

What controls your heart?: Cares of world – Deceit of riches – Desire 4 other things

Matt. 6:8 “Therefore do not be **like them**. [Hypocrite/heathen] For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come.
Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

[The King’s Servants: Mammon MUST NOT control THEIR hearts]

And do not lead us into **temptation**, But deliver us from the evil ~~one~~. (ESV?)
[NU Omits] For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Jesus KNOWS what YOU want – and what it will DO to the Church/C. Family

Js. 1:12 Blessed *is* the man who endures **temptation**; [Battle 4 the heart] for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of **[τῆς -the]** life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. [Kingdom inheritance, place/position, blessing – Results of the Judgment Seat: **Life NOW -> THEN**]

Jesus Does NOT and Will NOT Excuse Christian ‘Self Idolatry’ Seen today:

¹³ Let no one say when he is **tempted**, “I am **tempted** by God”; for God cannot be **tempted** by evil, nor does He Himself **tempt** anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is **tempted** when he is **drawn away by his own desires and enticed**. **[CDD]**

- **‘drawn away’** – From what? **Personal** Intimacy with Christ?
- **Purpose** 4 your life, marriage, children, retirement?
- **Participation** in Christ’s Church? Ministries? Discipleship? Outreach?
- **Possession** of Joy, fulfillment, spiritual blessings in heavenly places:

Why has the Spiritual Family Unit Collapsed? Why are Churches Struggling?
Who is Responsible? **[Don’t Blame it all on Satan...’Free Will Factor’ -U choose]**

¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth **death**. [θάνατος thanatōs]

- **Context: (2) ‘brethern’** – Apostle/Ambassadors – Leaders in Church – Believers
- **‘Death’ ?? – Physical – Mental – Emotional – Spiritual: Deut. 28:12-34** –
- Does God deal with Intentional Sin – with Physical Consequences? Spare the rod?
- Does God give believers over to Mental/Emotional distress if **they** reject Him?
- Does God force you to be spiritually intimate with Him?
 - Prayer, word, worship, marriage, parenting, church family, serving?
 - **What happens to the Christian** [Primary & Secondary] **if they don’t?**

What happens to Christianity – Church – Christian Home:

If it chooses Cares of this World – Deceit of Riches – Desire 4 other things over Christ?

You Just had Christmas: Are WE – Church – Families prepared for Christ’s Return?

Christ – Church – Comm.: Must be attached to Everything or ‘IT’ controls my heart

(16-17) Do not be **deceived**, my **beloved brethren**. [Christian - Church Family]

- **πλανᾶω planaō, plan-ah’-o ; to roam, wander** –

[Go Looking elsewhere for what only God can give]

Good News: God desires to give you what YOU need to Serve Him

- Everything else and anything else...should be considered **‘deception’**
- **How much ‘drawing away’ and deception is found in YOUR Life?**
 - Can you give testimony to Personal Intimacy with Christ?
 - Are you Fulfilling Christ’s Purpose for your life? Marr.? Retirement?
 - Are you participating in Christ’s Church? Min.? Discipleship? Outreach?
 - Do you Possess the Promised Joy & spiritual blessings in Christ?

‘my beloved brethern’... [WHO were Obviously ‘Looking Elsewhere’]

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Context:

To the Leaders of the Churches **“Doing this Dead Faith thing”**

To the People in the Pew **“Doing this Dead Faith thing”**

1. **God** will Provide 4 My Physical needs to Live & Serve Him –
 - a. Rehearse it ‘God WILL give me what I need FOR His Plan’
2. **But I MUST** choose to Separate from the World & Trust HIM:
 - a. **Cares of world – Deceit of riches – Desire 4 other things**
3. **But I MUST** Repent and Return:

You will NEVER **Succeed** – Satisfy – be able to **Stop** with your plans apart from Christ

4. **I MUST** no longer be Deceived... [Roam, wander]

Context: You KNOW better...b/c...YOU were TAUGHT Better

“Some of YOU are Failing Miserably in this and SO ARE YOUR Churches!!”

¹⁸ Of His own will He brought **us** forth by the word of truth, that **we** might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. [Disciple Making Examples in the body]

¹⁹ **So then**, **[Brace yourselves 4 some ‘Loving Rebuke’]** my **beloved brethren**, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; ²⁰ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

²¹ **Therefore** lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

The Spiritual Condition of: Your Life – Family – Church [Physical -Mental-Emotional – Spiritual] **COMPLETELY depends on Who/What controls your hearts.**

CONTEXT: ‘There will be NO change...until...’THIS’ Changes’