

Walking with God in a Nation Filled with Compromise
7.14.2019

1. We live in a loose and immoral atmosphere. Compromise is everywhere.

We are living in days of laxness and looseness spiritually. There is sin and compromise all around.

Historian David Barton teamed up with the Barna Group and polled Americans about their Christian values and beliefs:

<https://www.charismanews.com/opinion/77126-david-barton-only-2-8-of-american-pastors-are-willing-to-pr-each-these-biblical-truths>

Polled 384,000 churches...

Only 2.8% of American pastors are willing to preach Biblical truth on political topics...

72% of churches and senior pastors do not agree with the Bible and do not agree with its teachings. That leaves only 28% who actually believe the Bible and agree with its teachings.

Of the 28% that believe the Bible and its teachings, only 2.8% will address hot button political topics.

If pastors are that compromising, where does that leave everyone else?

We are losing the battle for our culture due to our compromising ways.

2. Three words that compromise may breed in our lives:

1) Complacency

Quiet satisfaction, contentment, the quality or state of being satisfied: a calm sense of well-being and security; self-satisfaction accompanied by unawareness of actual dangers or deficiencies

2) Complacent

Marked by satisfaction and pleasure at one's own personality, accomplishments, or situation; satisfaction about the security of one's own position; careless acceptance of events around one; disinclined to act, to change, or to guard.

3) Commonplace

Anything common or ordinary; neither new nor interesting; obvious or trite.

Complacency is Satan's playground!

3. 10 Symptoms of Complacency:

1. Lack of spiritual hunger
2. Little concern for the unsaved
3. Lack of intimate fellowship with believers
4. Prayerlessness
5. Slack attendance and involvement in a local church
6. Legitimate activities consume time needed for spiritual nourishment
7. Stinginess
8. Little spiritual growth in the last 6 months
9. A general feeling of self-satisfaction
10. Nonchalant and tolerant attitude toward personal sin

Without *intentional living*, we will compromise our life with God and become complacent!

4. Today we are experiencing what Lot experienced in Sodom and Gomorrah! Except, it's worse.

2 Peter 2:7-9 (NLT)

But God also rescued Lot out of Sodom because he was a righteous man who was sick of the shameful immorality of the wicked people around him. (8) Yes, Lot was a righteous man who was tormented in his soul by the wickedness he saw and heard day after day. (9) So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment.

Here is a partial list of cultural challenges in America right now:

1. Most singles live together before marriage.
2. Abortion has become an acceptable alternative to an inconvenient pregnancy.
3. Same-sex marriage has been legitimized by our Supreme Court.
4. Homosexual and lesbian relationships have become normalized and accepted in the political world, the business world, the scholastic world, in American culture, and if you do not agree, you are threatened or ostracized publicly.
5. Our schools are teaching that homosexual and lesbian relationships and marriage are normal parts of society.
6. Transgender ideology is being taught as an acceptable choice for human behavior.

The question now is *how do you self-identify?*

7. It is being pushed as normal to be born a male, but act like a female and visa versa.
8. Child sex trafficking is being brought to the surface as a huge problem.
9. Statistics indicate that the majority of Americans view pornography, and it has become the new source of escape from the pressures of living (includes Christians).
10. Personal dress has become loose and promiscuous.
11. Preoccupation with the body dominates cultural thought.
12. No-fault divorce provides an easy out to challenging marriages.
13. 40% of children born in America are born to unwed mothers.
14. Pleasure and entertainment take precedence over spiritual values.
15. Lying is commonplace in business and political affairs.
16. Money and a plush lifestyle are touted as more important than character.
17. Illicit drug use has become a plague in all levels of society.
18. Suicide has become a viable alternative to life's pressures.
19. Holding offense and slandering as person's character is now socially acceptable.
20. Gossip is commonplace.

America is falling into a moral filth that we have never before experienced as a nation.

God knows what you and I face in our nation and society, and He knows what we need to do to stay pure before Him.

5. God is calling Christians worldwide to spiritual, mental, and physical purity.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NLT)

Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, (10) or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God. (11) Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (NLT)

Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? (15) What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? (16) And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: "I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people. (17) Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them," says

the Lord. "Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. (18) And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty.

2 Corinthians 7:1 (NLT)

Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 (J.B. Phillips)

God's plan is to make you holy, and that means a clean cut with sexual immorality. Every one of you should learn to control his body, keeping it pure and treating it with respect, and never allowing it to fall victim to lust, as do pagans with no knowledge of God. You cannot break this rule without cheating and exploiting your fellow men. Indeed God will punish all who offend in this matter, as we have plainly told you and warned you. The calling of God is not to impurity but to the most thorough purity, and anyone who makes light of the matter is not making light of man's ruling but of God's command. It is not for nothing that the Spirit God gives us is called the Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 4:1-5 (NLT)

So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. For if you have suffered physically for Christ, you have finished with sin. (2) You won't spend the rest of your lives chasing your own desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God. (3) You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy—their immorality and lust, their feasting and drunkenness and wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols. (4) Of course, your former friends are surprised when you no longer plunge into the flood of wild and destructive things they do. So they slander you. (5) But remember that they will have to face God, who stands ready to judge everyone, both the living and the dead.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (NLT)

Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. (19) Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, (20) for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

Ephesians 4:17-24 (NLT)

With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. (18) Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. (19) They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.

(20) But that isn't what you learned about Christ. (21) Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, (22) throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. (23) Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. (24) Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

Ephesians 5:1-14 (NLT)

Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. (2) Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God. (3) Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people. (4) Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes—these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God. (5) You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshipping the things of this world. (6) Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him. (7) Don't participate in the things these people do. (8) For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! (9) For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true. (10) Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. (11) Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. (12) It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. (13) But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them, (14) for the light makes everything visible. This is why it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

Ephesians 5:15-19 (NLT)

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. (16) Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. (17) Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. (18) Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, (19) singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

Action Points:

Are you the salt and the light that Jesus has called you to be?

1. Do you actively seek to think on pure things?
2. When questionable content comes on a movie or show, do you change it?
3. Have you watched porn this past week?
4. Do you lust after the opposite sex when in public?

5. Do you dress provocatively?
6. Do you ask God to keep you pure?
7. Are you accountable to anyone for your personal life?
8. Would you model the way you live to someone else?
9. Do you lie?
10. Do you gossip and slander others when they are not around?
11. Are you seeking to actively, daily, put Jesus and His kingdom first place in your life?