

**Series "Following After God"**  
**"The Misdirected Life"**  
**1 John 2:12-17**  
**Study-4**

**1 John 1:1-2:2** – Maintaining Fellowship:

**1 John 2:3-27** – Maintaining Truth:

Maintaining Righteousness: Increasing in God's likeness

Maintaining Love: Loving more!

Maintaining Assurance:

**Outline:**

**1. Verses 12-14 – Different Kinds of Christians**

**2. Verses 15-16 – Wrong Kind of Love**

**3. Verse 17 – The Right Kind of Life**

**1. Verses 12-14 – Different Kinds of Christians:**

1 John 2:12

"I am writing these things" 7X in this letter.

1 John 2:12-14 – Writes that we would grow to Spiritual Maturity:

Spiritual Children: little children, because your sins are forgiven

Justification – "to declare and treat as righteous."; "just as if you have not sinned"

1 John 2:13 children, because you know the Father.

Spiritual Adult: you know Him who has been from the beginning.

1 John 2:14 you know Him who has been from the beginning.

The Mature Know Nothing Deeper than Jesus Christ:

Psalm 27:4

John 4:14

Spiritual Adolescent: because you have overcome the evil one.

Sanctification – Practical faith, yielding and cooperating with God's plan to conform us to the image of Jesus. The conflict has become a conquest!

1 John 2:14

Psalm 119:9-11

## **2. Verses 15-16 – Wrong Kind of Love:**

1 John 2:15

“world” used 250X in the NT. John describes “A Love That God Hates!”

World – Greek word Kosmos, “the world (in a wide or narrow sense, including its inhabitants, literal or figurative [moral])”

1. World of Creation - Gen. 1:4; Gen. 1:10; Gen. 1:12; Gen. 1:18; Gen. 1:21; Gen. 1:25; Gen. 1:31

Psalm 19

2. World of People – John 3:16

Matt 10:37

3. World Without God (System) – The godless system that teaches that man can exist and fix things apart from knowing and depending upon God. “the life of human society as organized under the power of God, but as finite beings regarded as living apart from God”

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world,

Mark 4:19

John 1:10 He was in the world (System), and the world was made through Him (Planet), and the world did not know Him (People).

World’s system is under Satan’s organized plan to oppose God. A system of substitutes to keep us unholy, to keep us busy, to keep us religious, even looking good apart from God.

Worldliness – “Originates within, It is in our love and desire. It is whatever contradicts the truth of God. It is whatever destroys fellowship with God. It is whatever dulls our spiritual senses. It is whatever takes away our appetite for the Word of God. It is whatever hinders our work for God, and mars our testimony in the world.”

What is Christianity?

Bible never draws a line between what is Worldly and what is Unworldly. No list of taboos. Practices change from age to age and place to place, the principles never change. Up to the individual conscience to determine.

Legalism – “It is an attempt through self effort, self works, self accomplishments, self reform to make one’s self pleasing to God. In order to merit His grace (Salvation) and/or favor, or God’s blessings”

License –

Worldliness is not sins of action but of attitude. Need to have a different way of thinking!

Matt 6:24

James 4:4

1 John 2:16

This is not talking about 3 kinds of worldliness but access points to Worldliness.

1. The Craving For Passions - the lust of the flesh; the term lust – “a longing, craving (what is forbidden, or achieved through sin) to set ones heart upon, desire, crave after.”

Flesh – “the human nature, the human flesh with all its frailties.” This nature is opposed to God, it is ever wanting to be papered.

Romans 7:18

James 1:14-16

Eve – Gen 3:6

Satan Tempted Jesus – Matt 4:3

lust of the flesh – It is making the gratification of our physical appetites the end and goal of life. To live for physical gratification above all else.

2. The Craving For Possessions - and the lust of the eyes

Eyes – “to gaze with wide-open eyes, as at something remarkable” “A craving that results thru the senses of the eyes, but which is conceived in the imagination of the mind. (Not what we see but the imagination of our mind.” Feast your eyes on this!

Eve – Gen 3:6

Achan - Joshua 7:21

David – 2 Sam 11:2

Satan Tempting Jesus – Matt 4:8

the lust of the eyes; temptation to live life for this world, worship of power and place instead of God.

3. The Craving For Positions - and the boastful pride of life,

boastful pride – “self-confidence boasting, pride” of life, the life lived in the present. “An arrogance or boastful vanity over one’s external circumstances, whether wealth or rank or dress, the desire to shine or outshine others in living.” Show off and make others look small.

Eve – Gen 3:6

Satan Tempting Jesus – Matt 4:6

Do I want the position or do I want to see God truly glorified in what He does through me?

**3. Verse 17 – The Right Kind of Life:**

1 John 2:17

Heb 1:10-12

2 Cor 4:18

**Application:**

1. What Spiritual Level of Maturity Am I At:
2. Love For God Will Displace Worldliness: 1 John 2:15
3. Secure –
4. Boundary –
5. Depart –