoid the man made, flawed protections that are supposed to be against corruption** - Col 2:20-23 - 20 Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: 21 "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22 These are all destined to perish with use, **because they are based on human commands and teachings.** 23 Such regulations indeed have an APPEARANCE OF WISDOM, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they LACK ANY VALUE IN RESTRAINING SENSUAL INDULGENCE.

**Jesus warns of the dangers of the world, but does not lean towards man made protections**

**Realize, Jesus did not pray for the world** - John 17:6-9 - 6 "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. **I AM NOT PRAYING FOR THE WORLD,** but **for those you have given me,** for they are yours.

**Be aware, the WHOLE WORLD is dangerous** - 1 John 5:19 **We know** that we are children of God, and that the WHOLE WORLD\* is under the control of the evil one.

**Christ's solution was for us to be separate in purpose, while living in the world** - John 17:14-19 - 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are NOT OF THE WORLD any more than I am of the world. 15 My prayer is **NOT THAT YOU TAKE THEM OUT OF THE WORLD** but that you **protect them from the evil one.** 16 They are **NOT OF THE WORLD,** even as I am not of it. 17 **SANCTIFY THEM BY THE TRUTH; YOUR WORD IS TRUTH.** 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be TRULY SANCTIFIED.

**The "God provided protection" reveals the true corruption is from man** - 2 Peter 1:3-4 - 3 His divine power has given us **everything we need for life and godliness** through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world CAUSED BY EVIL DESIRES.

**Man without God, becomes corrupt by what comes out of him** - Matt 15:17-20 - 17 "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? 18 But the things that come out of the mouth **come from the heart,** and **these make a man 'unclean.'** 19 For **out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.** 20 **THESE ARE WHAT MAKE A MAN 'UNCLEAN';** but eating with unwashed hands does not make him 'unclean.'"

**The world is the stimulator** -1 John 2:16-17 - 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.

**It is our responsibility NOT to allow the world to pollute us** - James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to **KEEP ONESELF from being polluted by the world.**

\* **This can be partially done by avoiding worldly things, it is completely done by Spiritually protecting one's self.**

\***Without realizing it, we defend ourself from the world, by using the world... this defeats the purpose.**

**We accomplish true protection by...**

**Being Spiritual all the time** - Rom 8:5-8 - 5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8 **Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.**

**Not being influenced by ANY ungodliness** - 1 Cor 15:33 **Do not be misled:** "Bad company corrupts good character."

**Totally stop living for self, and focus totally on living for God** - Eph 4:22-24 - 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to **be made new in the attitude of your minds;** 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in TRUE righteousness and holiness.

**With us understanding of what we need to do to truly stay protected, we have to be mindful of how our knowledge may affect others** - 1 Cor 8:4-13 - 4 So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: **WE KNOW** that an idol is nothing at all in the world and that there is no God but one. 5 For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"), 6 yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. 7 But **not everyone knows this.** Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat such food they think of it as having been sacrificed to an idol, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. 8 But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. 9 **Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak.** 10 For if **anyone with a weak conscience sees you who have this knowledge eating in an idol's temple, won't he be emboldened to eat what has been sacrificed to idols?** 11 So this weak brother, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. 12 When you sin against your brothers in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause him to fall.

**We must be pure, which means we see EVERYTHING through and based on Christ** - Titus 1:15-16 - 15 To the pure, **ALL THINGS ARE PURE,** but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. 16 They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.