



Lesson 1: Culture Cleansing

January 24 & 25

Malachi 3:6 “For I am the Lord—I do not change. That is why you are not already utterly destroyed, for my mercy endures forever. *The Living Bible*

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever.” *New Living Translation*

We are married to the message, not the method: Our message is the unchanging word of God. Our method is constantly changing to reach a constantly changing culture. We are fluid and flexible, ready for anything that the future throws our way. (2 Tim 3:16-17, Acts 17:16-34)

We are called to be clean in a corrupt culture

Galatians 5:19 Now, the effects of the corrupt nature are obvious: **illicit sex**, perversion, promiscuity, **20** idolatry, **drug use**, hatred, rivalry, **jealousy**, **angry outbursts**, selfish ambition, conflict, factions, **21** envy, drunkenness, wild partying, and similar things. *God’s Word Translation*

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.

Titus 2:12 It teaches us to say “No” **to ungodliness and worldly passions**, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in **this present age**, *New International Version*

Titus 2:13 While we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, **14** Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and **to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.** **15** These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you. *New International Version*

2 Peter 3:14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, **make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.** *New*

International Version

2 Timothy 3:1 Don't be naive. There are difficult times ahead. As the end approaches, ***Message Bible***

2 Timothy 3:2 people are going to be self-absorbed, money-hungry, self-promoting, stuck-up, profane, contemptuous of parents, crude, coarse, **3** dog-eat-dog, unbending, slanderers, impulsively wild, savage, cynical, **4** treacherous, ruthless, bloated windbags, addicted to lust, and allergic to God. ***Message Bible***

2 Timothy 3:5 They'll make a show of religion, but behind the scenes they're animals. Stay clear of these people. ***Message Bible***

Matthew 5:10 Blessed are those who are persecuted **because of righteousness**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you **because of me**. **12** **Rejoice and be glad**, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. ***New International Version***