The secular church has always been among us. Whether it was Paul’s dealings with the Gnostics of his day, the warnings given to John regarding the Nicolaitans, or the prevalence of today’s pleasure-seeking churches, the secular church has never had a shortage of people keeping it alive and causing it to thrive. The definition of the word “secular” is “that which pertains to worldly things or to things that are not regarded as religious, spiritual, or sacred; that which is temporary and is not bound by vows.”

Much of what comes forth from pulpits today is secular, sensual, and earthly. There is no shortage of sermons and messages in these last days instructing churchgoers on how to fall more and more in love with this present world. It is evident that many in this current generation of “preachers” are completely ignoring or not even talking about the coming Kingdom. They have replaced it with their secular humanist motivational speeches that only create more and more lust for this worldly kingdom.

This attempt to “bling” the Gospel of Jesus Christ by making it cool and palatable has completely botched up much of what the Holy Spirit did, or attempted to do, for the
church in the 1990’s. At a time where God’s Spirit was bringing His people refreshing, clarity, and focus which could have resulted in great repentance, holiness, and consecration, carnal preachers got their eyes on the buildings, the bodies, and the bucks. Now, this “Frankenstein church,” one-half God and one-half man, dominates the airwaves and the best-seller sections of bookstores across the land, and these church leaders inform us that complete obedience to God’s Word is legalism. Thankfully, there are still a few churches like Pergamos that have held fast to His Name. But the ranks of the remnant churches are growing thinner by the hour, while the collateral damage being inflicted by secular churches upon believers everywhere has become breathtaking.

The Sacred and the Secular

Ezekiel 22:26
Her priests have done violence to My law and have profaned My holy things. They have made no distinction between the sacred and the secular, neither have they taught people the difference between the unclean and the clean and have hid their eyes from My Sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.

Amplified Bible

There is just simply no way to interpret this verse other than for what it says in plain English. The Lord considers ministers who do not teach, preach, and emphasize the distinction between the sacred and the secular as people who are doing violence to His Word. The Bible is crystal clear that if we are risen with Christ, it will be reflected in every area of our lives. It means something to be born again. It means something to be redeemed. As a result of what was done for us at the cross and being washed in the blood, we are changed. We are the assembly and the congregation of the Most High God. We are the Ekklesia, called out from the world and called together for His purposes.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18
14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers [do not make mismated alliances with them or come under a different yoke with them, inconsistent with your faith]. For what partnership have right living and right standing with God withiniquity and lawlessness? Or how can light have fellowship with darkness?
15 What harmony can there be between Christ and Belial [the devil]? Or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?
16 What agreement [can there be between] a temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in and with and among them
and will walk in and with and among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.
17 So, come out from among [unbelievers], and separate (sever) yourselves from them, says the Lord, and touch not [any] unclean thing; then I will receive you kindly and treat you with favor,
18 And I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.

Amplified Bible

Let’s be very clear about this: We are not to be unequally yoked with unbelievers. That is a Biblical commandment. The Amplified Bible defines it as “mismated alliances” that are “inconsistent with your faith.” Yet we see all around us believers that have compromised their faith in the most basic things. They are yoked together with the world in its music, its conduct, its dress, its goals, and its passions. The world has defined what services should be like and what should occur in times of worship, and ministers have swallowed it hook, line, and sinker. The majority of this happens under the guise of “reaching more people.” The quality of God’s presence should always take precedence over the number of people in the room. It would be wise of us to remember how God dealt with David when he numbered God’s people. Jesus is the head of His church. We cannot correct or improve what He has given to us by any natural means. Thinking or acting like we can is pure folly.

Galatians 3:3
Are you so foolish and so senseless and so silly? Having begun [your new life spiritually] with the [Holy] Spirit, are you now reaching perfection [by dependence] on the flesh?

Amplified Bible

Words of Wisdom

We close with the words of Rev. George Hawtin, whom in his excellent 1965 article entitled “The Mystery of Iniquity,” wrote the following: “Modern evangelism is a peril of the last days. It is an evangelism saturated with the spirit of the world, even the spirit of this untoward generation. It goes hand in hand with the spirit of Hollywood and Las Vegas as is evidenced by the appearance of their prodigies on an ever-increasing number of religious programs. Modern evangelism is bankrupt of truth. The Jesus it preaches is another Jesus. The evidence that proves modern evangelism to be completely phony is in the fact that year after year, month after month, and day after day the world sinks ever deeper into the slough of sin. This modern thing that
parades itself abroad today in the name of evangelism is having the very opposite effect as the world and the church system sink ever lower into increasing darkness and corruption and despair.”