

The Power of Influence

Most of us believe that we are free thinkers, but that is not correct. We are constantly being influenced by our family, friends, politicians, school teachers, fellow employees, and many others. I've heard people say, "My world view is this..." The world has power to influence you to a point where God can't. Let's look at some Scriptures that show that we can be controlled and manipulated by the devil through people in the world that don't know God.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 KJV But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: [4] In whom the god

of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel

of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Notice the description of the devil, that he is the god of this world. The devil wants man to think like him and act like him. He wants to influence us into living out his agenda.

Genesis 3:3-6 KJV But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye

shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. [4] And the serpent said unto the woman,

Ye shall not surely die: [5] For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes

shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. [6] And when the woman saw

that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to

make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with

her; and he did eat.

The devil, speaking through the serpent, influenced Eve into eating the fruit that ultimately brought pain and death to the whole human race. She would not have eaten the fruit without the serpent's influence. The woman, after being influenced by the serpent, influenced her husband to eat the fruit with her.

God told me over 30 years ago that whomever I listen to will bring me into death or into life; blessing or cursing. I can say after these many years that what I have experienced is exactly what He told me. When I received Jesus, I was so hungry for understanding from God. I wanted to know my Father God like Jesus knew His Father. I grew up in a Church that loved God, but most of the teaching was about getting saved and going to Heaven when you die. A lot of the songs were about God and His blessings coming to me after I die and go to Heaven.

Well I wanted God and His blessings now; not just when I get to Heaven. So as I read the Bible, I started seeing how God was not just the God of my future, He is the Great I am; He is the God of the now!! Well I started looking for ministers that believed this way; sure enough, I found many that believed like me.

So I put them in a leadership role in my heart. As they influenced me with their preaching and teaching, my life started becoming so blessed. Now I still had a lot of the world in me, because I lived in it for so long. I had so many un-godly friends that I had sinned with, but I had to cut them off if they didn't want to get saved and live for God. I chose to separate from their

influence. Here is a Scripture that is so powerful...

1 Corinthians 11:1-2 KJV Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. [2] Now I praise you,

brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.

Notice the Apostle Paul was saying, 'Let me influence you in the things of Christ. Let me be your role model'. God told me to tell people that there is protection when you have spiritual leaders. They will never take the place of Jesus, but our Father God has assigned them to us for protection from the deception that the devil is spreading in this world.

Let me close this Newsletter with this statement that my Father God told me. 'We should not have a world view; we should have a God view'. Read these Scriptures that will reveal more.

John 17:15-17 KJV I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest

keep them from the evil. [16] They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

[17] Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy Word is truth.

Romans 12:1-2 KJV I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your

bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. [2] And

be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye

may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Love you,

Pastor Paul

P. S. If you're a member of The Christian Center, God has placed me as your Pastor to influence you to think like God. I will say things that you might not agree with at first, but always remember that I'm doing my best to watch over you and protect you from the devil's deception. I don't know everything like Jesus, the Chief Shepherd; but as His Under Shepherd, I'm working everyday to understand more.

*This Week's Daily Bible Readings

Monday	Haggai chapter 1
Tuesday	Haggai chapter 2
Wednesday	Zechariah chapter 1
Thursday	Zechariah chapter 2
Friday	Zechariah chapter 3
Saturday	Zechariah chapter 4
Sunday	Zechariah chapter 5

*Upcoming Events

1. Women's Dance Aerobics: Mon, Wed, & Thur 10-11am; Fri 9:30-10:30
2. Mobile Prayer: Fridays 1:30-3pm in Sam's Warehouse Parking Lot
3. Can Drive for Food Bank: Tubs are at entrances for non-perishable food items
4. Noonday Bible Study: Now live on KJRF 91.1fm AND streaming live on TCC

app. 12:15-1pm Mon-Fr

5. Baptisms: Sunday at end of Services
6. Women's Fellowship: Saturday 9am in the Fellowship Hall
7. WOW Conference: September 25-26. Registration is due by the 18th. \$40, or if you bring your daughter, the cost will be \$50 for you both

**TO RECEIVE Special Announcements, opt in to The Christian Center text list by texting the letters

LTCC to the phone number 59769. You will receive a confirmation message shortly thereafter.

**Use this link for The Christian Center app <http://bgw1.itexttoday.com/apps/2323/8833/indexm.html>

** Here is a list of the many gatherings we have for you to get together and fellowship with your brothers and sisters. Please take advantage of them, and you will bless yourself and others also.

Sundays * Prayer: 9am Lee side entrance * Fellowship in Café 9:15-9:45 am. *
Services 10:45 am

Adult, Youth, and Children classes 9:45-10:30 am

Faith Class: -----Michael Whitley
Financial Class: -----Terry Boyd
Foundation 1 Class: ---Pastor Paul
Foundation 2 Class: ---Mike Wiggins
Healing Class: -----Lester/Monica Witherspoon
Marriage Class:-----Danny/Demetrius Williams
Prayer Class: -----Joe Cunningham
Children's Sunday School: 6 months - 5th grade
Youth Services: -----Lucas/Cyndi Moore
Young Singles/College & Career-Eliav/Kim Nash

Daily * Early Morning Prayer in Sanctuary: Monday-Friday 6:15-7:15am
* Noonday Bible Study: Mon-Fri 12:15 in Sanctuary OR 91.1fm OR live stream
on TCC app

* Women's Dance Aerobics: Mon-Thur 10-11am; Fri 9:30-10:30 in the

Gym

Weekly * Adult, Youth & Children Services: Sunday 9:45 & 10:45 am; Wednesday night 7pm

* Mobile Prayer: Fridays 1:30-3pm in Sam's Warehouse

Parking Lot

Monthly * Men's Meeting: 9am 1st Saturday of each month at Golden Corral

* Crosses at the Corner: 12-1pm 1st Saturday at corner of Sheridan and

Cache Rd.

* Women's Meeting: 9am 2nd Saturday of each month

* Horse Ministry: 10am-1pm 3rd Saturday of each month

