

What should Christians do in the face of the threat that the secularization of culture poses to Western culture? Should they stand idly by while this atheistic, materialistic, agnostic, and hedonistic world-view swallows up the basic principles of the Bible? Should Christians be concerned with the society in which they live, to make it as moral and just and orderly and safe as it can be made in a sinful world?

Should Christians be concerned to make their culture as moral and wholesome as possible? Or should they simply do nothing and allow their culture to become more and more corrupt and immoral, and more and more of an evil influence on their children, their neighbors, and themselves? The question seems to answer itself!

4. Why is it important for Christians to attempt to stop or slow down the erosion of the Judaeo-Christian principles woven into Western culture?

Such attempts become especially important when Christians think of their children, who must live in the midst of the culture of their society, and will inevitably be affected by it.

Some Christians have realized the effect this erosion has already had in the public schools of their community, and have attempted to establish and develop alternate schools that embody the basic principles of the Judaeo-Christian heritage in their curricula. This is commendable. In order to be effective, such schools must strive to make all of the subjects taught consistent with biblical principles, must seek to employ well-educated, fully qualified and credentialed personnel, must maintain high standards of academic excellence, and must make it financially possible for all Christian parents to afford such education for their children. Those who home school their children must maintain the same high goals and principles.

However, even when one of these alternative modes is chosen, it should be realized that the children of Christians will still be affected by their surrounding culture, particularly by the mass media of communication. For example, one does not need to be overly observant to notice that the content of more and more television programming is becoming more and more openly immoral; or that many newspapers, magazines, and books are becoming more and more blatant in their portrayal of immorality, especially in tacit or open approval or tolerance of casual sex, living together without benefit of marriage, promiscuity, divorce, abortion, homosexuality and other "alternate sexual preferences," and in their portrayal of enticing modes of dress or of nudity.

Christian parents can attempt to censor or screen out some of these evil influences, but they cannot screen out all of them. In point of fact, as our culture becomes more and more saturated with sex, corruption, dishonesty, injustice, lawlessness, hedonism, and materialism, it becomes more and more difficult to find television programming, periodicals, and books that are decent, wholesome, and relatively free from destructive influences!

Although Christians are not "of the evil world-system," they are affected by that system in many ways. Should they simply stand by