

Do Not Love this World

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Philadelphia Church

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1 John 2:15-17 NKJV

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 lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

John 17:15 NKJV

I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

John 3:16 NKJV

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

TRUTH:

We can't love the Lord
and this world at the same time.

1 John 2:17 NKJV

And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

World noun

“Values and desires that rebel against God”

Three Traps

1. Lust of the flesh (sinful appetite)
2. Lust of the eyes (covetousness, materialism)
3. Pride of life (arrogance, self-sufficiency)

Genesis 3:6-7 NKJV

So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

1 John 2:15 NKJV

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.

Psalm 116:1-2 NLT

- ¹ I love the LORD because he hears my voice
and my prayer for mercy.
- ² Because he bends down to listen,
I will pray as long as I have breath!

Question:

Ultimately, what do I live for?

1 John 2:16 NKJV

For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

Desire / Lust noun

“epithumia” (Greek)

A longing or intense desire for something.

Psalm 119:11 NKJV

¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my heart,
That I might not sin against You.

1 John 2:17 NKJV

And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

Question:

It's not wrong to have things.
The issue is... do the things "have" us?

Truth:

Love for this world leads to destruction and emptiness.

It causes separation from God and attaches us to things that will disappoint and come to an end.

Truth:

We will lose everything at the end of this life
but we will have Christ for eternity.

Luke 9:23-25 NKJV

Then He said to *them* all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. ²⁴ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. ²⁵ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost?