

# *Higher Ground*

**KEEPING A SPIRITUAL FOCUS IN THIS MATERIAL WORLD**





# Why Tolerance?

- Some Seek to Please Men More Than God
  - Appealing to Current Social Standards
  - Appealing to Tradition/History



# Why Tolerance?

- Criticism/Judgment is Not Wanted
    - Behavior God Says is Unacceptable
- ROMANS 1:18-28**
- A One-Sided Tolerance



# The Temptation to Toleration

- Toleration of Indecency
  - Indecent Clothing
  - Indecent Behavior and Speech



# The Temptation to Toleration

- Toleration of Deviant Sexual Behavior
  - Complete Sexual 'Freedom'
  - Homosexuality/Transgenderism



# The Temptation to Toleration

- Toleration of Lawlessness
  - Theft/Stealing/Piracy
  - Cheating/Lying



# The Temptation to Toleration

- Toleration of False Doctrines & False Religions

- “Can’t We All Just Get Along?”

**JOHN 17:20-23**

- “Who Are YOU to Judge?”

**MATTHEW 7:1**



# Resisting the Pull

- Hold Fast to God's Unchanging Standard

- He Does Not Change. IT Does Not Change

**MAL. 3:6; HEB. 13:8; 1<sup>ST</sup> PET. 1:24, 25**

- We Will Answer to Him, Not Man

**JOHN 12:48; 2<sup>ND</sup> COR. 5:10**





# Resisting the Pull

- Use Your 'Support Group' [Brethren]
  - Surround Yourself with Godly People  
**1<sup>ST</sup> COR. 15:33; ECCL. 4:9-12**
  - Seek Help When Overwhelmed/ Outnumbered  
**1<sup>ST</sup> KINGS 19:10, 18**



# Resisting the Pull

- Immerse Yourself in the Holy

- “Think on These Things”

**PHILIPPIANS 4:8**

- BE Holy

**1<sup>ST</sup> PETER 1:15, 16**



# Resisting the Pull

- Hate Evil, Love Good

Psalm 97:10

- Know the Difference!

**JEREMIAH 6:15; HEBREWS 5:14**

- Call It What It Is

**ISAIAH 5:20, 21**

