SERIES: Practical Atheist (Sun 5/16/10) Pg 1 of 3

**S** HOMEWORK: Revelation ch 3

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Today's message: "Fear Factor" (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

# WORLDLY QUALITIES

S • IMG: ATHEIST AD - "YOU CAN BE GOOD WITHOUT GOD"

# Q: How many of these qualities do we actually see in the world today?

- **S** (2 Timothy 3:1) This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
  - (2 Timothy 3:2) For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
  - (2 Timothy 3:3) Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
  - (2 Timothy 3:4) Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
  - (2 Timothy 3:5) Having a **form of godliness**, but **denying the power** thereof: from such turn away.

$ \mathbf{S} $	lovers of their own selves	trucebreakers (implacable; no appeasing)
ك	covetous (lovers of money)	false accusers (slanderous)
	boasters (bragging and strutting)	incontinent (no self-control)
	proud (snobs)	fierce (brutal, no mercy)
	blasphemers (railers - abusive)	despisers of those that are good
	disobedient to parents	Traitors (betrayers)
	unthankful (ungrateful)	heady (rash)
	unholy	highminded (conceited) - God's gift to
		mankind
	Without natural affection (no love)	lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God

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# A FORM OF GODLINESS -- Churchgoers have a form of godliness

[http://www.gallup.com/video/109111/Majority-Americans-Believe-God.aspx]

- S IMG: Gallup Poll: 94% Of ALL Americans believe in God or higher power
  - I believe in God but I don't FEAR him
  - I believe in God, but I want to do whatever I want to do
  - I want enough of God to get me into heaven, but not so much to have to change my life

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### A CAFETERIA/BUFFET GOD

• Double portion of Grace and Spirit, and I think I'll skip the discipline today

• I'll have a slice of the Prosperity pie but will leave off the generous giving topping

Q: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FEAR GOD??

- S DEF: PRACTICAL ATHEIST: Someone who believes in God but lives as if He does NOT exist
- (Psalms 36:1) The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes.
  - NOTE: NOT TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE What if this scripture is speaking to us?!?

- Example Abraham...
- Genesis 22:12) And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou **hast not withheld** thy son, **thine only son** from me.
  - WESLEY: The best evidence of our fearing God is our being willing to honour him with that which is dearest to us, and to part with all to him, or for him.
- (Luke 14:33) So likewise, whosoever he be of you that **forsaketh not all that he hath**, he cannot be my disciple.

POINT: IF we don't FEAR HIM, then we really don't KNOW HIM!!!

When you know Him and Fear Him, two things will happen...

- 1) Serve Him wholeheartedly WITHOUT conditions
- God if you fix this, then I'll serve you: Marriage, finances, health
- Make a deal... bargain with God

**SERIES: Practical Atheist** (Sun 5/16/10) Pg 3 of 3 2) You will be forever ruined (nothing is the same) • Example Joseph... (Genesis 39:9) There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any  $\mathbf{S}$ thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God? Example David AFTER Nathan the prophet confronts him... S (Psalms 51:10) Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. (Psalms 51:11) Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Church goers may not have been ruined yet, in the best sort of way **TAKEAWAY:** (Ecclesiastes 12:13) Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear**  $\mathbf{S}$ God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

HOMEWORK: Revelation ch 3