



# Odd vs. God

*Five Worldly Problems We Must Tackle With A Godly Perspective*

February 28, 2016 (Sermon by Ray Reynolds)

## Text: **Philippians 2:12-16**

Introduction: We cringe when we hear the word "ism" at the end of the word, but we have a world full of "isms." Some are dangerous, especially for Christians. In **Philippians 2:12-13** Paul said, *"My dear friends, you have always obeyed God when I was with you. It is even more important that you obey now while I am away from you. Keep on working to complete your salvation with fear and trembling, because God is working in you to help you want to do and be able to do what pleases Him."* That's the BIG picture. Then, in the next few verses he will tell us what to do about it. Let's study together...

Discussion:

### **PROBLEM #1 = Criticism**

**Worldly Attitude** = *"That's not the way you should do it!"*

**Godly Solution** = *"Do everything without complaining or arguing." (v.14)*

*What am I going to do about it? What will I choose?*

### **PROBLEM #2 = Elitism**

**Worldly Attitude** = *"That's not the way perfect people do it!"*

**Godly Solution** = *"Be innocent and without any wrong...be God's children without fault." (v.15)*

*What am I going to do about it? What will I choose?*

### **PROBLEM #3 = Favoritism**

**Worldly Attitude** = *"That's not the way that my people like it!"*

**Godly Solution** = *"Living with crooked and mean people all around you." (v.15)*

*What am I going to do about it? What will I choose?*

### **PROBLEM #4 = Egotism**

**Worldly Attitude** = *"That's not the way I want it!"*

**Godly Solution** = *"Shine like stars in the dark world." (v.15)*

*What am I going to do about it? What will I choose?*

### **PROBLEM #5 = Traditionalism**

**Worldly Attitude** = *"That's not the way we've always done it!"*

**Godly Solution** = *"Offer the teaching that gives life." (v.16)*

*What am I going to do about it? What will I choose?*

Conclusion: Paul shows us that we can be released for ministry when we see that God's way is not the odd way! He says, *"So when Christ comes again, I can be happy because my work was not wasted. I ran the race and won."* (**Philippians 2:16**) Paul hopes his words wouldn't fall on deaf ears. Have you been distracted by others? Have you been a distraction? Will you follow the world or God?