

"Don't Be Pressed into the Me-First Mold"

Romans 12:2

May 8, 2022

I. Resisting the World

- A. By "world", Paul means the demonically influenced system of opposition to God that characterizes humanity.
- B. We are to resist the world because it constantly seeks to press us into its mold.

II. Recognizing the World

- A. The worldly mold of Western culture (the "Psychological Man") seeks to convince us of the following:
 - 1. One's sense of inner well-being is what matters most.
 - 2. To truly flourish, one's outer life must conform to one's sense of inner well-being.
 - 3. Those who seek to hinder #2 should be rejected.
- B. Behind such philosophies is the "me-first" mindset that has characterized humanity since the Fall.

III. Rejecting the World

- A. We must remember that our still fallen flesh is dying to be pressed into the me-first mold of the world.
- B. All temptations that have their hook in us do so because of the "me-first" impulses of the flesh.
- C. Believers should remember that Christ should always be first, in every aspect of our lives.

Colossians 1:18 - He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.