

Thesis: The philosophies and cares of this world can easily lead us astray, but constant vigilance and prayer enable us to remain steadfast in our faith and stand strong before Christ.

Introduction: Today, let's explore how the distractions and philosophies of our world can lead us away from God but through constant vigilance and prayer, we can remain steadfast in our faith.

1. The philosophies and cares of this world can easily lead us astray (Colossians 2:8).
 - A. Deceptive philosophies and human traditions compete for our attention and loyalty.
 - B. We are warned to hold fast to Christ, not the elemental spirits of the world.
2. Constant vigilance is necessary to prevent our hearts from being weighed down (Luke 21:34-36).
 - A. Jesus admonishes us to watch ourselves and avoid dissipation, drunkenness, and worldly cares.
 - B. Such distractions can come upon us suddenly, like a trap, affecting all of humanity.
 - C. Staying awake in faith through prayer enables us to withstand these trials and stand before the Son of Man.
3. Our true purpose is found in the good works God has prepared for us (Ephesians 2:10).
 - A. We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for a divine purpose.
 - B. By walking in the good works prepared for us, we fulfill our calling and remain aligned with God's will.

Conclusion: Let us be vigilant and discerning, consistently seeking God through prayer and good works, enabling us to overcome the world's distractions and stand strong in our faith before Christ.

Closing prayer:

Thank you Lord for this time that we can read and hear scripture today. Thank you Lord for bringing us together to welcome your presence into our homes and our lives. Lord, we ask for ears to hear your voice and guidance through all the distractions in life that want to take our attention away from you Lord in the name of Jesus Christ. We cancel all plans of the enemy in the name of Jesus Christ. We declare Christ our Lord and savior over our lives and ruler of our destiny. Take control of our lives, finances, family as we put our complete trust in you. Let our minds be vigilant so that we may discern your will Lord.

We give you all the honor, the glory, and praise. It is in the mighty name of Jesus Christ we pray and ask all the things, AMEN.

Key Verses:

Colossians 2:8

English Standard Version

8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits[a] of the world, and not according to Christ.

Luke 21:34-36

English Standard Version

Watch Yourselves

34 "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Ephesians 2:10

English Standard Version

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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Romans Road to Salvation

Romans 3:23 *We are all sinners by nature and choice*

For all have sinned and come short of the glory of god

Romans 6:23 *We receive eternal life as a free gift*

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord

Romans 5:8 *God demonstrates His love for us, a sinner, unconditionally*

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9-10 *We must trust and surrender to Jesus our Lord*

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Romans 10:13 *Our assurance of salvation is through JESUS!*

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved