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2 Timothy 2:4

⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

entangle

- cause to become twisted together with or caught in
- involve (someone) in difficulties or complicated circumstances from which it is difficult to escape

Mark 4:18-19

¹⁸ Now these are the ones sown among thorns; *they are* the ones who hear the word, ¹⁹ and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Cares of this world

- Things we need to “take care of ” or “care about” ...
- What we will eat and what we will wear
- Career
- Studies
- Finances
- Our physical bodies
- Our stuff
- So many things...

Deceitfulness of riches

- Deceive:
 - To make someone believe something which is not true
- Deception of riches:
 - They make me happy
 - I need more
 - I need them to fulfil God's purpose
 - Envy because others have more
 - Arrogance because other have less
 - I'm ok, I don't need help
 - ...

Desires for other things

- Looking for fulfilment in anything other than Christ
 - Hobbies
 - Travel
 - Rituals
 - Good works
 - Church activities
 - Sexual lust
 - Search for physical pleasure

John 17:14-18

¹⁴ I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. ¹⁸ As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.



E^UNTANGLED

- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency

Philippians 3:7-8

⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

The background of the slide is a grayscale photograph of a high-speed train at a station platform. The train is blurred to convey a sense of rapid motion. A large, semi-transparent orange circle is superimposed over the center of the image. The text 'E' UNTANGLED' is positioned in the upper left area, with the 'E' partially overlapping the orange circle.

E' UNTANGLED'

- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency
- Sober view of God's call on our lives

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

Matthew 16:24-27

²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. ²⁶ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.



E^UNTANGLED

- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency
- Sober view of God's call on our lives
- Count the cost

Luke 14:26-33

²⁶ “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish *it*— ²⁹ lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see *it* begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish’? ³¹ Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. ³³ So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.



E^UNTANGLED

- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency
- Sober view of God's call on our lives
- Count the cost
- Keep our eyes on the prize

Mark 10:29-31

²⁹ So Jesus answered and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, ³⁰ who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life. ³¹ But many *who are* first will be last, and the last first.”

Philippians 3:12-14

¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing / *do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.



E^UNTANGLED

- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency
- Sober view of God's call on our lives
- Count the cost
- Keep our eyes on the prize
- An eternal perspective

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which *are* not seen are eternal.



E^UNTANGLED

- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency
- Sober view of God's call on our lives
- Count the cost
- Keep our eyes on the prize
- An eternal perspective
- Know who we are

Ephesians 1:22-23 (The Message)

²⁰⁻²³ All this energy issues from Christ: God raised him from death and set him on a throne in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule. And not just for the time being, but *forever*. He is in charge of it all, has the final word on everything. At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.

peripheral

- relating to or situated on the edge or periphery of something
- of secondary or minor importance; marginal
- (of a device) able to be attached to and used with a computer, though not an integral part of it

E^UNTANGLED

- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency
- Sober view of God's call on our lives
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- An eternal perspective
- Know who we are
- Examine ourselves

2 Corinthians 13:5

⁵ Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.



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- The Truth of Jesus Christ and His all-sufficiency
- Sober view of God's call on our lives
- Count the cost
- Keep our eyes on the prize
- An eternal perspective
- Know who we are
- Examine ourselves
- Take ownership

Discussions

- What are the affairs of the world that are entangling you?
- Could you possibly be deceived in some areas?
- Are you willing to take ownership and make a change?
- Pray with each other!