

Love Not the World

Text: *I John 2:15-17*--Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Colossians 3:1-4--If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.² Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. ³For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.⁴ When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. ¹⁴Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Introduction: Prelude to Warning or Admonishment- Addressed to ALL AGES and ALL Levels of Maturity within the Church: I John 2:12-14 I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake. **13** I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father. **14** I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one. LOVE NOT THE WORLD NEITHER THE THINGS THAT ARE IN THE WORLD--- IF ANY MAN LOVE THE WORLD, THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IS NOT IN HIM...

I. God commands us to love many things

- 1) Love the Lord-Matt 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
- 2) Matt 22:39- Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.
- 3) Love your Brother- I John 2:10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him I John 3:23-And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment
- 4) Love among the Family Unit: Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; Titus 2:4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, Children—Honor thy Father and thy Mother
- 5) Love your Enemies-Matt 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

II. Why does God warn and commandment His People NOT to LOVE THE WORLD!

- 1) The World is evil and controlled by the devil and the evil enemies of God
- 2) The World will draw us away from God--The World is full of dangerous traps and hidden pits that cause eternal havoc upon the immortal soul.

Mathew Henry: *If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him*, v. 15. The heart of man is narrow, and cannot contain both loves. The world draws down the heart from God; and so the more the love of the world prevails the more the love of God dwindles and decays.

- 3) The World is transitory and temporary-fleeting and not a lasting foundation as it proclaims to be---THEREFORE IT IS FALSELY ADVERTISED--
- 4) The World System hates the Church and all Christians—I John 3:13 Marvel not, my Brethren, if the world hates you—Scoffers to the gospel and the message of God

- 5) This World System is marked by God for destruction, including all who are within its boundaries Sodom and Gomorrah—Revelation

III. Briefly, Let's Look at the 3 Luring Creatures (Sirens) or the 3 Calls of the Wild or the 3 Avenues of Evil – that we are Warned to Hate and Stay Away from:

Hebrews 11:24-27- By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; ²⁵ Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season... ²⁷ By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

- 1) Lust of the Flesh: wrong desires of the heart; the appetite of indulging all things that inflame sensual pleasures... ONE OF THE WORLD'S APPLES IN THE GARDEN OF EARTHLY LIFE--IT IS WISE NOT TO TURN DOWN A MUDDY ROAD---
- 2) Lust of the Eyes: COVETOUSNESS... ALMOST EVERY TV COMMERCIAL, BILLBOARDS, MOVIES; TV SHOWS; CARS; HUSBANDS; WIVES, and ...ON AND ON....
- 3) Pride of Life: MOST DECEPTIVE OF ALL--- FIRST 2 ARE WITHOUT---THIS ONE IS WITHIN—READY TO SURFACE IF WE DON'T GUARD OUR HEARTS
...THIRSTING AFTER HONOR AND APPLAUSE
...PHARISEE SPIRIT DESIRING THE HIGHEST PLACES OF HONOR
...DESIRE FOR FAME OR FAMILY LEGACIES
...THINKING TOO HIGHLY OF ONESELF
...THINKING TOO HIGHLY OF ONE'S JOB OR ONE'S HOME OR ONE'S BANK ACCOUNT
...PROUD AND SITTING ON THE THRONE OF ONE'S HEART—ABOVE THE SCRIPTURAL TEACHING OF DISCIPLESHIP- -SEEKING TO MAKE YOUR OWN RULES
...PURITAN SAYING--- DON'T BUILD YOUR NEST IN THE TREES DOWN HERE

IV. Closing: God's Warning is: DANGER, DANGER, DANGER. ...REMEMBER--- the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Titus 2:11-13—For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, ¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; ¹³ Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.