

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cambridge, Massachusetts  
The Lord's Day, April 23 Anno Domini 2006

1John 5:19 We know that we are of God

- I. We are of God, the world lies under a wicked master.  
John's second "we know that..." statements.
  - A. What this means.  
1John 4:4-6; John 8:47.  
Mark 4:14-15
  - B. How this happened: how did the world get this way?  
Genesis 3:5
  - C. This is the world that Adam chose for us.  
John 3:19
  
- II. Resting in the evil one brings complications for us all.
  - A. Because man is scattered on the face of the earth, in different and competing cultures, people debate good and evil all the time.
  - B. The devil's reign has stirred some evils so great that we, and most people in the world, weep over them together.
  - C. All this trouble is not merely social; it comes down to the personal level as well.  
Mark 7:21-22
  
- III. John writes: "We know that we are of God..."  
And all along in this letter of his, he has told us what this means.  
We believe that Jesus is the Son of God, who came into the world. 1John 5:1.  
We love God and keep his commandments, 5:3.  
We love the children of God, other Christians, 5:2.  
And in this way we can overcome the world! 5:4-5.
  - A. As a race, we got what Adam wanted.
  - B. But here is our hope! We do see another world with the eyes of faith.  
Psalm 72:2-4
  - C. Here is the importance of the gospel.  
Without it, we would serve an evil master who, fully unveiled, would terrify and horrify us.  
Without the gospel the meek would not inherit the earth. They would be food and play things for the rich.  
Without the gospel the merciful would be laughed at in scorn.  
Without the gospel the peacemakers would be slaughtered by the strong, v. 19.
  - D. Christ is the savior of the world.  
1 John 2:1  
Will you trust Christ and look at the world through his compassionate, holy, and gracious eyes?