



01/06/2013

Youth E.D.G.E. Sunday School

Back to the Basics: A Study of 1 John - Part VI

The Love that God Hates

1 John 2:15-17

I. Because you must not love the world, you must obey God's clear command about the world (v. 15).

It is way too easy for those who fight hard against doctrinal impurity to find themselves drawn in by worldly passions.

A. It is a command of totality.

Do not love the system of the world, or the things that are in the world's system. Hold love for Christ alone!

B. It is a command of warning.

The stakes are high. Because the Father's kingdom is at war with the kingdom of the world, the two can't coexist peacefully. To pledge allegiance to one is to declare opposition to the other.

II. Because you must not love the world, you must flee from the content of the world (v. 16).

Since all that is in the world is from the world, we must not love any of it!

A. You must avoid the cravings of your flesh.

The cravings of sinful men will never be enough to bring you satisfaction. Satisfaction is found in Jesus alone, not in anything that originates in the world's system.

B. You must avoid the cravings of your eyes.

If it was as easy as just controlling our eyes, we could achieve our own victory. Since it's our hearts that control our eyes, we must plead for the grace of Christ to grant us deliverance!

C. You must avoid the pride of your life.

This is whatever defines you to others. Ultimately, this arrogance is illogical, since God alone provided you with the gifts that you have turned into idols.

III. Because you must not love the world, you must adopt God's perspective on the world (v. 17).

The first reason not to love the world has been given (it is self-originating (v. 16)). The second reason is given here in verse 17. Look at how God views the world!

A. Those who choose the world choose current & future destruction.

This is the climax of John's appeal. Ultimately, it is foolish to choose the world since the world is already passing away.

B. Those who choose the Lord choose eternal reward.

The principle of death that permeates the world's kingdom is the exact opposite of the life that permeates God's kingdom.