

The Christian's Relationship to the World

Lesson Outline

¹ John 2:15 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.

1. The term _____ (Gk kosmos) often refers to the vast system of this age that Satan promotes and exists independent of God. It consists of the obviously evil, immoral, and sinful lifestyle and the values of the world, but also refers to the spirit of rebellion against or indifference to God and his revelation that exists within all human enterprises not under Christ's lordship. The _____ also includes all man-made religious systems and unbiblical, worldly, or lukewarm "Christian" organizations and churches. (1 John 2:15-16)
2. Satan the adversary is the god of this present world system. His kingdom is a highly systemized empire of evil that he has authority over. Satan has influence in the world and uses the things of the world against Christ and the church. All who are without Christ are controlled by "the _____ of the power of the air" (Ephesians 2:2, John 14:30)
3. Believers are the called-out ones from the world who are exhorted to no longer be conformed to this world. In the world believers are strangers and _____. (Roman 12:2, John 15:19, 1Peter 2:11)
4. To love the world means to be in intimate fellowship with and devoted to its values, interest, ways, and pleasures; It means taking pleasure in or enjoying what is offensive and opposed to God. Friendship with the world is considered _____ adultery and leads to _____ destruction. (Matthew 6:24 and James 4:4)
5. The world and the true church are two distinct groups of people. The world is under Satan's dominion; the true church belongs exclusively to God. Therefore, believers must separate themselves from the world system to keep themselves unspotted from the _____. (2 Cor 4:4, James 1:27)
6. According to John 2:16, three aspects of the sinful world create open hostility to God: a.) the _____, b.) the _____ and c.) the _____.
7. _____ should not be yoked with those who participate in the world's evil system. (2 Cor 6:14)
8. The world system is temporary and will be destroyed by _____. Even now it is in the process of passing away. (2 Peter 2:10, 1 John 2:1)