

Entangled With The Affairs Of This Life

Introduction:

A. There is great danger in getting caught up with things that will anchor us to matters of this life (**II Timothy 4:10**).

1. The truth can be lost in our lives if we lose focus (**Luke 8:11; 14**).
2. Turning back is worse than never beginning (**II Peter 2:20-22**).

B. We should be completely focused on things beyond this world (**Matthew 6:33, II Corinthians 4:13-5:1, and Colossians 3:1-4**).

1. We need to lay hold on eternal life (**I Timothy 6:12**).
2. We need to remember how temporary this world and the things therein are (**I Corinthians 7:29-31 and I John 2:15-17**).

Discussion: There are many things working to entangle us in the affairs of this life (**II Timothy 2:3-4**).

A. Material needs/wants that can tie us up (**Proverbs 27:20; 30:8-9 and Ecclesiastes 6:7-8**).

1. We certainly have to supply our material needs (**Proverbs 20:4, Proverbs 21:25, and II Thessalonians 3:10**).
2. However, we have to practice godliness with contentment (**Philippians 4:11-12, I Timothy 6:6-10, and Hebrews 13:5-6**).

B. Social needs/wants that can easily tie us up (**John 15:19, Ephesians 2:1-2, and I Peter 4:1-5**).

1. When we find ourselves among those who wrongly advise us (**Proverbs 19:27, Isaiah 8:20, Isaiah 30:1, and Jeremiah 23:16**).
2. When we find ourselves among those who lead us into wrong actions (**Proverbs 4:14-19; 13:20; 28:4, I Corinthians 5:6; 15:33, and James 4:4**), while we have the "I cannot be influenced" attitude (**Proverbs 16:18; 28:14 and I Corinthians 10:12**).
3. The dating world has influenced single people into believing that sex is part of "relationships" instead of being part of scriptural marriages (**I Corinthians 7:1-3 and Hebrews 13:4**).

4. The new Internet social networks that CAN (not necessarily always do) amount to meddling in the affairs of others (**Proverbs 20:3, II Thessalonians 3:11-12**, and **I Timothy 5:11-14**).

C. Things that entertain us and entangle us as well (**Proverbs 4:23-27**).

1. Movies, books, magazines, websites, emails, text messages, etc. that cause us to lust after things we should not desire (**Matthew 5:28-30, Galatians 5:24, I Thessalonians 5:22**, and **I Peter 2:11**).

2. We have to be careful about what we see and hear (**Psalms 101:3** and **Philippians 4:8**).

Conclusion: Are you caught up more in the Lord or in the affairs of this life (**Proverbs 15:24, Luke 9:23-26, Romans 12:1-2, I Corinthians 16:15**, and **Acts 20:17-24**)?