

Matthew 13:22

Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

Some people spend so much time being in the “World” that they don’t have time for the “Word”. What they need to do is “Get the ‘L’ out of the world”.

“Wait, did you just say a bad word Steve?” No, but I did do a play on words, because if you take the letter “L” out of the word “World” you come up with the word “Word”, which is the Word of God.

Yet so many are:

Living like the world
Laughing at the jokes of this world
Lying about others
Laying with others outside of marriage
Loving the things of this world more than the things of God
Laying up treasure here on the earth and not in heaven
Laziness is a lifestyle for them
Ludicrous (foolish) things are what they seek after

And so many other “L” words that they have clung to; therefore they live like the world does, and because they do, they have so many excuses for not being in God’s word or living according to God’s word, because they refuse to get the “L” out of the world.

Look at today’s verse where Jesus uses both of the words “**World**” and “**Word**” and if you read Jesus’ words, He is saying that the things of this “**World**” (“*the cares of this world*”) are what choke out the “**Word**” of God from a person’s heart (“*choke the word*”). And as Jesus said, the result is that when you allow the “**World**” to be your master and not God’s “**Word**” that you “*becomes unfruitful*” meaning there is no indication that you are a child of God, and others see you and think “*Is he or she really a Christian?*” because your lifestyle represents one of the “World”, and not one who follows God’s “Word”.

So this weekend, and everyday going forward, don’t allow “*the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word*” from your life. Don’t get so busy that your time in the “**Word**” becomes less and less because you are doing so many things that are of this “**World**”.

† **Matthew 16:26** *For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?*

† **Luke 12:34** *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*