



## The World and False Teachers

### Lesson 4 (1 John 2:15-27)

While the greatest threats to spiritual health come from within, there are enemies without. John turns his attention to two of these that must be faced: the world and false teachers.

#### I. Warnings Against Loving the World (1 John 2:15-17)

Loving the world is no small matter. If that describes us, we are in a dangerous situation.

##### A. \_\_\_\_\_ of loving the world

###### 1. Loving \_\_\_\_\_

Although pleasure itself isn't wrong, living for pleasure and loving pleasure is a pathway that leads to disaster.

###### 2. Loving \_\_\_\_\_

Solely living to earn more money and have more stuff is entirely inappropriate for a believer.

###### 3. Loving \_\_\_\_\_

A desire to fit in and be celebrated is natural, but when we live this way, we act like the world.

Loving the world is more about our hearts than actions, though our actions do matter. We worldly when we live for and love what the world loves and lives for.

##### B. \_\_\_\_\_ of loving the world

###### 1. Love for the world and love for God are \_\_\_\_\_.

We are going one direction or the other. We will love God or we will love the world.



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##### B. \_\_\_\_\_ of loving the world

###### 1. Love for the world and love for God are \_\_\_\_\_.

We are going one direction or the other. We will love God or we will love the world.

2. The world is temporal but those who love God are \_\_\_\_\_.

If the things around us won't last, but we and our relationship with Christ and other Christians will, why live for the world?

**II. Warnings against Listening to False Teacher (1 John 2:18-27)**

Not everyone we disagree with is a heretic, but we do need to be ready to see the heretics.

**A. John introduces the problem of false teachers (2:18-21).**

All whose teachings contradict Jesus, even if they claim to follow him, are ultimately against Christ.

**B. John describes the \_\_\_\_\_ of false teachers (2:22-23).**

Genuine believers can disagree on different issues, but in some instances we must draw a line. Historically, "false teaching" refers to heresies that result in sending someone to hell.

**C. John gives \_\_\_\_\_ against false teachers (2:24-27).**

**1. Believers should stick to the truth of God's Word (2:24-25).**

God gave us everything He wanted us to know and outlines what we should and shouldn't believe in the Bible.

**2. Believers should follow the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit (2:26-27).**

The Holy Spirit brings understanding through careful study of God's Word by teaching us what it says and means for us.

We are in a battle, and we face enemies. Even as we battle to live holy and righteous lives, we find ourselves bombarded with the pull of the world and the deception of false teachers. John wants these second generation Christians to beware these dangers: Do not to love the world and do not to listen to false teachers.

**Next Week: What It Means to Be God's Child (1 John 2:28-3:10)**

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