

Wednesday in the Word

Digging Deeper

October 27, 2021

Love Not

1 John 2:15-17 KJVS

[15] Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16] For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. [17] And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

15] Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

What kind of love are we talking here? Love, in verse 15 is the Greek, Agapao. It is the social, moral, unconditional love that God has for us (John 3:16) and that which we are to have for Him. John (the Apostle of Love) is warning us not to love the world or it's things with the love reserved only for God and His people. It is an absolute love, not a relative love. We cannot say we love God 'more' than the world. It is not a sliding scale. We cannot love our spouse 'more' than others but fully instead of them. That is God's picture in marriage. See Romans 12:2, Galatians 1:4 and James 4:4. We have a choice to make. Specifically we ought to love the created earth and its people as God relates to us in John 3:16. These He made to be loved and enjoyed in their proper context. What we must not love is the world system with its possessions, positions and pleasures. Contrast this with 2 Corinthians 6:3-10.

[16] For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

We see here three types of temptations and can compare the direction these evils take when applied both to humanity and to the Lord Jesus Christ. The lust of the flesh relating to our physical, early appetites, the lust of the eyes which tempt our souls and the pride of life which speaks to our human spirit. We find these applied to our original archetypal parents in Genesis 3:6. The root of the attack is stated in James 3:15. We then view them offered to Christ in Luke 4:2-13. Notice this; Jesus, though He is the Perfect and Miraculous Savior did not use His Divine position to fend off evil. He set for us an example that any one of us can copy. He quoted scripture and resisted the evil one. Psalm 119:11 and James 4:7. We can do this!

[17] And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

The Greek Word for 'passeth away' is parago which is to be led away. The world is passing away because the Holy Spirit is leading it away, having destined it for destruction. 2 Peter 3:7,10, Romans 8:18-23. Notice our destiny is uniquely different. Our lusts will pass away as well. If you are not in His will now, then get there. All it takes is confession and repentance. He'll do the rest. 1 John 1:9.