

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 AM**  
**AUTHENTIC FAITH: The Love God Hate's 5**  
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**WE ARE TO NOT LOVE THE WORLD . . . BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD IS.**

A system that opposes God.

**WE ARE TO NOT LOVE THE WORLD . . . BECAUSE OF WHAT IT DOES TO US.**

Tempts us to live worldly lives.

**WE ARE TO NOT LOVE THE WORLD . . . BECAUSE OF WHAT A CHRISTIAN IS.**

Born of God and maturing in our relationship with Him to withstand the temptations.

**FOCAL PASSAGE: I John 2:12-17**

*<sup>12</sup> I am writing to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. <sup>13</sup> I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. <sup>14</sup> I write to you, dear children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one. <sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*

**WE ARE NOT TO LOVE THE WORLD . . .**

**BECAUSE OF WHERE THE WORLD IS \_\_\_\_\_**

**I John 2:17**

*<sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away,*

--This world is NOT permanent! The only sure thing about this world system is that it is not going to be here forever. One day the system will be gone, and the pleasant attractions within it will be gone: all are passing away.

**Revelation 21:1-4**

*<sup>1</sup> Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There*

***will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."***

**1. WHAT IS GOING TO \_\_\_\_\_?**

--Only what is part of the will of God! Authentic mature Spiritual Christians keep themselves "loosely attached" to this world because they live for something far better. They are "strangers and pilgrims on the earth." (**Hebrews 11:13**) In the Bible times, many believers live in tents because God did not want them to settle down and feel at home in this world.

**2. TWO \_\_\_\_\_ OF LIFE CONTRASTED**

--John is contrasting two ways of life: a life lived for eternity and a life lived for time. A worldly person lives for pleasures of the flesh, but a dedicated Christian lives for the joys of the Spirit. A worldly believer lives for what he can see, the lust of the eyes; but the spiritual believer lives for the unseen realities of God.

**II Corinthian 4:8-18**

***<sup>8</sup> We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. <sup>10</sup> We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. <sup>11</sup> For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. <sup>12</sup> So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. <sup>13</sup> It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, <sup>14</sup> because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. <sup>15</sup> All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. <sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.***

--A worldly minded person lives for the pride of life, the vainglory that appeals to men; but a Christian who does the will of God lives for God's approval – and he abides forever!

**3. HISTORY SUPPORTS THE WORLD'S \_\_\_\_\_**

--Every great nation in history has become self-indulgent and in moral decline and has finally been conquered by another nation. There is no reason why we should suppose that our

nation will be an exception. Some 19 world civilizations, in the past, have slipped into oblivion. Again there is no reason to think that our present civilization will endure forever.

--We are told here in verse 17 that Christians who dedicate themselves to doing God's Will—to obeying God—**“live (remain) forever.”** Long after this world system, with its vaunted culture, its proud philosophies, its egocentric intellectualism, and its godless materialism, had been forgotten, and long after this planet has been replaced by the new heavens and the new earth, faithful servants will remain—sharing the glory of God for all eternity.

## WHAT'S IN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR THE BELIEVER

### I John 2:17

***<sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.***

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ THE WILL OF GOD

--One of the “fringe benefits” of salvation is the privilege of knowing God's Will.

### Acts 22:14

***<sup>14</sup> “Then he said: ‘The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth.’***

--In fact God wants us to be **“filled with the knowledge of His will”** (Colossians 1:9).

--The will of God is not something we consult occasionally like an encyclopedia. It is something that completely controls (or should) our lives. The issue for authentic dedicated Christians is not simply, “Is it right or wrong? Or Is it good or bad?” but “Is it the will of God for me?”

### II Peter 3:19

***<sup>19</sup> The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.***

#### 2. GOD WANTS US TO \_\_\_\_\_ HIS WILL

### Ephesians 5:17

***<sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.***

### Psalms 103:7

***<sup>7</sup> He made known His ways unto Moses, His acts unto the children of Israel.***

--Israel knew what God was doing, but Moses knew why He was doing it. It is important we understand God's will for our lives and see the purpose He is fulfilling.

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ GOD'S WILL

--After we know the Will of God, we should do it from the heart.

#### **Ephesian 6:6**

***<sup>6</sup> Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.***

--It is not by talking about the Lord's will that we please Him, but by doing what He tells us.

#### **Matthew 7:21**

***<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.***

#### **James 1:22**

***<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.***

--Realize, the more we obey God, the better we are to find and follow God's will.

#### **Romans 12:2**

***<sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.***

--The more we obey God, the more successful we become in knowing what He wants us to do. God's goal for us is that we will **"stand . . . complete in all the will of God"** (Colossians 4:12). This means to be mature in God's Will. Little children ask what is right or wrong or what their parents want them to do – but as they mature they learn what their parents expect.

### 4. \_\_\_\_\_ THE WILL OF GOD

--How do we discover the will of God?

A. **SURRENDER** – It begins with surrendering yourself to God.

#### **Romans 12:1-2**

***<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer (PRESENT) your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>***

***Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve (BY EXPERIENCE) what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.***

--A Christian who loves the world will never know the will of God in this way. God's will is not something we get to choose what we want to do and ignore other. We must be fully obedient to His Will through personal surrender.

B. **WORD** – God reveals His will to us through His Word.

**Psalms 119:105**

***<sup>105</sup> Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.***

--A worldly believer has no appetite for the Bible. When he reads it, he gets little out of it because it is Spiritually revealed. Remember how Jesus defeated the devil in the wilderness? Why it is important to have a quiet time and spend time in God's word each day?

C. **CIRCUMSTANCE** – We may also learn God's will through circumstances.

--God moves in wonderful ways to open and close doors. When relying on circumstances we must rely on the Word and test every inclination of our heart to make sure it is indeed God's Will. Judges 6, Gideon fleecing the Lord.

D. **PRAYER** – Finally, God leads us into His will through prayer and the working of His Holy Spirit in our hearts.

--As we pray about a decision, the Spirit speaks to us in an "inner voice" that will line up with His Word and circumstances. Always test the "inner voice" by the Bible for it is possible for the flesh to use circumstances—or "feelings"—to lead us completely astray. Lastly anything that robs a Christian of his enjoyment of the Father's love, or of his desire to do the Father's will, is worldly and must be avoided.

**LOVE FOR THE WORLD IS THE LOVE THAT GOD HATES.  
IT IS A LOVE CHRISTIANS MUST SHUN AT ALL COSTS.**

**LIVE IT OUT**

- What tactic or tool is Satan using to draw you into the world?
- How important is God's will to you?
- Are you following God's will this morning?