

1 JOHN, 2: 15-16—"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

2 CORINTHIANS, 6: 17—"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

IN their epistles to the churches, the Apostles often had to admonish the professing christians, for their inconsistent conduct in relation to the world: And although eighteen hundred years have passed since those holy men laid down their apostolic pen, their words of reproof and warning are just as needful and applicable to the world-loving christians of to-day, as they were then. It is a sad fact, that many professing christians of this age of boasted civilization and knowledge, need the words of our two texts as much as the crude Christians of the Apostle's day, who had just emerged from the darkness and vices of heathenism. What does this fact prove? It proves that the human heart is the same in all ages and in all climes; that the pleasures of the world are the same in their seductive fascination; that unless the christian obeys Christ's commend to "Watch and Pray," he will enter into temptation and fall therein; and finally that the devil is the same "Roaring Lion, that goeth about seeking whom he may devour."

In one of the late Union Prayer Meetings a gentleman remarked, that parents in the rural parts of Yarmouth county, had complained that their sons and daughters who had come to this town to obtain employment, had become corrupted by the society they met here. And that same gentleman said, that Yarmouth had been regarded by them as "A Maelstrom of evil." In a subsequent meeting I said, that I did not believe what that brother said, was true; but since then, I have had occasion to revise my opinion, and I here and now apologize to that brother, for ignorantly denying the truthfulness of his statement. For while there is not so much open shame-faced iniquity in this town, as there is in some places, nevertheless there are undercurrents of vice that are far more dangerous, because they are concealed by a social respectability, that boasts of the alliance of some professing christians. The devil knows, that if he can secure the presence of professing christians at a dance party, or at a card table, or at a theatre, or at a carnival, that his schemes for the ruination of the young and unstable, will be successfully carried out. And this is just where we stand to-day. Scores of professing christians go to dance parties, play with ace cards, encourage the theatre, and patronize the carnival. And thus these abominations are given a gloss of harmlessness, that is more seductive and destructive to our young people, than all the loud vanities of Boston's theatres and gambling hells combined.

Professing christians, who thus pursue the world's pleasures, must have ceased to find their greatest delight in doing the will of God. The Word of God commands us in Colossians, 3:17: "What-

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