

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cambridge, Massachusetts
The Lord's Day, December Anno Domini 2005

1John 2:15-17 Do not love the world.

- I. The salvation of the world.
 - A. God's purpose in history.
1 John 2:2; 2 Peter 3:13.
 - B. But the world does not want to be saved.
 - C. And some from the world claim to know God and to be part of the Church.
1John 1:6; 2:4; 2:9.

- II. The conflict between the will of the world and the will of God.
 - A. The world has a different ruler.
1 John 5:19; John 14:30.
 - B. The world has a different language.
1 John 4:5.
 - C. The world has a different view of the purpose of existence.
1 John 2:15; James 4:4.

- III. The conflict between worldlings and God.
 - A. Not everyone wants to love God.
John 3:16-19.
 - B. The world is our first love, and everyone is tempted to love the world.
 - C. People love the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.
1 John 2:16 *For all that is in the world - the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions - is not from the Father but is from the world.*

- IV. The love of God is our foundation and our motivation.
 - A. We have been loved; how wonderful it is!
1 John 3:1.
 - B. The love of God puts us in conflict with the world.
1 John 3:13; John 17:14-17.
 - C. The love of God must drive our use of the things of this world to achieve godly purposes.
1 Corinthians 7:31; 1 John 3:17; James 1:27; Luke 12:30-32.
 - D. We overcome the world by through faith in Jesus Christ.
1 John 5:5; 1 John 4:4.

- V. How are you doing on John's three tests?
 - A. Obedience to God.
 - B. Love for your brother.
 - C. Love for God and not for the world.
 - D. The love of God assures us of eternal blessing and well being.
1 John 5:4; Matthew 25:34; John 12:25-26.