

How the phrase “The World” is used in the Bible

#1 – To refer to the physical / created world we see & enjoy.

This includes the PHYSICAL world we know as the earth, sky, sun & moon, outer space & galaxies, etc.

See Psalm 89:11, 90:2, & Acts 17:24.

#2 – To refer to the people of the world who do NOT know the Lord.

Jesus separated “the world” from “believers”.

See John 15:18 & 17:14.

Jesus spoke of the created world and the world of unsaved people.

See John 1:10.

The Lord referred to all people of the world carefully.

See Psalm 33:8, 49:1, & 98:7.

The church, all believers, is never referred to as “the world”.

See Luke 16:8.

#3 – To refer to the thinking / mindset of the world.

On the one hand, we are commanded by God to love all people in the world.

See John 3:16 & Matthew 5:43. 44.

On the other hand, the Lord has commanded us to not love the world.

See 1 John 2:15, 16 & Romans 12:2.

#4 – To refer to all people when people of the world are speaking.

This only occurs a couple of times.

See Luke 2:1 & John 12:19.