Escaping Earth

When God cursed the ground in Genesis 3:17, this terrestrial place we call "earth" became a prison of sorts. Decay, suffering, pressure, temptation, guilt, pride, and many other behaviors are products of man's error. The entropy of the world pushed Solomon to write about its vanity in the book of Ecclesiastes. Solomon spent a great deal of time encouraging his readers of the benefits that come from looking beyond the physical. Rather than being conformed and restrained terrestrially, we ought to excel to a celestial state of mind.

20th century French Philosopher, Pierre de Chardin, once wrote, "You are not a human being in search of a spiritual experience. You are a spiritual being immersed in a human experience." Satan uses three primary tactics to make you forget about your spiritual nature; lust of the eye, lust of the flesh, and pride of life. These tactics are seen all throughout the scriptures (Adam and Eve, Achan, Jesus, etc). So how do we escape the world? Don't Limit Yourself (Rom. 12:2a) - "Do not be conformed to this world." Paul is indicating this is your choice. Don't limit your mind and abilities to only being of this world but pursue higher thoughts (8:18).

Renew Your Mind (Rom. 12:2b) - "but be transformed by the renewal of your mind" Your conscience can be numbed by the patterns of the world. Every once in a while, it needs some recalibration. In order to renew your mind, you must first understand your mind's origin (Gen. 1:27). When you start seeing things as God sees them, it is at that moment things become more visible.
Remember the Will of God (Rom. 12:2c) - "discern what is the will of God." Notice this is a testing or examining process. It is possible that our time and energy can be spent on vanity. It is therefore imperative that we follow God's will to maximize our effectiveness within our timeline of life. It is also in the will of God where we find the things in life which are good, acceptable, and perfect.

Your actions play a significant part in who you are, for they are the fruits of your heart (Luke 6:45). God has laid out two different avenues which we have the option of traveling down: the way of the world OR the way of Him. The world's end is destruction (Rom. 8:20,21) and therefore the glory is incredibly limited. The Father's end is non-existent and has a glory that far supersedes man's comprehension. Romans 12:2 is a verse that is known by many, but hopefully it can continue to serve you as you continue your daily walk in this terrestrial domain.

Tyler King - Bear Valley church of Christ