



# Drawing Near to God

James 4:8

## Holiness vs. Worldly Conformity by Doy Moyer

**For** all the talk in today's culture about being your own person and expressing yourself freely, there is tremendous pressure to conform. Culture doesn't want you to freely express yourself when it goes against worldly agendas. Be a free thinker, but you better accept gay marriage. Don't be a lemming; think for yourself, but know that if you don't think the way we tell you to, then you will be labeled a bigot, homophobe, a hater, or worse, a Christian.

This reminds me of the way the Romans allowed for freedom of religion. "You are free to practice your religion, but if you dare to interrupt our way of life, you will pay the price." The Pax Romana was based on forced conformity — as long as you did exactly what they told you, they'll leave you alone.

Get out of step, and they'll punish severely.

Christians should not be surprised (1 Pet. 4), so we need to see our way clear to these responses:

**1. Do not conform to the world (Romans 12:1-2).** This will come with a price, but we must take up the cross to follow the Lord (Luke


**We must be more concerned with holiness than worldly acceptance.**

9:23). The world will slander. The world will insult. The world will persecute. None of that should deter us from doing what is right. We must be more concerned with holiness than worldly acceptance.

**2. Step up with the gospel (Rom. 1:16-17).** The temptation is to make all of this a political response. We want

to answer by political means, thinking that if we can "get the right person in office," then our problems will be alleviated. This will never be what fixes the problem of the world. Politics will always give us the ups and downs, and will never result in the salvation of souls. We need the gospel. Focus on that.

**3. Step up with prayer.** God's desire is that all will come to a knowledge of the truth, so we need to pray to this end (1 Tim. 2:1-4). We also need to pray for boldness that God will use us to proclaim His message, and that we may lead lives that will point the way to Christ (cf. Col. 4:2-5).

Let's bring the offer of God's grace full force into this world. Let's let our lights shine. Let's be the salt God has called us to be (Matthew 5:13-16). 

**AM Sermon: I Have a Dream—Galatians 3:28**

**PM Sermon: PM Service Cancelled Until Further Notice**

# Quotables



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### Times of Services

Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

[www.springdalechurchofchrist.com](http://www.springdalechurchofchrist.com)

**“God gave each of us a free moral ‘self,’ and then asks that we give it back to Him.”** —*Robert F. Turner*

**“The cause of God has ever been carried forward from age to age by countless persons unremembered by any later age, who were content to live by the truth of God and to serve it without making any attempt to perpetuate their own names. The fact that the authors of a major part of the Scriptures are unknown by name is emphatic witness to this. They gave God the glory and kept none for themselves.”**

—*James D. Smart, Servants of the Word: The Prophets of Israel, 28*

## Westside Family News... (send news to [durhamchuk@aol.com](mailto:durhamchuk@aol.com))

### Prayer List:

**Parker Family** (family issues); **Kat Deuster and boys** (continued stability); **Kellye Hardin** (for improvement)

**Shut-Ins:** **Bill Lundy; Nadine Poteete; Darl and Betty Feagin; Virginia McElhaney**

### General Family Info:

Continue praying for **Marc & Taryn Parker's** grandsons and family. Also, please pray for Marc's brother, **Robert Parker**, who has the Covid19 virus. He's worse and had to be taken to the hospital. Pray fervently for **JR Hart**, the

nephew of **Ryan Davis**. His surgery this past Wednesday removed 80% of the tumor from his spinal cord. He will have another major surgery on June 17/18. He'll have radiation following the surgeries. He also had a drain put in to relieve pressure on his brain and that is going well. JR is still in ICU. We give our love to the Davis family. **Bro. A.W. Goff**, a long-time preacher of the Gospel in Arkansas, died this past Friday at his home in Russellville. He was 91 years old. His graveside was held yesterday in Russellville. **Mike Pittman** and **Leon Goff** officiated.

**2020 May Graduates:** Several of our College students

graduated this month. Congratulations to **Tabitha Hudspeth; Joe Oliver; Riley Parker; Shelby Sprott; Kory Snodgrass** and **Melissa Stanton**. Also, congrats to **Slater Tackett** who graduates from High School.

**Due to the Covid19 outbreak: Sunday AM Worship services** are at **9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.** We will Live-stream the 9 a.m. service on our Facebook page. **Chuck's** videos are posted for **Wednesday's Study on Genesis 12-50**. For the study on **June 10**, please read **Gen. chs. 46-48**. Questions will be sent to your email address on Sunday PM.