

Key Christian Passages: 1 John 2:15-17

Do Not Love the World

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

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ONE COMMAND

1. I Am Not to Be Loving the World or Any Part of the World (15a)

- Present tense command (*continually keep yourselves from*)
- The meaning of “Love”:

What is HATE?: Luke 14:26 "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."

- *Choosing to set your focus and affection upon something.*
- Love is expressed NOT by what I **feel**, but what I **choose** to do (my focus, my time, my effort & energy, my money, etc.).

FOUR REASONS

1. Inability: I Cannot Love the World and Love God (15b)

- Love is exclusive at each level – you cannot focus on 2 “loves” at the same time.
- Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."
- Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Compatibility: These Things Do Not Come from God (16)

- Lust of the flesh – living by what feels good
- Lust of the eyes – living by what looks good
- Pride of life – living by what makes me look good

3. Investment: These Things Do Not Last (17a)

- The world is passing away
- The lust of the world is passing away

4. Eternity: Doing What God Wants Makes the Difference (17b)

- Is Doing (“love”)
- Is Abiding (“focus”)
- Where? Into the forever (the realm of what lasts)