

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that The Friendship Of The World Is Enmity With God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.” James 4:4 KJV

Webster’s 1828 dictionary defines friendship as: “An attachment to a person, proceeding from intimate acquaintance.” He elaborates: “False friendship is a temporary attachment springing from interest, and may change in a moment to enmity and rancor. There can be no friendship without confidence, and no confidence without integrity.” In today’s text, God’s Word makes an all-inclusive statement: ANY worldly friendship makes you God’s enemy! If you know more about sports, celebrities, worldly music, or movies, than God’s Word, you are the world’s friend! Worldly friendship is a numbing poison which blinds to spiritual danger. God Word says, *“He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.”*



God’s Word, not your reason, will decide your sentence on Judgment Day! You only deceive yourself if you think you can define your relationship with God outside of His Word. I often find myself rebuked by Scripture. We tend towards excuses and rationale when it comes to guilt, blame, and criticism, which often taints our relationship with God. Those closest to God see themselves the most despicable and destitute. The great Apostle Paul who was actually taught by Christ, Himself, proclaimed, *“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I AM CHIEF!”* This handpicked man of God deemed himself the chiefest of sinners, but he walked more closely with God than but a handful of men! Where does that leave our relationship with God when we seldom consider ourselves sinners at all? If your excuse is “I’m not that bad,” you are not walking close enough to God! You have compared yourself to fools and become unwise. *“They measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.”* What is the measure of your relationship with God? God’s Word or human reason? Allowing worldly philosophies or values in your life makes you the world’s friend! Relationships form philosophies and reasoning: Beware! “Birds of a feather flock together.” With whom do you flock?

While I may in the world reside,
My life is safe by Jesus’ side,
I’ll not be moved by evil’s tide,
If in His Word my heart abides! –CGP

“But when [Peter] saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, ‘Lord, save me.’ And immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand, and caught him, and said unto him, ‘O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?’ And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.” The storm only affected Peter when he took his eyes off the Saviour and looked at it! When he was sagely restored to Christ’s side, the storm, though still raging, was of no consequence and ceased when Christ entered the ship.” God’s Word is the only vehicle of faith. How is your faith and why? Are you looking at the storm or the Saviour? *“Let the Word of Christ dwell IN YOU richly. Let this mind (these thoughts) be IN YOU.”* Remember: Jesus is God’s Word made flesh and God’s Word is your harbor in any storm IF it resides IN YOU! Not on your coffee table, bedside table, shirt pocket, or car glove box, but in your thoughts *“DAY AND NIGHT!”* Minds anchored in God’s Word are never threatened by the constantly raging storm of evil!

“Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.” Colossians 3:2 KJV