

# The Enemies of Fellowship

1 John 2:15-27  
Fellowship With God, Part 4  
Pastor Dan Cymbal

## I) PROOF THAT WE HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.

- 1) **BELIEVE:** Your **BELIEFS** change. Do you believe Jesus is the eternal God who became a man to die for our sins? (1 John 1:1-7)
- 2) **BEHAVE:** Your **LIFESTYLE** changes. Do you admit you are a sinner and you want to stop sinning and live a holy life like Jesus? (1 John 1:8-2:6)  
Do you resist the devil when tempted? (1 John 2:14)
- 3) **BELONG:** Your **RELATIONSHIPS** change. Do you receive God's love and in response love him and love others? (1 John 2:7-11)

## II) PROOF THAT WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM. (1 John 2:15-17)

### 1) Not loving the WORLD.

Kosmos:           ✓ Planet Earth (Acts 17:24)  
                      ✓ Humankind (John 3:16)  
                      ✓ Human culture as influenced by Satan (1 John 2:15-17/Philippians 3:18-20)

Big Idea:           The "world" represents the systems of values, priorities, and beliefs that unbelievers hold that exclude God. It is any sphere where God is not welcome.

Three Sources of Worldly Temptation:

- **Lust of the FLESH.**

Apostle Paul

*"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."*(Galatians 5:19-21)

- **Lust of the EYES.**

David

*"And it came to pass in an evening, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon."* (2 Samuel 11:2)

- **Pride of LIFE.**

Lucifer

*"I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."*  
(Isaiah 14:14)

Examples of this Infernal Trinity:

- **EVE'S Temptation by Satan**

“So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food **[lust of the flesh]**, that it was pleasant to the eyes **[lust of the eyes]**, and a tree desirable to make one wise **[the pride of life]**, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.” (Genesis 3:6)

- **JESUS’ Temptation by Satan**

The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread **[lust of the flesh]**.” Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone **[the pride of life]**.’” Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor **[the lust of the eyes]**. “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” (Matthew 4:3-10)

THE CHRISTIAN’S THREE-FOLD ENEMY	
The Problem	The Solution
<p><b>The Devil</b> (2:14) (1 Peter 5:8)</p>	<p><b>Resist</b> (1 Peter 5:9)</p>
<p><b>The World</b> (2:15) (1 John 2:15-17) Lust of the Flesh Lust of the Eyes Pride of Life</p>	<p><b>Flee</b> (1 Timothy 6:11) (2 Timothy 2:22)</p>
<p><b>The Flesh</b> (2:16) (Romans 7:18-24)</p>	<p><b>Deny</b> (Romans 6:12-13; 8:13)</p>

## 2) Overcoming the **ANTICHRISTS** (2:18-27)

Contrary to popular belief, the word “antichrist” does not occur in the book of Revelation. The word “antichrist” does occur five times in the New Testament, though only in the books of 1 John and 2 John.

In one of these five occurrences, John uses the plural form “antichrists.” So, whoever is meant by this word, there is more than one of them. (1 John 2:18)

John also speaks of the coming of these “many antichrists” as a past event. (1 John 2:18)

While John does not explicitly rule out the possibility of any future antichrists, neither does he predict the appearance of a future arch-antichrist.

*Anti* can mean substitution or opposition. It can mean, both “against” Christ and “instead of” Christ.

Summary: While the term may be used in Scripture to refer to the enemy, it is also used to refer to anything or anyone that is contrary to the gospel message and person of Christ.

**What is the goal of antichrists?** To pull you away from FELLOWSHIP with God.

**How is this goal accomplished?** By enticing believers with LOVE FOR THE WORLD.

**What is the proof of an antichrist?**

a) Antichrists do not “abide” (continue) in the FELLOWSHIP (2:18-19)

Christians “abide” in the...  
✓ WORD (2:14)  
✓ WILL of God (2:17)  
✓ SPIRIT of God (2:20, 27)

b) Antichrists deny JESUS (2:22-23)

Christians “abide” in the SON and in the Father (2:24)

c) Antichrists seek to DECEIVE the FAITHFUL (2:26-27)

Christians “abide” in THE ANOINTING of the Holy Spirit (2:27)

Our Best Friend provides:

- ✓ Rest (Isaiah 63:14).
- ✓ Power (1 Corinthians 3:17)
- ✓ Freedom (Romans 8:9 / 2 Corinthians 3:17)
- ✓ Biblical Understanding (John 14:26)
- ✓ Conviction of Sin (John 16:8 / Isaiah 30:21)
- ✓ Direction (Romans 8:26-27)
- ✓ Ministry (Luke 4:18-19)

# I John: Fellowship with God

The Foundations of Fellowship		The Functions of Fellowship	
The Conditions of Fellowship	The Cautions of Fellowship	The Character of Fellowship	The Confidence of Fellowship
<p>How to Know You Have Fellowship: Joy Walking in the Light Forgiveness</p>	<p>What to Avoid to Have Fellowship: Worldliness Antichrists Walking Away</p>	<p>What True Fellowship Looks Like: Righteousness Love Discernment</p>	<p>What True Fellowship Does: Overcomes Assures Secures</p>
1:1-2:14	2:15-2:27	2:28-4:21	5:1-5:21

God is . . . . Life . . . . Light . . . . Love

Author: The Apostle John

Date: Between 85-95 A.O.

Key Verses: IJohn 1:3, 2:25, 5:13