

Why Can't We Be Friends
With The World?

I. God Is Concerned About Our Conduct

James 4:4

Adultery: OT figure

Israel forsook God for idols

Here: false god is the world

James 4:4

Friendship of the world is NOT:

1. Being friendly with people of the world, Lk.15:1-2
2. Enjoying innocent pleasures, 1 Tim.6:17

Friendship of the world IS:

¹Pursuit of worldly pleasures, Ja.4:1,3

²Love of the world, Ja.4:4 [1 Jn.2:15]

James 4:4

The Peril: Ja.1:27

Spotless; untainted; without fault

Spotted; tainted; at fault

The Progression:

¹Friendship with world, 4:4

²Lust after world, 1 Jn.2:15-17

³Conformity to world, Ro.12:2

⁴Blemished by world, 1:27; Ep.5

James 4:4

1 Jn.2:15-17

“But God gave us these things”

Many ignore God – give priority to
His blessings. Mt.6:24

James 4:4

1 Jn.2:15-17

1 Jn.5:19

World 'lies in' the evil one

- World lies in [the power of] the evil one – NASB; ESV...
- World lies [under the sway of] the evil one – NKJV
 - **Passive:** under satan's control
 - **No struggle** to escape

I. God Is Concerned About Our Conduct

II. Forms Of Worldliness

Often think of Gal.5:19-21

- 'Respectable worldliness' often leads to more flagrant types.
 - Mt.13:22, not lasciviousness, but still worldly.
- As society declines, 'immoral' worldliness (Ga.5) becomes more respectable – society feeds the monster.

Movies

Dance

Porn

Dress

I. God Is Concerned About Our Conduct

II. Forms Of Worldliness

III. Dangers Of Worldliness
(illustrated in dress)

Immodest dress: ¹slights God

1 Tim.2:9-10

‘But what is modest / immodest?’

*If you don't know, better find out

The world admits what
some Christians do not

Immodest dress:

¹slights God

²Stumbling block to others

Attitude or behavior that leads others to sin. 1 Co.8:9-13

*Sincere people, innocent actions, commit sin

*Cause & effect: tale of two sinners

Weak eats, defiles conscience; harmless act; heart of sinner. V.11...13

Strong leads him to defile conscience.
'I didn't intend to make him sin.'

Immodest dress:

¹slights God

²Stumbling block to others

Attitude or behavior that leads others to sin. 1 Co.8:9-13

- *Sincere people, innocent actions, commit sin
- *Cause & effect: tale of two sinners

Dress modestly; someone lusts.
Result: 1 sinner

Dress immodestly; leads someone to lust. Result: 2 sinners

Immodest dress:

¹slights God

²Stumbling block to others

Attitude or behavior that
leads others to sin. 1 Co.8:9-13

Ro.14:13-15 (Mt.10:28); 21; 15:1-3

Lk.17:1-2, cause and casualty

Mt.18:10...14, not even one...perish

- Tamar, Gn.38:14-15, 19
- Immoral woman, Pr.7:10-27

Immodest dress:

¹slights God

²Stumbling block to others

Attitude or behavior that
leads others to sin. 1 Co.8:9-13

Mt.5:28-29

'This man has dirty mind'

Some do – 2 Pt.2:14

Entice unstable (weak) 14, 18

Mt.5:28 = 18:6, innocent child...

Pr.1:10; 7:21

Immodest dress:

¹slights God

²Stumbling block to others

Attitude or behavior that leads others to sin. 1 Co.8:9-13

Mt.5:28 'I do not intend to provoke lust'

'This r **Nor did the meat-eater:** 1 Co.8

Some do – 2:14

Entice unstable (weak) 14, 18

Mt.5:28 = 18:6, innocent child...

Pr.1:10; 7:21

Immodest dress:

¹slights God

²Stumbling block to others

³**Scorn for those who correct them**

Modesty, a matter of the heart,

1 Pt.3:3-4

Society has turned truth on its head.

Is.5:20

Modesty is nothing
to be ashamed of

A voice of authority

- 'Mini-clothes are symbolic of those girls who want to seduce a man'
– Mary Quant
- Asked where it (miniskirt, etc.) was all leading to: one word answer

Luke 16:8; Ep.5:8

The serious course of action

Avoid

- what is too low at the neck
- what is too high at the hemline
- what is too tight
- what is too thin
- conformity to society's lead