

# You Know When It's Real

## THE LOVE GOD HATES (1 John 2:12-17)

Four reasons believers are not to love “The World”:

### I. Because of What the World Is

*“Do not love the world nor the things of the world.”* (1 John 2:15a)

- The New Testament word **world** means...
  - Physical world or created order, the earth (Acts 17:24)
  - Human world, the mankind (John 3:16)
  - The invisible, spiritual system of evil (Ephesians 2:2; 1 John 5:19)

*“If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.”* John 15:19 (NIV)

### II. Because of Who Believers Are (2: 12-14)

- The titles used here to address the believers: “Little children...fathers...young men... children.”
- Little children **teknia** means *born ones*, refers to all believers who are born of God.
- Three stages of spiritual growth:
  - Children **paidia**, immature believers (2:13c)
  - Young men, the conquerors (2:13b, 14b)
  - Fathers, the mature believers (2:13a, 14a)

### III. Because of What the World Does (2:15-16)

1. Out of \_\_\_\_\_ with the Father.

*“If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”*

- Worldliness is not so much a matter of \_\_\_\_\_ as of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Practical definition of worldliness: “Anything in a Christian’s life that causes him to lose his enjoyment of the Father’s love or his desire to do the Father’s will is worldly and must be avoided”—Warren Wiersbe

2. Cravings of the \_\_\_\_\_ desire.

*“For all that is in the world: lust of the flesh.”*

3. Cravings of the \_\_\_\_\_.

*“The lust of the eyes.”*

- The story of Achan (Joshua 7):

*“Among the plunder I saw a beautiful robe from Babylon, 200 silver coins, and a bar of gold weighing more than a pound. I wanted them so much that I took them.”* Joshua 7:21 (NLT)

4. \_\_\_\_\_ of oneself above another.

*“And the boastful pride of life.”*

### IV. Because of Where the World is Going (2:17)

*“The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.”*

Two ways of life: a life lived for \_\_\_\_\_ and a life lived for \_\_\_\_\_.

### Practical applications:

1. Guard against extremes.
  - Extreme of isolating yourself
  - Extreme of asserting yourself
2. Discipline yourself