



Living The Word Devotionals

.....

Good vs Evil



by John Vorhees

Isaiah 5:20 – Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

Devotional: 2 Timothy 3 tells us of the last days and the difficult times to come. “[People] will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, etc.,” and in the end, “lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power.”

Does this not begin to describe the world today? Self-help books abound teaching people that they need to learn to love themselves. The Bible tells us to “love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind” and to “love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37-39)

Countless songs and movies make idols of money and wealth, but we know “the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils.” (1 Timothy 6:10)

A whole month is dedicated to pride. The Bible tells us that “pride goes before destruction” (Proverbs 16:18) and “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble” (James 4:6)

People are shown generosity and their first thoughts are “Is that it?” We are to “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

If you aren’t drunk on a Friday night, the world says something is wrong with you. Drunkenness is debauchery and a work of the flesh. (Ephesians 5:18, Galatians 5:19-21)

I could go on, but it is clear we live in a world where people are lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God and because of this, the lines between good and evil, light and darkness, and sweet and bitterness are blurred. What one person calls good, another calls evil.

We live in a time where the lines of morality are up in the air. Some base it on their “lived experiences”, some rely on “wise” words from a charismatic individual in a short video, some base their morality on how it makes them feel, and others base it on what the majority determines good to be. As Christians, we believe in a moral law and thus a moral law giver, God. We look to God, the creator of the universe, as the foundation for what is good and “he has told you, O man, what is good.”(Micah 6:8) He has done so through His word, so look to scripture for “all scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”(2 Timothy 3)

Call to Action: If you were to look at your life today, would you say you know clearly what is good and what is evil? Are you a Christian who at times still engages in sin. You know it to be wrong, but overtime you’ve convinced yourself, or perhaps you’ve let the world convince you, it’s good. Do you

justify why that sin is acceptable for you? You tell yourself “I pray,” “I need to do this in order to function,” “I know the LORD will forgive me,” “I go to church every Sunday,” “It’s who I am,” “It’s how I was raised,” etc. One thing is for certain, the LORD makes clear what is good and He does so through His word. Will you continue to blur the line between good and evil? Will you be a Christian who calls evil good, light darkness, and sweet bitter or will you do what is good, live in the light, and delight in that which is sweeter than honey, the Word of the LORD?

Make your move, Christian.

Prayer:

Dear Good and Gracious Father,

Thank you for revealing yourself through your Word and for providing a means for us to know you and in turn to know what is good. As we take the time to examine our own lives, LORD open our eyes to what we are doing wrong and convict us of our sins. Make us aware of what is truly evil in our lives and not to make a game of sin, but to loath and to dread it. LORD thank you for your patience and grace and give us the strength to face whatever challenges lie ahead.

In Your Mighty Name we pray, Amen