World Danger

The entire world is under Satan - 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.

Satan has blocked those of the world from seeing Christ - 2 Cor 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that THEY CANNOT see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

The cause of the world's corruption is man's desire - 2 Peter 1:4 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.

The world is the main epicenter of what causes people to sin - Matt 18:7 "Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to sin! Such things must come, but woe to the man through whom they come!

Satan will use his rule over the world and man's desires to lure people away from God - Matt 4:8-10 -8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." 10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."

Every human, before they TRULY becoming Christians, was in the path of God's wrath due to the relationship with the world - Eph 2:1-3 - As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now AT WORK IN THOSE WHO ARE DISOBEDIENT. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

You CANNOT both love the world and love God...it is impossible - 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.

*This is referencing EVERY concept, viewpoint, process...formed with ANY worldly foundation, even if it means well.

If we choose friendship with the world, it places us against God - James 4:4 You adulterous people, don't you know that <u>friendship</u> with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who <u>chooses</u> to be a <u>friend</u> of the world <u>becomes an enemy of God</u>.

We must recognize our relationship to the world- 1 Peter 2:11-12 - 11 Dear friends, I urge you, as <u>ALIENS AND STRANGERS IN THE</u>

<u>WORLD</u>, to <u>abstain from sinful desires</u>, which war against your soul. 12 <u>Live such good lives among the pagans</u> that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may <u>see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us</u>.

Jesus provides what we need in order to live separate from the world - John 17:14-19 - 4 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.

*Do not be misled in thinking this is talking about certain things in the world, it's speaking about the whole world

Christians are here to win people out of the world - Matt 5:13-16 - 3 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. 14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS and PRAISE YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN.

A major part of Christianity, is for us to NOT be corrupted by the world - 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.

The process of disconnecting from the world is completely leaving self and totally connecting to Christ - Matt 16:24-26 - 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, HE MUST deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life FOR ME will find it. 26 What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

* What many do not realize, is they come to God for <u>selfish reasons</u> and not for the right reason, not understanding this is what is keeping them from God.

We must FIRST STOP doing and seeing things the world's way, then allow God to transform us by learning and following His ways only - Rom 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. THEN you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

We must not be misled by worldly wisdom, we must recognize its worthlessness - 1 Cor 3:18-21 - 18 <u>Do not deceive yourselves</u>. If any one of you <u>thinks he is wise by the standards of this age</u>, he <u>should become a "fool" so that he may become wise</u>. 19 For <u>the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight.</u> As it is written: "He catches the wise in their craftiness"; 20 and again, "<u>The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile</u>."

Christians must not allow the "things of the world" to affect them the way the world does - 1 Cor 7:29-31 - 29 What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; 30 those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; 31 those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. FOR THIS WORLD IN ITS PRESENT FORM IS PASSING AWAY.

We must not be misled, by missing the dangers of worldly traditions and philosophies - Col 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

Only true Christians will disconnect from the World. They will do this by living in the Belief of Christ - 1 John 5:4-5 - 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.