



# What Holds Your Heart?

*1 John 2:15-17*





## *Where we've traveled*

- John is the author
- John is writing to clear up confusion that false teachers have caused.
- John reminds the believers of His first hand account of the Gospel and its power and the basics of Christian life. He also knows the cost of discipleship.
- As was common in this time, John is spelling things out in clear black and white distinctive such as: light and dark, truth and falsehood, love and hate.
- Mixed congregation of maturity levels

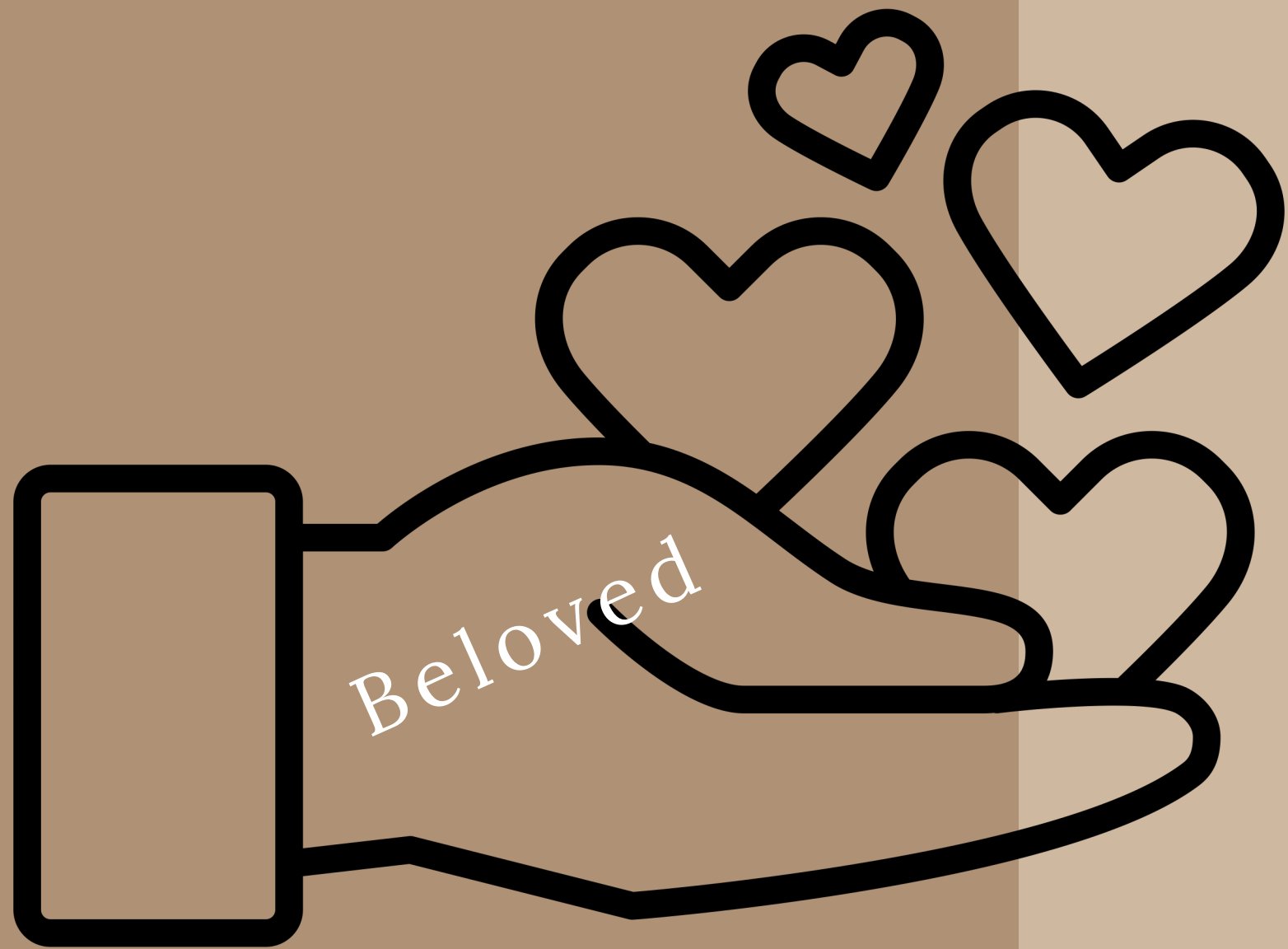


# Losing Sight





# Backdrop of our entrance today



- 1 John is all about clarifying God's love for us, what He did for us, and who we are!
- John makes a shift into warning
- "Anything that moves the heart away from loving Christ and loving others is to be viewed as suspect and diversionary." TPT

"Because of who you are, be careful what you love..." *Darryl Dash*

*...and where you place your security!*

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# 1 John 2:15-17

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 desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life- is not from the Father but is from the world.

17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. (ESV)

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# 1 John 2:15-17

15 Do not love the world or the things of the world, then love for the Father is not in him;

16 because all the things of the world- the desires of the old nature, the desires of the eyes, and the pretensions of life- are not from the Father but from the world.

17 And the world is passing away, along with its desires. But whoever does God's will remains forever. (The Complete Jewish Bible)

# Definitions



## Love- Agapao

- Show love
- Demonstrate love
- Take pleasure in
- **To love based on its regarded value**

## World- Cosmos

- “Human Society in so far as it is organized on wrong principles, and characterized by base desires, false values, and egoism.”

C. H. Dodd

- “Worldly values or attitudes that are opposed to God” Colin G. Kruse
- ungodly people alienated from God.



