



That You May Know Series, Part 4: Love Not the World, Beware It's Weapons.

Kent Vincent ~ February 3, 2019

Intro- God loves/ hates the 'world'. James 4:4

I. ENCOURAGEMENT- Vss 12-14

Vs. 12- We are Forgiven- Matthew 1:21; I John 1:9; Proverbs 18:10

Vss 13-14- We Know the Father Who is from the Beginning- I John 2:23; John 1:1; I John 1:1

Vss 13-14- We are Victorious-

- Satan's 'stick'- Accusation/ Guilt- defeated by Christ on the cross- Romans 8:1
- Satan's 'carrot'- Temptation- defeated by reading and knowing God's Word which "abides in you" and empowers you to "overcome the evil one".

II. EXHORTATION- Vss 15-17

Love or Hate? Yes

Things the World Cannot Give Us:

Vs 15- What We Need-

- Heart follows 'treasure'- Matthew 6:21
- We cannot serve or love both God and the world- Matthew 6:24
- Which love do you want and need? Psalm 136

Vs 16- What it Promises-

- Those promises become our worldly desires which become weapons against us.
- Genesis 3; Luke 4
 - Appetite: Desire of the flesh-
 - Affections: Desires of the eyes-
 - Ambitions: Pride of life-

Vs 17- What Will Last-

- Hard Reality: It's all gonna end!
- Each will make a 'de-cision'= we will all cut away all other options. Matthew 7:13-14
- 'Love the world' = perish with the world. Loving God leads to doing His will and living with Him forever.

III.	<u>If I Love Worldly Things</u>	VS	<u>If I Love the Father</u>
	Focus on myself		Focus on God
	Seek my own happiness		Seek the Father's will
	Do good when it benefits me		Serve others even when uncomfortable or inconvenient
	Seek power and influence		Give preference to others
	Stay faithful as long as spouse meets my needs		Serve and choose to love spouse for life
	Be 'men-pleasers'		Be God pleasers

IV. For Consideration:

Why do you think some Christians find it hard to believe that God hates certain things?

Why should we pay close attention to what God hates?

What victory do Christ-followers have over Satan?

How is the concept of 'worldliness' sometimes misunderstood?

What is the biblical meaning of 'worldliness'?

List some things the world promises but cannot deliver.

Have the world's weapons of desires of the flesh and eyes and pride affected your life?

How does the example of Jesus help in defeating those weapons?

How can growing love for God defeat the world's weapons?