Can you be a Worldly Christian?

Can people distinguish you between being a Christian and an unbeliever? If they can’t, then you are probably a worldly Christian.

**In 1 Corinthians 3:1** – Paul said “Brothers, I could not address you as Spiritual, but as Worldly, mere infants in Christ.” (NIV). He goes on to say he could only give them milk, not solid food, for they were not ready for it. He goes to say they were worldly because they were jealous, they quarreled. They acted like those in the world, (meaning unbelievers).

**Romans 12:1-2** says, “I urge you brothers in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual worship. In verse 2 he gives the contrast of a Christian, he says “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what god’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

--(in other words, when you receive Christ as your Savior dedicate yourself to the Lord, start living your life for Him. Give up the things you used to do in your old life. Do not any longer conform to the ways of the world. Renew your minds by allowing the Word of God to continue to transform you into the person Christ wants you to be. This is the will of God.

**James 4:4 says** “you adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God. Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.”

--(James is talking about spiritual adultery. A Christian who has not given up entirely the things of the world.)

James 4:7 goes on to say “Submit yourselves to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you. Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”

-(he calls them double-minded because they still hang on to some things in the world. He tells them what they must do by submitting themselves, resisting temptation, and purifying themselves with the Word of God.)

**John 15 :19** says “If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own, as it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That’s why the world hates you.” (If the unbelievers think you are one of them then something is wrong.)

**John 16:33 says**, “I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart. I have overcome the world”

--( As a Christian, to have peace in your heart, you have to leave the world.)

**I John 2: 15** “love not the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world, the cravings of sinful man, the lust of the eyes and the boasting of what he has and does, comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and it’s desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”

-(Love not the world**. The question is, how can believers love the sinful world with a love produced in their hearts by the Holy Spirit.** The cravings of sinful man comes from the depraved nature as governing a persons reasoning, his will and emotions. )

-(the word for ‘world’ is the Greek word ‘kosmos’, which is defined as the ordered world, considered apart from and hostile to God. It’s purpose is to seduce and keep people from God. It’s a system of which Satan is the head and the unsaved of the human are are his subjects, together with those purposes, pursuits, pleasures, practices, and places where God is not wanted.)

If you are a Christian today and still want to listen to off color jokes, go to movies where they use filthy language and where God’s Name is taken in vain, still looking for the things of the world to give you pleasure then you are what the above verses are talking about.

If you want to rationalize what sin is rather than accept what the scriptures say it is, then you are what the above verses are talking about.

If you are a Christian that does a lot of compromising to go along and do things you know you really shouldn’t do, then the above verses are talking about you.

There’s only one way to be happy in Jesus, and that’s to submit yourselves to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you.