



Sermon Series: *Walking in Wisdom*

Sermon Title: *As the World Turns*

Scripture: 1 John 2:15-17

Pastor Chris Fritz

Sunday, January 5, 2025

INTRODUCTION

January 5th - "As the World Turns"

January 12th - "Viewer Discretion Discernment Advised".

January 19th - "Cutting to the Core of Materialism"

January 26th - "Walking in Love without Losing the War with Worldliness".

February - The Book of Judges: Mankind Exposed, Grace Magnified

"You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world IS enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be A FRIEND of the world makes himself AN ENEMY of God."
(James 4:4)

1 Timothy 6:11-12; Mark 8:34; Psalm 16:1, 11

I. WHEN WORLDLINESS MEETS THE GLORY OF THE CROSS

"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. For all that is in the world - the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life - is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world IS PASSING AWAY along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God ABIDES FOREVER." (1 John 2:15-17)

A. WHAT IT ISN'T!

1) John is NOT encouraging us to hate this physical, natural world that God has created!

(Psalm 19:1; 1 Timothy 6:17)

2) John is NOT lamenting the fact that we live in physical bodies in modern society!

(John 17:15)

3) John is NOT arguing against social structures (blessings!) like family and government!

(1 Peter 2:16-17)

B. WHAT IT IS!

“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. For all that is in the world - the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life - is NOT FROM the Father but IS FROM the world. And the world IS PASSING AWAY along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God ABIDES FOREVER.” (1 John 2:15-17)

1) We can only have ONE supreme, ruling, preeminent FIRST LOVE, and it must be God!

(1 John 2:15)

2) Worldliness is defined as those beliefs, temptations, philosophies that are opposed to God.

(1 John 2:16; Proverbs 16:25; Psalm 119:105; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

C. THE “HEART” OF THE MATTER!

1) Fleshly cravings, lust, sinful desires, boastful arrogance are ALL heart issues!

(1 John 2:17)

2) Those who chase after worldliness end up impoverished, with NOTHING of lasting value!

(1 John 2:17)

3) The real issue is not so much about fighting against worldliness but cultivating love for Christ!

(Galatians 6:14)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. What is “worldliness” as the Bible defines and explains it in James 4:4 and 1st John 2:15-17?
2. Why is this topic so important? What are the results/consequences of this sin?
3. In what specific ways/areas have you experienced temptation concerning this issue?
4. What are some vital and important ways to honestly address this area in your life?