

# The NT Believer's Response to the World System: Being Alert To It

*Scripture Reading:*

**Philippians 4: 9-19**

# INTRODUCTION

- The World System is one of the spiritual enemies of the believer. It is very subtle and often not readily noticed.
- At salvation, as God sees us, we are taken out of the World System. Yet, physically, we left in this World System and sent into it in order to be a witness to its' citizens.

# INTRODUCTION

- Now we need to remain alert to three realities about our relationship to the world:
  - *We are no longer considered to be citizens of the World System, but citizens of heavens*
    - Phil 3:20
  - *We are strangers to the citizen of the World System and that they will think our lifestyle to be strange*
    - I Peter 4:3-4
  - *We are susceptible to the desire to befriend the World System and to have those of the world to speak well of us*
    - James 4:4, Lk 6:26

# INTRODUCTION

*Therefore, we should be ALERT to our  
DISTINCT citizenship as NT believers*



## Alert to the Dangers of the World System

- The World System is to be wisely used by the NT believer - I Cor 7:31
  - *A 'quality' of the World System is yours* - I Cor 3:22
  - *All things are put under Christ's feet to/for (the advantage of) the church* - Phil 3:20
    - God knows your needs - Mat 6:31-33
    - Let Christ, as your Lord, decide what you need - Phil 4:19



# Alert to the Dangers of the World System

- The World System is not to be over-used by the NT believer - I Cor 7:31
  - *Warning to believers who would determine to be rich*
    - I Tim 6:9-10
  - *Instruction to believers that possess material riches*
    - I Tim 6:17-19; cf Philemon 7, 20-23

# CONCLUSION

- Overuse of the World System will limit the ability of the believer to bear fruit
  - *Lk 8:14*
    - “And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.”
  - *Eph 2:10*
    - “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”