

Strange
(The Christian as viewed by the World)
Deuteronomy 26:16-19
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show why the world often views the Christian as being strange.

Intro: 1. Many things that the Christian believes and does seem strange to those of the world.
2. But as we examine and compare much of what the world believes and does also is strange to the Christian.

I. Belief in God is Strange

A. Earthly Science promotes a Godless World.

1. Chaos consisting of explosions, blind chance and poor science is their source of the origin of man.
 - a. Some of the most “respected” atheists teach that life could of began on the back of some mysterious crystals, whose origin is unknown.
 - b. Life could had started by an intelligent species, aliens, but not the God of the Bible.
2. The Bible has the answer to the Origin of all things (Genesis 1)
 - a. In the beginning (time) God (force) created (action) the heavens (space) and the earth (matter) (**Genesis 1:1**)

B. True unbiased Science reveals the God of the Bible.

1. Design, true science, archeology and time all point to a creator.
2. How many times has a tornado or storm assembled a laptop?

II. Obedience & Righteous living is Strange.

A. Do what you want!

1. The world says all life is consists of earthly physical enjoyment.
2. Perhaps no earthly man knew more pleasures than Solomon, but what did he say about them? (**Ecc 2:1-11**)

B. God will bring everyone & everything into judgment (**Ecc 12:14**)

1. Man is reminded about judgment upon how we have lived before other and before Him.
2. Christian are often viewed as odd because of their righteousness

III. Lessons for us today.

A. Being “Strange” is not necessarily bad.

1. Followers of Christ as viewed as strange because they are willing to give up all to follow Christ (**Mk 8:34-35**)
2. This is something so many are unwilling to do (**Mt 19:16-22**)

B. The sinfulness of the World should seem “Strange” to the Christian.

1. Christians should not be easily tempted by the things of this world.
 - a. Such things should have no hold on the Christian
2. Consider what Paul said (**Phil 3:7-8**)

Application & Conclusion:

1. We should not allow being looked up as being strange by the world as a deterrent to doing what is right and pleasing to God.
2. The Christian is part of a special group of people. A group of people who are NOT to be like the world.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9