

What Are the Standards?

Going God's Way, Part 1

☑ **Target: Understand God's ways**

Key Verses

Colossians 3:2—Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Isaiah 55:8–9—“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

Suggested Bible Reading

- Psalm 73
- 1 Corinthians 1–2

Other Recommended Reading

- Making Great Decisions (Get Activated! booklet)* [not yet published.]

Prayer and Praise: Gifts to Ask For

Give me, good Lord, a humble, lowly, quiet, peaceable, patient, charitable, kind, tender and pitiful mind, in all my works and all my words and all my thoughts, to have a taste of Your holy, blessed Spirit.

Give me, good Lord, a full faith, a firm hope, and a fervent charity, a love of You incomparably above the love of myself.

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with You, not to void the calamities of this world, nor so much to attain the joys of Heaven, as simply for love of You.

And give me, good Lord, Your love and favor, which my love of You, however great it might be, could not deserve were it not for Your great goodness.

These things, good Lord, that I pray for, give me Your grace to labor for.

—Thomas More, 1478–1535

Meditation: Thoughts from the Lord on “The World and You”

Keep your hearts diligently. Be aware of what goes into your heart. Discern what you take in. Distinguish between the right and the wrong, the good and the bad, the evil and the loving. Closely follow the Word and guard your thoughts. For the Enemy of your heart and soul would devour you with his subtle lies and doubts and evil innuendoes. He knows that his time is short.



Are these not the Last Days? Have I not said that the love of many will wax cold and that there will be a falling away before My great return to gather you unto My bosom? Therefore seek not to be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Seek not the pattern and the fashion of this world. Do not compare yourself with that which is without, with the world and its ways. Seek not to conform to that which outwardly might appear lovely, but within is full of extortion, excess and wickedness. Be not deceived, for evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, if it were possible, even the very elect. But because of My elect, My chosen ones, these days shall be shortened and I will save you. A just man falls seven times and rises up again, but the wicked do fall into mischief.

(See 2 Timothy 3:1; Matthew 24:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:3; Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 7:31; 2 Corinthians 10:12; Mathew 23:25; Luke 21:8; 2 Timothy 3:13; Matthew 24:4,22; Proverbs 24:16.)



Say not, "I am strong, I cannot be hurt. I am a believer, I cannot be deceived." For even the very elect shall be deceived if they do not stay tuned in to My voice.



<To think about> *Take a little time over the coming week to pray about and evaluate some area of your life—perhaps what you do for recreation, what music you listen to, what budget you have for clothing, and so on. On the basis of what you've seen in the Word, how do you measure up? Is there anything you need to change?*

Getting to Know the Bible: God's Ways vs. the World's Ways

- ❑ God's ways vs. the ways of man: Isaiah 55:8–9; 1 John 2:15–17.
- ❑ Discern (choose) between that which is of the Lord or not: Romans 12:9b; Job 34:4; Isaiah 7:15b; 1 Peter 3:11.
- ❑ Spiritual riches vs. material wealth: Ecclesiastes 5:10, 12, 19; 1 Timothy 6:10; Proverbs 28:16; John 6:27; Matthew 6:31–32; Mark 4:19; 8:36; Luke 12:15.
- ❑ God's economic plan—giving: Luke 6:38; Proverbs 11:24–25; 28:27; Acts 20:35b; Ecclesiastes 11:1; 2 Corinthians 9:6; Matthew 6:33.
- ❑ Trends and fads: Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 7:31; Colossians 2:8; Psalm 1:1; 90:17; 1 Peter 3:4; Proverbs 31:30; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20.
- ❑ God's guidance vs. media manipulation: 1 Samuel 16:23; Hebrews 5:14b; 2 Kings 17:15; Psalm 34:14a; 103:1; 119:37; Romans 12:2; Proverbs 15:21.
- ❑ Conflict resolution: Matthew 18:15; Galatians 6:1; 2 Timothy 2:24; Ephesians 4:32; Proverbs 10:12; 13:10; 16:29; 29:22; James 3:16.
- ❑ To serve or be served: Luke 22:24–27; Matthew 23:11–12.
- ❑ The wisdom from above: James 3:13,17; 1 Corinthians 3:19–20; Jeremiah 8:9; Psalm 14:1; Ecclesiastes 12:10–14.