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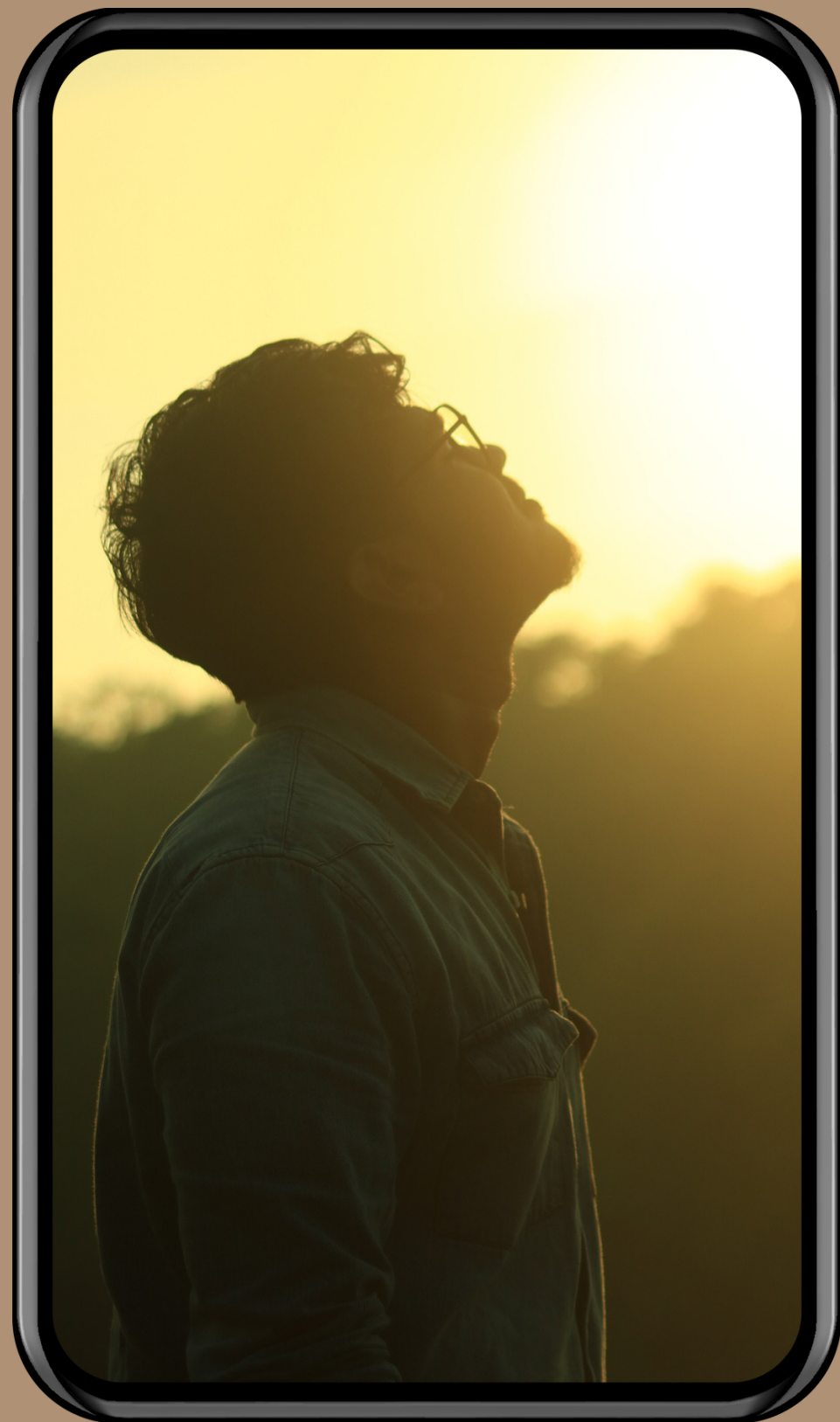
What does this  
verse **NOT** mean?

**We do not hate the created  
world!**

**We do not hate the people in  
the world!**







# What **DOES** this verse mean?

- We are not to have a love based on valuing those things that the world values.
- We are not to have our focus on our pleasure and gratification from the world and the things in it rather than on God.
- When we are filled with love for the world then we can't be completely loyal and filled with love for the Father. Our hearts are divided!

*1 John 2:15 WARNING!*

# 1 John 2:16 What is love of the world?

*“For all that is in the world- the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life- is not from the Father but is from the world.” (ESV)*



Desires of the flesh



Desires of the eyes



Pride of Life

## Desires- Epithymia

- Lust after
- Craving

- desire for what is forbidden
- a longing



# Definitions



## Desires of the flesh

Flesh- Sars

- The body of man
- the sensuous nature of man.
- the animal nature with cravings which incite sin.

William Barclay

- Lives dominated by senses
- pleasure at the expense of another.



## Desires of the eyes

Eyes- Ophthalmos

William Barclay

- desires to acquire that which they see
- values material possessions
- Happiness comes from the things which money can buy



## Pride of Life

Pride- Alazoneia

- empty, braggart talk
- an insolent and empty assurance, which trusts in its own power and resources and shamefully despises and violates divine laws and human rights.
- Wants to impress

**Kingdom of the  
World under the  
rule of Satan**

**The Kingdom of  
God under God's  
rule and authority**

**Bi-une Beings**

**Tri-une Beings**

World/Evil value  
system  
All about self-  
gratification

God's value  
system  
All about God and  
others

**Clash of Worlds/Kingdoms**



# Age Old Battle



*So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit...*

Genesis 3:6



The Temptation of Christ

Matthew 4



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# What is the issue for us today?





# 1 John 2:17: What does the future hold?



Earthly Rewards



Eternal Rewards

It's all about our choices!



# The Question for Us today: “What Holds Your Heart?”

*Chose God and His Kingdom*