

# ESCAPE FROM THE WORLD'S WAYS



Lesson 4 for January 27, 2018

**“Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.” (James 1:27).**

**How can we avoid being spotted by the harmful habits of this world? Let’s study five things that will help us.**



**Thinking of  
Christ**



**Bible study**



**Prayer**



**Seeking wisdom**



**The work of the  
Holy Spirit**

# THINKING OF CHRIST

"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth." (Psalm 34:1)

The Bible encourages us to bring "every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ," (2Co. 10:5) so we can avoid worldly habits that divert us from thinking of the truth.

Philippians 4:8 helps us to understand which things we should think of.

What should we think of? Things that are...

True

Noble

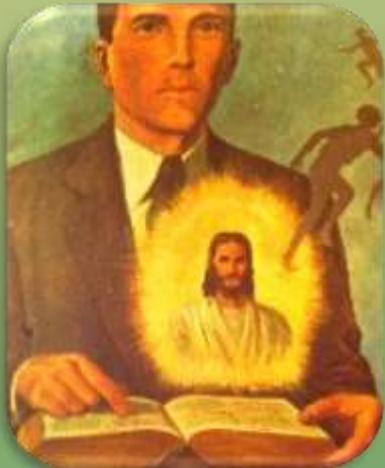
Just

Pure

Lovely

Of good report

If there is any virtue and if there is any praiseworthy



Our focus must be on Christ. We must surrender to Him every day, and He will harmonise our minds with His. When we think of His love, we will understand the true value of spiritual things over worldly ones.

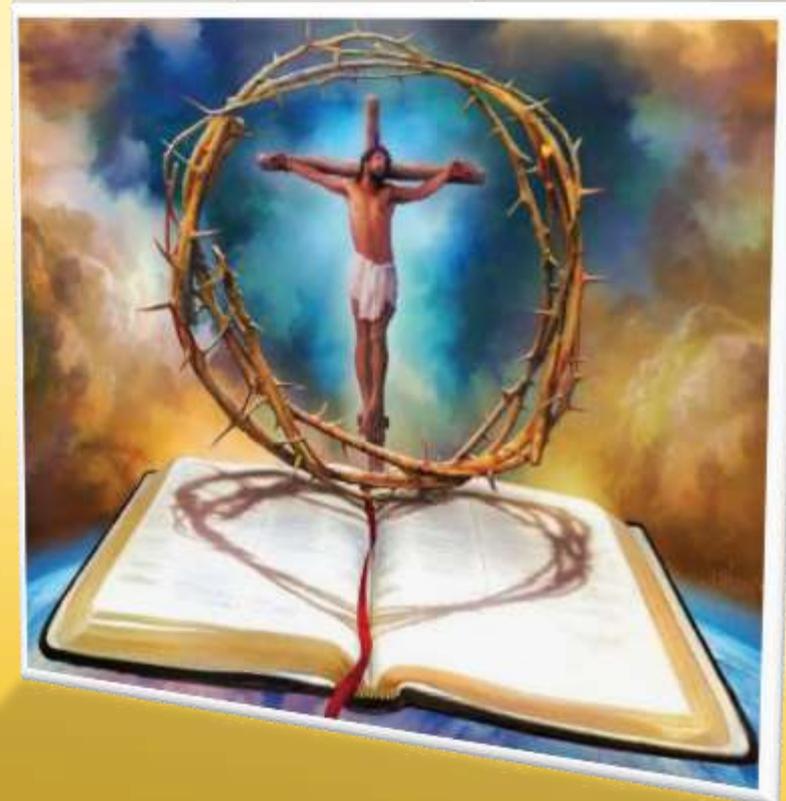
# BIBLE STUDY

**"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me." (John 5:39)**



**Thinking of Christ and living in communion with Him is the foundation we need to be safe from worldliness. How can we know Christ better?**

**God's Word reveals Christ. Thanks to the Bible, we can...**



 **Know the truth (John 8:32)**

 **Know Jesus (John 5:39)**

 **Know what He did for us  
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4)**

 **Entrust our lives to Him (John 17:12)**

 **Follow and obey Jesus (Psalm 119:11)**

 **Be free from sin (John 8:36)**

**Worldliness involves getting things for ourselves. That's the opposite of what Jesus taught in His Word.**

# PRAYER

“Dear friends, you must become strong in your most holy faith. Let the Holy Spirit lead you as you pray.”  
(Jude 1:20 NLV)



Prayer is essential to our communion with Christ. There's no communion or friendship without conversation. We must talk to God and listen to Him.

“Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend.” (E.G.W. “Steps to Christ”, cp. 11, p. 93). What are the basic ingredients of prayer?



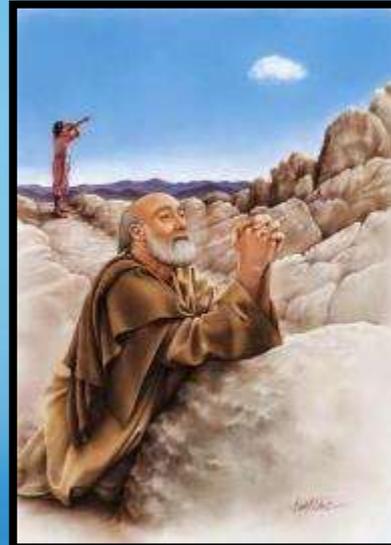
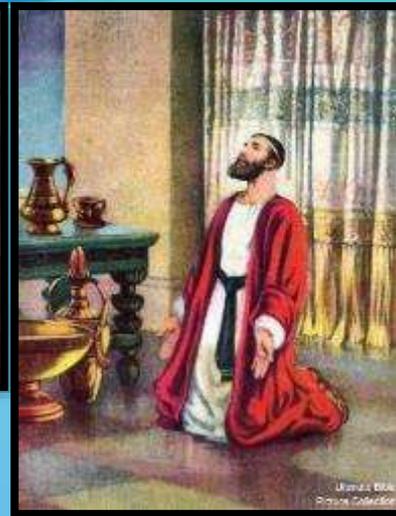
Pray with faith (Heb. 11:6).



Continuous prayer (1Ts. 5:17).

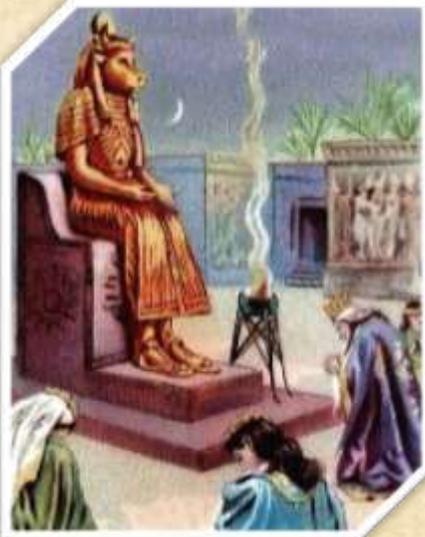
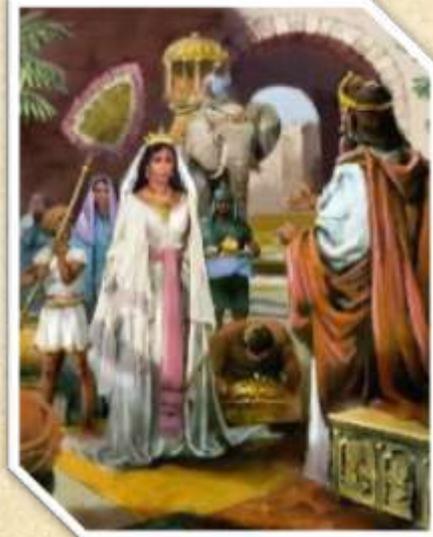
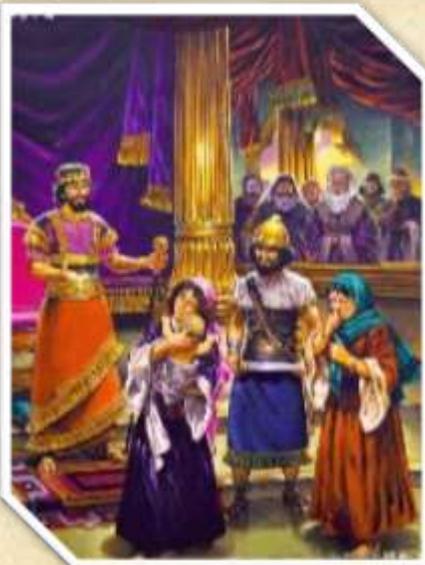
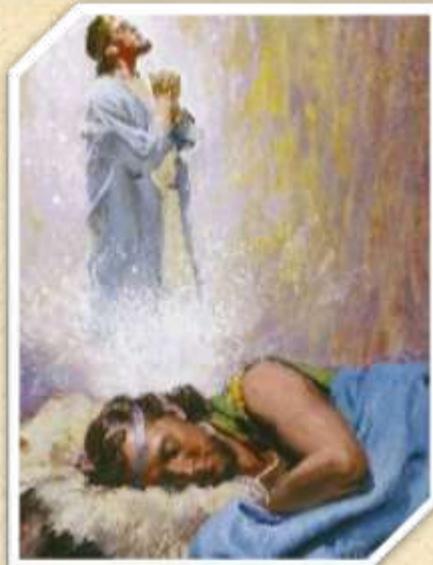


Pray according to God's will (1Jn. 5:14).



