I John 2:15-17 Do Not Love the World

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NKJV Section Title: Do not love the world

Proverbs 4:23 NLT - Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

We are to be growing in LOVE.. but in this section of John we see there is one thing we are NOT to Love - this world!

1 John 2:15 NKJV - 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.

World? = G2889 = κόσμος kósmos, kos'-mos; probably from the base of G2865; orderly arrangement, i.e. decoration; by implication, the world (in a wide or narrow sense, including its inhabitants, literally or figuratively (morally)):—adorning, world.

From point 7 of Outline of Biblical Usage:

7. world affairs, the aggregate of things earthly

A. the whole circle of earthly goods, endowments riches, advantages, pleasures, etc, which although hollow and frail and fleeting, stir desire, seduce from God and are obstacles to the cause of Christ

Matthew 4:8 NKJV - Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

Warren Wiersbe Commentary: *"This world named here as our enemy is an invisible spiritual system opposed to God and Christ."*

In Barclay's Daily Study Bible: *C. H. Dodd defines this meaning of kosmos (G2889): "Our author means human society in so far as it is organized on wrong principles, and characterized by base desires, false values, and egoism." In other words, to John the world was nothing other than pagan society with its false values and its false gods.*

"Do not love the world…"
Not speaking here of the creation, but the being & system in charge right now - Satan.

2 Corinthians 4:3 NKJV - But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,
2 Corinthians 4:4 NKJV - whose minds **the god of this age has blinded**, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Psalm 97:10 NKJV - You who love the LORD, **hate evil**! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.

Romans 12:9 NKJV - [Let] love [be] without hypocrisy. **Abhor what is evil**. Cling to what is good.

1 John 5:19 NKJV - We know that we are of God, and **the whole world lies [under the sway of] the wicked one.**

1 John 2:16 NKJV - For all that [is] in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world.

This is the opposite of what is Godly, good, and holy.

James 4:1 NKJV - Where do wars and fights [come] from among you? Do [they] not [come] from **your [desires** for] pleasure that war in your members?
James 4:2 NKJV - **You lust** [***lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes]*** and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.
James 4:3 NKJV - You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend [it] **on your pleasures**.
James 4:4 NKJV - Adulterers and adulteresses! **Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.**
James 4:5 NKJV - Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously"?

Here's how to fight these human desires: HUMILITY

James 4:6 NKJV - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, [aka Pride of life] **But gives grace to the humble**."
James 4:7 NKJV - Therefore **submit to God**. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
James 4:8 NKJV - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse [your] hands, [you] sinners; and purify [your] hearts, [you] double-minded.

Philippians 3:17 NKJV - Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.
Philippians 3:18 NKJV - For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, [that they are] the enemies of the cross of Christ:
Philippians 3:19 NKJV - whose end [is] destruction, whose god [is their] belly, [***lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes]*** and [whose] glory [***the pride of life]*** [is] in their shame--**who set their mind on earthly things**.

1 John 2:17 NKJV - And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

What "world" is passing away? That of Satan!

Revelation 20:1 NKJV - Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
Revelation 20:2 NKJV - He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is [the] Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;
Revelation 20:3 NKJV - and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.
…
Revelation 20:10 NKJV - The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet [are]. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Hebrews 11:13 NKJV - These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced [them] and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Hebrews 13:14 NKJV - For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.

Proverbs 10:25 NKJV - When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked [is] no [more], But the righteous [has] an everlasting foundation.

Revelation 3:12 NKJV - "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And [I will write on him] My new name.

Revelation 21:1 NKJV - Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

Revelation 21:2 NKJV - Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

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Additional Resources

New Living Translation:
1 John 2:15 NLT - Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.
1 John 2:16 NLT - For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.
1 John 2:17 NLT - And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.
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