

WORLDLINESS, THE CURSE OF PROFESSED CHRISTIANS

TEXT:

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.

INTRODUCTION:



Since LOVE is so precious a possession in the Christian's life, our Lord is cautioning us to keep that love channeled rightly. He cautions us not to let our LOVE flow in two wrong directions.

- a. **LOVE NOT THE WORLD**
- b. **Neither the things that are in the world. (things of a worldly nature)**

1. What does **WORLD** have reference to? It is of this earth on which we dwell.

- a. ***Matthew 24:14: This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come.***
- b. ***Matthew 26:13: Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this Gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman [Mary] done [anointed Jesus' feet], be told for a memorial of her.***
- c. ***Mark 16:15: And He said unto them, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."***



d. John 13:1: *Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved His Own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.*

e. John 17:15: *I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil. [Jesus speaking to His Father]*



f. John 17:18: *As Thou hast sent Me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.*

g. John 21:25: *And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.*

h. 1 Corinthians 7:31: *And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.*

i. Titus 2:14: *Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

2. The WORLD in this verse means this WORLD'S SYSTEM ruled by satan and sinners.

a. John 1:10: *He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not.*

b. John 7:7: *The world cannot hate you; but Me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.*

c. John 8:23: *And He said unto them, "Ye are from beneath; I am from above [Heaven]: ye are of this world; I am not of this world."*

d. John 14:17: *Even the Spirit of Truth; Whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

e. John 14:27: Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

f. John 15:18-19:

¹⁸ If the world hate you, ye know that it hated Me before it hated you.

¹⁹ If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.



g. John 16:8: And when He [the Holy Spirit] is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

h. John 16:20: Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

i. John 16:33: These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

j. John 17:9: I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou [My Father] hast given Me; for they are Thine.

k. John 18:36: Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not of this world: if My Kingdom were of this world, then would My servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is My Kingdom not from hence."

l. Acts 17:31: Because He [God] hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man [Jesus] Whom He [God] hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He [God] hath raised Him [Jesus] from the dead.

m. Romans 3:19: Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

- n. Romans 12:2: And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, Will of God.**
- o. 1 Corinthians 2:12: Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.**
- p. 2 Corinthians 6:17-18:**
 - ¹⁷ “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,” saith the Lord, “and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.**
 - ¹⁸ And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters,” saith the Lord Almighty.**
- q. 2 Corinthians 4:4: In whom the god of this world [satan] hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the Glorious Gospel of Christ, Who is the Image of God, should shine unto them.**
- r. Galatians 1:4: Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the Will of God and our Father:**
- s. Galatians 6:14: But God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom the world is crucified unto Me, and I unto the world.**
- t. Ephesians 2:2: Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air [satan], the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:**
- u. 2 Timothy 2:4: No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him Who hath chosen him to be a soldier.**
- v. 2 Timothy 4:10: For Demas hath forsaken me [Timothy] having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.**
- w. Colossians 2:8: Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.**



- x. **Colossians 2:20: Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,**
- y. **James 4:4: Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**

3. What does the WORLD have reference to?

It refers to the INHABITANTS of the world who are possessed by the spirit of the devil and are influenced by the devil. In **John 15:18**, we see the world is placed on one side, and those who are not of the world are on the other side.

John 15:18: If the world hate you, ye know that it hated Me before it hated you.

Those who do not know God are the World, and the spirit that is in them is the spirit of the anti-Christ, and is anti-Christian.

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1 John 3:13: Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

We are not to expect any to love us, except those who have passed from death to life. It necessarily follows that those who have not passed from death to life are THE WORLD'S.

1 John 5:19: And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

4. What kind of FRIENDSHIP or RELATIONSHIP should we have with the world?

We may, and we should love them as ourselves, for they also are included in the commandment, **“Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”**

Leviticus 19:18: Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the Lord.

Mark 12:31: And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other Commandment greater than these.

We are to honor them as it says the Word of God in **1 Peter 2:17** as the creatures of God. Yes, even more so because they have an eternal or immortal spirit which needs to be saved from sin, satan, and self. Christ loves all mankind, and He tasted death for every man.

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Hebrews 2:9: But we see Jesus, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He, by the Grace of God, should taste death for every man.

When we see them headed for Hell and eternal destruction, we should warn them with tender compassion. We are never to willingly grieve their spirits, or to drive them away from God by unkind remarks. We are to seek to deliver them from the paths of the destroyer.

Psalms 17:4: Concerning the works of men, by the Word of Thy [The Lord's] lips I [David] have kept me from the paths of the destroyer.

Romans 15:2: Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification [instruction].

Jude 2: Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

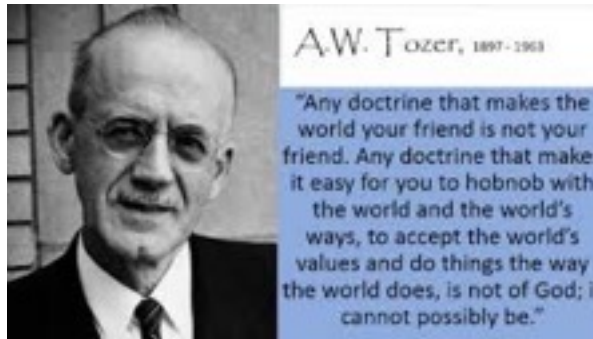
5. What kind of FRIENDSHIP may we NOT HAVE with the world?

- a.** Such as would encourage us to partake in their sins.

We are not to associate with them as to slide into conformity with their worldly pleasures and pursuits. We are not to be with them any more than is necessary. When Jehoshaphat forgot this, he was reproved of the Lord, first. God sent Jehu, the son of Hanai the Seer, to meet him and said:



2 Chronicles 19:2b: Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? therefore is wrath on thee from before the Lord.



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.

Introduction:

- a. Matthew 16:26: For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**
- b. Matthew 13:22: He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the Word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the Word, and he becometh unfruitful.**
- c. Luke 8:14: And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.**



- d. Luke 21:34: And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.**
- e. 1 Corinthians 7:33: But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.**

- f. 2 Corinthians 6:17: Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing [unholy vain or polluted thing]; and I will receive you.**

- g. Colossians 3:2-3:**
 - ² Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.**
 - ³ For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.**

- h. 2 Timothy 2:4: No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him Who hath chosen him to be a soldier.**

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