

Galatians 6:14 – “God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” If the church doesn’t die to the world, the world will be the death of the church. Worldliness impairs judgment, clouds thinking, and confuses motives. Just as far as we please the world, so we lose our power. Jesus marked a sharp division between the church and the world, and we should mark that division. “Because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you” (Jn. 15:19). The world is now, and always has been, the biggest challenge to the church. We are told to “flee youthful lusts,” to “stand against the wiles of the devil,” and to “love not the world.” That means in a moral sense. The world has its own morals, because it has its own god. Atheism is in reality a love of the world and its lusts. It is a denial of Biblical morality in order to do what one desires without condemnation. The church is filled with practical atheists. They claim to know God, but they live like they don’t believe God. The church is rife with people who have never been converted, and they have never born again. There are quite a number of Carnal Christians who claim loyalty to Christ and the world at the same time. When God sends revival to the church, He will sort it all out. In revival, God’s people crucify themselves to the world. As far as the Apostle Paul was concerned the world was dead to him, and he to the world. That is the only way the cross of Christ makes sense. It is foolishness to the world. Until the world of people see the cross of Christ in contrast to the world system, they will not be drawn to it. That is our responsibility as the church. We must take inventory, and we must do it quickly. Time is running out for this world. It is going to pass away (I Jn. 2:15-17). It will be shaken, and it will not stand (Heb. 12:27). The true church is a part of “a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us...serve God acceptably with reverence and a godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire” (Heb. 12:28, 29). There is a fire of judgment, and there is a fire of revival. The fire of judgment will consume this present evil world (II Pet. 3:10). The fire of revival will enflame the church with passion to save the lost from this world and its destruction. Choose your fire. HA