



HAVING THE COURAGE TO SAY, “NO!”





I. Introduction:

NOPE!

WE SAID NO TO:

Artificial Anything

Added Sugars

Preservatives

Cheap Oils

Gluten

Grains

GMO's



II. Christians must have the moral courage to say, “No” to evil and wrong things!

“IF ANY MAN WILL COME AFTER ME, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF, AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS DAILY, AND FOLLOW ME”-Luke 9:23.

A. Joseph had the moral courage to say, “No!” See the record in Genesis 39:6-12.

“How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God”-Genesis 39:9.

“And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie with her, or to be with her”—v. 10.

Not many men will refuse the offer of a woman, but Joseph did!

Thank God for his example!

Men who are committed to God will not make advances towards women; nor will they yield to women who makes advances towards them! They will say, "NO!"

"By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season"-Hebrews 11:24 & 25.

MOSES HAD THE MORAL COURAGE TO SAY, "NO!"

CHRISTIANS MUST HAVE THE MORAL COURAGE AND FAITH IN GOD TO SAY, "NO" TO FORNICATION AND ALL FLESHLY DESIRES!

EXAMPLE OF A MAN NAMED "JOE."

B. Christian's must learn to turn away from the "vices" recognized and even freely acknowledged by the world!

1. "I only have two vices in my life!"

I've heard this statement many times in my life from non-Christians, and every time the statement is made, smoking and drinking are named as the vices!

"vice, 1. a. An evil, degrading, or immoral habit or practice. b. A serious moral failing. 2. Wicked or evil habits or conduct : CORRUPTION. 3. Sexual immorality, esp. prostitution. 4. A slight personal failing: FOIBLE <the vice of sloth> 5. A flaw or imperfection: DEFECT"- Webster's New College Dictionary, pg. 1230.

2. American Christians ought to abstain from the rampant practice today of tattooing!

“Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the Lord”-Leviticus 19:28, KJV.

“You shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor tattoo any marks on you: I am the Lord”-NKJV.

NOTE: All other versions that I know of besides the JKV use the translation of “Tattoo!”

THE THEME OF LEVITICUS IS, “BE YE HOLY!”

In the OT era, God wanted His people to be different from the world; NOT LIKE THE WORLD!

Today is no different! God wants His NT people to be different!

“But as he which has called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of living;

Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy”-I Peter 1:15 & 16.

3. *“Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil”- Exodus 23:2.*

4. Consider the powerful example of the Ephesian church-see Acts 19:17-20.

What these brethren did was a public declaration of saying “No” to their world!!



“Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience”-Colossians 3:5 & 6.

C. Christians are God’s people!

- 1. Let’s walk like it!**
- 2. Let’s talk like it!**
- 3. Let’s dress like it!**
- 4. Let’s honor God like it!**
- 5. Let’s follow Christ instead of the world!**

See I Corinthians 11:1; Luke 9: 23.





Question: Can we picture the Lord walking around with tattoos all over His bared arms, and a cigarette hanging out of His mouth, while He's holding a Budweiser beer in one hand?



III. Are you ready to say “No” to the world, and “Yes” to Christ?

A. When one obeys the gospel, he is saying “Yes” to Christ, and “No” to Satan and his former manner of life!

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned”-Mark 16:15 & 16.

B. When a prodigal son comes home to his Heavenly Father, he is saying “No” to sin, and “Yes” to God!

DON'T DELAY-COME NOW!!