

## Four Worldly Things to Beware of – 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:15-17

**1 John 2:15–17 (KJV)** — **15** Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. **17** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

**Beware** = To be cautious, watchful, careful. **Lust** = To feel an excessive intense or overwhelming desire.

- I. **Beware of ...Lust of the Flesh** (V.16a) “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh..”  
**(Flesh = The soft material of the body. Even mankind.)**
  - a. Because the devil wants our flesh to disobey God. (Crf: Romans 7:15-17)
  - b. God wants us to live a righteous lifestyle for Him.
    - i. **2 Timothy 2:22** – “Flee youthful lust and **pursue** peace, love and Righteousness **with those** who call on the Lord from a pure heart. ”
    - ii. **Titus 2:12** – “**God wants us to deny** ungodliness and worldly Lust **and live** a sensibly, righteously and godly in this present world.”
- II. **Beware of...Lust of the Eyes** (V.16b) “...and the lust of the eyes..”  
**(Eyes = The physical organ that allows us to gaze, look or see.)**
  - a. Because the devil wants our eyes to desire things more than God. (Crf: Gen 3:6-7 - Eve)
  - b. God wants us to focus our eyes on Him.
    - i. **Ecclesiastes 4:8** “**A man’s eye is never satisfied with making money.**”
    - ii. **Ecclesiastes 5:11** “**There is no satisfaction but to look at money increase.**”
- III. **Beware of...Pride of Life** (V.16c) “...and the pride of life,”  
**(Pride = Undo confidence in and attention to one’s own self. Arrogance, conceit, boasting.)**
  - a. Because the devil wants us to have pride in ourselves and not God.
  - b. God wants us to focus on boasting in Him.
    - i. **James 4:6** – “...God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”
    - ii. **Prov. 8:13** – “The fear of the Lord is to hate evil, pride & arrogance..”
    - iii. **Prov. 11:2** – “Pride brings shame...” **Prov 14:3** – “Prideful people are foolish”
    - iv. **Prov 29:23** Pride will bring you low. **Prov 16:18** Pride goes before destruction.
- IV. **Beware of...Temporary Things** (V.17a) “...And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof”  
**(Temporary = Not lasting long. Not permanent. Limited by time.)**
  - a. Because the devil wants us to focus on today and not on God.
  - b. God wants us to focus on eternity in Him.
    - i. **John 4:36** “.....Gather fruit (works) that will reap eternal benefits...”
    - ii. **2 Corinthians 4:17–18 (NASB)** — **17** For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, **18** while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.