

Higher Ground

KEEPING A SPIRITUAL FOCUS IN THIS MATERIAL WORLD





What Is A Standard? Why A Standard?

- ‘Standard’ Defined:

“Something considered by an authority or by general consent as a basis of comparison; an approved model.”

“A rule or principle that is used as a basis for judgment.”

“Those morals, ethics, habits, etc., established by authority, custom, or an individual as acceptable.”



What Is A Standard? Why A Standard?

- Why Is This Important?

- We Live By Standards Every Day
- Without Standards: Confusion & Danger
- There Now Exist Numerous 'Standards'

JOHN 17:20-23; EPHESIANS 4:4-6



A Comparison of Standards

- The World

- Basis of Comparison: Celebrity, Fashion, Others
- Basis for Judgment: Arbitrary, Ever-Changing
- Basis for Acceptance: 'What Makes You Happy'



A Comparison of Standards

- **Within Religious Circles**

- Basis of Comparison: The Biggest Church
- Basis for Judgment: Creeds, Human Leaders
- Basis for Acceptance: 'As Long as You're Sincere'



The Higher Standard We Need

- Basis of Comparison: Jesus Christ

- Disciples to be Like the Teacher

MATTHEW 10:25; 1ST JOHN 2:6

- Our Constant Aim

EPHESIANS 4:1 1-15



The Higher Standard We Need

- Basis of Judgment: God's Word

- To Make Righteous Judgments

HEBREWS 5:14; JOHN 7:24

- Since God is Righteous...

NUMBERS 23:19; PSALM 145:17; 119:172



The Higher Standard We Need

- Basis of Acceptance: What Pleases God

- In All Things

2ND CORINTHIANS 5:9; LUKE 17:10

- Else...

GALATIANS 1:10; JOHN 12:42, 43

