

WEEK 15 ? DO YOU LOVE THE WORLD– Part 2

I. COMMAND OF GOD

- A. **1Jo 2:15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world.**
 - 1. Believers are **IN** the world but **NOT** of the world
 - 2. **1Jo 5:5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?**

- B. **“nor the things in the world.”→things that are more important than God→ Idols**
 - 1. Anything in your life can become an idol →Job, family, entertainment, success, popularity, sports, etc, etc
 - 2. **NOT** evil in and of themselves, but can take the place of God in your life!

- C. **Does NOT mean cannot have things– >but things cannot possess you!**
 - 1. **Recall the Rich Young ruler: things owned him! Gave up eternal life to keep his worldly things.**

II. CONTRADICTION WITH THE WORLD

- A. **V15B If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**
- B. Cannot consistently “live like the world system”
- C. **Christians can and do get caught up in the things of the world**
 - 1. love for world increases, love for God decreases, Both cannot coexist!

- D. **Christians must strive, must battle, must guard, must fight against the flesh**
 - 1. **put on the Lord Jesus Christ, make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires**

- E. **NOT CONFORM TO THE WORLD->HOW DO WE DO THAT? Ro 12:2 . . . be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

- F. **Not saying that Christians are to abandon the world**
 - 1. Christians can be successful business men, can have possessions
 - 2. **Believers understand all these things come from God→hold with open hand.**
 - 3. **Christians can have many things . . .but your things cannot HAVE you!**

III. CONTENTS OF THE WORLD

- A. **John continues 1Jo 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.**

- B. Gave 3 categories of world things that are sin
 - 1. **lust of the flesh** → cravings; fleshly desires including sexual desires and covetness

 - 2. **lust of the eyes** →Lured by lust, eyes are window to soul
 - a. Direct connection between what we allow to enter our heart through the window of our eyes and sin that follows.

- b. Stumbling blocks will come—>Mt 18:7 ¶ "Woe to the world because of *its* stumbling blocks! For it is inevitable that stumbling blocks come; but woe to that man through whom the stumbling block comes!
 - c. Jesus explains stumbling blocks come thru your eyes—>Mt 18:9 "If your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it from you. It is better for you to enter life with one eye, than to have two eyes and be cast into the fiery hell.
 - d. Left uncontrolled, it drives the arrow of sin to the heart!—>Mt 6:22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!
 - e. Must guard what enters the lamp of our heart—>**You know your weakness— you must guard those weakness!**
3. **boastful pride of life**—>Referencing one that who brags about his deeds & goods
- C. John states: "[these are] not from the Father, but is from the world."
- 1. Opposite of Christlikeness— all are sins of the flesh!
- D. Issue that John is bringing out here —> you cannot love the things that Satan gives and continue to claim to be a lover of Christ, and adopted son of God the Father!

IV. CONCLUSION OF THE WORLD

- A. 1Jo 2:17 **And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.**
- B. May make your boast in your own power and things of this world, but the ultimate conclusion to all that is in the world; and all your stuff, is that **it is passing away!**
- C. "And the world is passing away along with its desires"
 - 1. Nothing in this world is lasting, it is all temporary; None of it is steadfast
 - 2. None will pass through the river of death!
 - 3. **People, pleasures and desires are all fleeting**—> family, spouses, friends
- D. Putting ones trust and affection in this world will reap a harvest of instability and . . .
 - 1. **Cause you to stumble and fall into sin** if your affection is above your love for God!
 - 2. love in the world will conclude just like the world.—>You will perish
- E. Things of this world do not compare to what awaits in the next
 - 1. Ro 8:18 **For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory** that is to be revealed to us.
 - 2. Why? 1Co 7:31 . . .For the present form of this world is passing away.
- F. **passing away along with its desires**
 - 1. DESIRES OR LUSTS in this world will pass away along with all else in this world
 - 2. Desires for things in this world will be meaningless in the world to come!

G. John then gives the Greater Conclusion of the one that loves and obeys God!

1. “but whoever does the will of God abides forever.”
2. What is the conclusion of a life that loved God sacrificially? Eternal Life!

H. Those that seek to live out God’s will in their daily lives are in direct contrast to the temporary and passing away world!

I. God’s will is steadfast– it never changes--live according to God’s will→live eternally

J. Conclusion to a life lived for Christ is Eternal reward, But those that live for the world will inherit eternal death!

K. Believers who spend their lives chasing worldly passions will suffer loss in the day of the Lord

1. 1Co 3:15 If anyone’s work is burned up, he **will suffer loss**, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

2. “Why would we love those things that are only temporary and will not last?”

L. 2Co 4:17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 2Co 4:18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

1. Light affliction → glory
2. Seen things → temporal
3. Unseen things → eternal

M. True Child of God is secure

1. Possess eternal life
2. But many in that day who have professed name of Christ with their mouth but loved the world in their hearts and life will be surprised to hear what Christ has to say:
3. Mt 7:21 ¶ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the **one who does the will of my Father** who is in heaven.

N. We must be as Peter commanded: 1Pe 4:1 ¶ Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, **arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.**

O. True believer will live life in harmony with the will of God and their fellowship with Him will be forever!

V. Discussion Questions

- A. How easy is it to get caught up in the love of the world?
- B. What are some beginning symptoms of loving the world?
- C. What are some things in the world that can become agents of lust?
- D. What is it that you are most tempted to love more than God?
- E. What must you do not to become a victim?