1 JOHN 5.4-5

NAVIGATING THIS WORLD

DOES THIS REFLECT THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST?

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Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
 Who, though he was in the form of God,
     did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
 but emptied himself,
     taking the form of a slave,
     being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form,
    he humbled himself
     and became obedient to the point of death—
        even death on a cross!
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Christ is the humility of God embodied in human nature; the Eternal Love humbling itself, clothing itself in the garb of meekness and gentleness, to win and serve and save us.

—Andrew Murray

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

-Ephesians 2.1-2

For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one.

-1 John 5.4-5, 19 NLT

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God:

Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God.

This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.

We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us.

This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

We have within us a self that has its poison from Satan from hell—and yet we cherish and nourish it. What do we not do to please and nourish self—and we make the devil within us strong. . . . Look at your own life. What are the works of hell? They are chiefly these three: self-will, self-trust, and self-exaltation.

-Andrew Murray

THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IS CHARACTERIZED BY—

- Humility
- Self-sacrificing love
- Dbedience to God's will and purposes
- Honor of others
- A life set apart from the spirit and behavior of this world
- A life set apart to holiness and the purposes of God

KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS . . .

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

Hebrews 12.2-3 NKJ

... AND YOUR HEART FREE FROM OFFENSE.

Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord. Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many.

Hebrews 12.14-15 NLT

KEEP YOUR HEART FREE FROM IDOLS.

Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

1 John 5.21

No matter how legitimate, meaningful, or even neutral something may seem to be, if it doesn't lead me into a stronger and more sincere faith in Christ, it is an idol.

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

WHEN THE SERPENT TEMPTED EVE, HE APPEALED TO HER SENSE OF—

Injustice

God has deprived you of something that is rightfully yours.

Self-determination

You alone should have the right to make that decision.

> Self-awareness

Be true to yourself, not someone else's version of truth for you.

Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

WALK IN GOD'S CALLING AND PURPOSE FOR YOU— NOT ACCORDING TO THE FAILURE <u>or</u> Affirmation of others.

Now when David had served God's purpose in his own generation...

Acts 13.36

But the Pharisees and the experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John. Jesus went on to say, "To what, then, can I compare the people of this generation? What are they like?

Luke 7.30-31