

Life Verses

Who Do You Love?

1 John 2:15-17

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. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

MAIN IDEAS

- The opening command: Do not love the world, v. 15
- The description: This is what loving the world looks like, v. 16
- The promise: he who does the will of God lasts forever, v. 17

Define the different meanings of the word “world” as it is used in Psalm 24:1, John 3:16, and Ephesians 2:1-2. Which meaning is 1 John 2:15-17 using?

Why can't we be friends with the world, according to James 4:4? Why is this the case, according to 2 Corinthians 4:4 and Matthew 6:24?

Compare the progression of lust in Genesis 3:1-7, Matthew 5:27-28, and James 1:14-15. How do we combat this according to Matthew 6:33, Psalm 1, and James 4:7-8?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

How do you set the course of your future or make decisions about your life? Are they based on a love for God or a love of the world?

Where are you desiring the world more than God (money, status, family, job, etc.)? What will you do to change that?

A desire for affirmation can drive many of the things we do. If you could never tell anyone about your works or good deeds, would you still do them?

Our love for God is revealed by our obedience to His Word (1 John 5:3, John 14:15, 23-24). Obedience is the measure of our love. Does your life say, "I love you, Lord"? Why is God worthy of our love?

Pray:

- Adoration to God for who He is and all He has done.
- Confession for the times you loved the world more than God.
- Thanksgiving to God for rescuing you from the world (Ephesians 2:1-7).
- For the Holy Spirit to help you change your desires to be for God and not the world. Ask Him to help you to choose God first every day.

REPRODUCE

If you have committed to desiring God more than the world, who can you share that commitment with so that they can walk alongside you?

Conversely, is there someone you could encourage in their commitment to set aside the desires of this world for God?

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- 1 John 2:15-17
- Psalm 24:1
- Ephesians 2:1-7
- John 3:16

Additional verse from the study:

- James 4:4, 7-8
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Matthew 6:24
- Genesis 3:1-7
- Matthew 5:27-28
- James 1:14-15
- Matthew 6:33
- Psalm 1