

Sunday, August 24, 2025 AM  
AUTHENTIC FAITH: The Love God Hates  
Mike Teel, Pastor

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 to hate the world . . .

BECAUSE OF \_\_\_\_\_ THE WORLD \_\_\_\_\_.

I John 2:15a

<sup>15</sup> *Do not love the world or anything in the world.*

1. WHAT DO WE \_\_\_\_\_ BY THE PHRASE “THE WORLD”?

- The NT word “world” has at least three different meanings.
- It sometimes means the physical world, the earth.

Acts 17:24

<sup>24</sup> *“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands.*

2. WHAT DID THE \_\_\_\_\_ MEAN?

- The warning, “love not the world!” is not about the world of nature or the world of men.
- And we certainly should love other people – not just our friends, but even our enemies, as we have studied the past few weeks.

3. WHAT IS \_\_\_\_\_ BY THE WORD “WORLD”?

- This “world” named here as our enemy is an invisible spiritual system opposed to God and Christ.
- It is an organized system, made up of a set of ideas, people, activities, purposes, etc.
- “The world,” in the Bible, is Satan’s system for opposing the work of Christ on earth.
- The Bible also tells us that Satan is called the Prince of this world (John 12:31) and that he has an organization of evil spirits working with him and influencing the affairs of this world.

## **Ephesians 6:11-12**

**<sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.**

### **4. \_\_\_\_\_ PLAN**

- Just as the Holy Spirit uses people to accomplish God's will on earth, so Satan uses people to fulfill his evil purposes.
- When Jesus was here on earth, the people of "this world" did not understand Him, nor do they now understand those of us who trust Him.

## **I John 3:1**

**<sup>1</sup> See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.**

- An Authentic Christian is a member of the human world, and he lives in the physical world, but he does not belong to the spiritual world that is Satan's system for opposing God.

## **John 15:18**

**<sup>18</sup> "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.**

- Please understand just like Satan desires to use "his" children of this world to oppose Jesus, he also has his sights set on those of us who belong to Christ.

**We are to hate the world . . .**

**BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_.**

## **I John 2:15b**

**<sup>15</sup> If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.**

### **1. WORLDLINESS IS A MATTER OF THE \_\_\_\_\_**

- Worldliness is not so much a matter of activity as of attitude.
- John is basically telling us a Christian who loves the world's system and the things that are in it, has a struggle loving God.

### **2. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF WORLDLINESS**

- Consider this: worldliness not only affects your response to the love of God; it also affects your response to the will of God.
- Doing the will of God is a joy for those living in the love and dedication of God.
- But when a believer loses his devotional enjoyment / joy of the Father's love, he finds it hard to obey the Father's will.
- When you put these two things together, you have a practical definition of worldliness: anything in a Christians' life that causes him to lose his enjoyment and devotion of the Father's love or his desire to do the Father's will is worldly and must be avoided.

### 3. LOVING \_\_\_\_\_ VERSUS LOVING THE \_\_\_\_\_

- In recent weeks we have learned that God desires us to love him and love others.

#### Matthew 22:37-40

<sup>37</sup> *Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’*

<sup>38</sup> *This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’*

<sup>40</sup> *All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”*

- Jesus is citing two Old Testament verses:

#### Deuteronomy 6:5

<sup>5</sup> *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.*

#### Leviticus 19:18

<sup>18</sup> *“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.*

- So how are we to love God since we are being told that if we love the world we will not be able to love God appropriately?
- Let's go back and look at the law of first use.
- The Hebrew word “love” is **ahav** or **ahava** and is found the first time in **Genesis 22:2**.

#### Genesis 22:2

<sup>2</sup> *Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you “love”—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”*

- What type of love is the love that Abraham had for his son? He loved him devotedly, completely, affectionately, as a loving father (family), obviously sacrificially.
- What kind of love is devotional love?
- This is how God desires that we love Him – totally complete and devotionally!
- Remember Satan has a will for your life just like God has a will for you. And the battle is fierce!

### LIVE IT OUT

- > Whose side have you chosen to be a part of Satan's or God's?
- > Which god have you committed your devotional love to today?
- > Have you been sucked into the worldly lifestyle?