

# Have a Positive Attitude Toward Reality

by Lee Delbridge

## Introduction

Some people are pessimists. Some people are optimists. Some people say "I'm neither a pessimist or an optimist, I'm a realist. I say Christians should have a positive attitude toward reality. Let's look at the facts.

### I. The Reality

1. We live in a sin cursed world Romans 8:19-23; 5:12; etc  
**Romans 8:19-23** <sup>19</sup>*For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.* <sup>20</sup>*For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope* <sup>21</sup>*that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.* <sup>22</sup>*For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.* <sup>23</sup>*And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.*  
**Romans 5:12** *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned--*
  - (1) The creation itself is cursed
  - (2) Terrible things happen because of the curse
  - (3) We get sick and die because of sin
2. Satan is out to destroy us I Peter 5:8; John 8:44  
**I Peter 5:8** *Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.*  
**John 8:44** *You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*
  - (1) Satan wants to destroy us spiritually
  - (2) Satan wants to destroy our family
  - (3) Satan wants to destroy our church
3. We have a sinful nature **James 1:14-15** <sup>14</sup>*But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.* <sup>15</sup>*Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.*
  - (1) We all face temptations - not the same temptations, but temptations
  - (2) People are not naturally good -- they are naturally evil

### II. How To Have a Positive Attitude Toward Reality

1. Don't ignore reality!
2. Become a Christian
3. Trust in God's Promises

*Assurance of Salvation*

#### **I John 5:11-13**

<sup>11</sup>*And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.* <sup>12</sup>*He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.*

<sup>13</sup>*These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

*Assurance of Victory*

**I Corinthians 10:13**

*No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.*

*Assurance of Forgiveness*

**I John 1:9**

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

*Assurance of Answered Prayer*

**I John 5:14**

*This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.*

*Assurance of God's Sovereignty*

**Romans 8:28**

*And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

*Assurance of God's Care*

**I Peter 5:7**

*Casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.*

*Assurance of Value In Trials*

**James 1:2-4**

*<sup>2</sup>Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, <sup>3</sup>knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. <sup>4</sup>And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

*Assurance of the Bible's Sufficiency*

**II Timothy 3:16-17**

*<sup>16</sup>All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup>so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

**Conclusion**

Some of you are pessimists. Some of you are optimists. Some of you say you are realist. I say that Christians should have a positive attitude toward reality. The reality is (1) We live in a sin cursed world, (2) Satan is out to destroy you, your family, your church, etc., (3) You have a sin nature You can have a positive attitude toward reality by: (1) Don't ignore reality, (2) Become a Christian, (3) Trust in God's promises