



1 JOHN ABIDING IN JESUS CHRIST

Lesson Four: Do Not Love The World

1 John 2:7-17

Robby Higginbottom – October 3, 2023

1 John 2:7-17

⁷ Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸ At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. ⁹ Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. ¹⁰ Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹ But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

¹² I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for His name's sake.

¹³ I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one.

I write to you, children, because you know the Father.

¹⁴ I write to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men, because you are strong,

and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is new about the old commandment to love? (1 John 2:7-11)
How should this “newness” impact a Christian’s life?
2. What does John want “fathers” and “young men” to remember? (2:12-14)
Why do you think John focuses on different reminders for different generations?
3. What does John mean by “world” when he says, “Do not love the *world*”?
What are some examples of this “world” in your life? (2:15)
4. Why are loving the world and loving the Lord mutually exclusive? (2:15)
5. What are some of our external markers of “worldliness”?
What are the dangers of only focusing on the externals? (2:16)
6. How does the world attract and deceive us (e.g., cravings, lusts, boasting, etc.)?
When the temptation to love the world comes, what do we need to remember? (2:16-17)
7. Why is the gospel of Jesus Christ absolutely essential in our battle against worldliness?

*“He loves Thee too little,
who loves anything together with Thee,
which he loves not for Thy sake.”*

Augustine