# SEEKING WISDOM

**"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, 'He catches the wise in their own craftiness.'" (1 Corinthians 3:19)**



**Wisdom is the ability to correctly apply knowledge and understanding.**

**There are wise people in this world, and Solomon was the wisest person on Earth (2Cr. 1:12). Nevertheless, Solomon almost lost eternal life despite that.**

**What wisdom does God want us to acquire?**

- The fear of God (Job 28:28).**
- Observing the Law (Deuteronomy 4:6).**

**We need that kind of wisdom to correctly understand the dangers of worldliness.**

# THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.” (1 John 4:5-6)

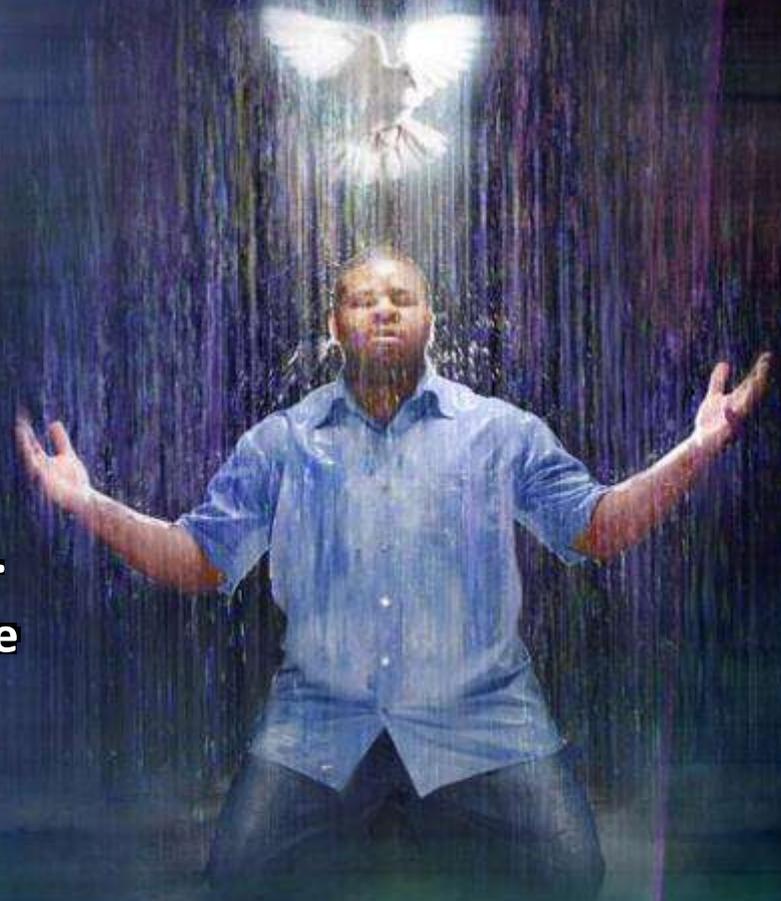
**Those who seek divine wisdom have “a different spirit” like Caleb (Numbers 14:24).**

**If we are guided by the Holy Spirit, He teaches us to distinguish truth from worldly error.**

**He will lead us into all truth, He will reveal Jesus and He will help us to make the best decisions in this world.**

**We won't be driven by temporary emotions. We'll live as ambassadors of God in this world.**

**The Holy Spirit gives us the power to overcome this world's allurements and its “charm.”**



**“Temporal things are not to engage our whole attention, or engross our minds until our thoughts are entirely of the earth and the earthly. We are to train, discipline, and educate the mind so that we may think in a heavenly channel, that we may dwell on things unseen and eternal, which will be discerned by spiritual vision. It is by seeing Him who is invisible that we may obtain strength of mind and vigor of spirit.”**

E.G.W. (SDA Bible Commentary, on 2 Corinthians 4:18)