

# Do Not Love the World

## Scripture

“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 lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.” (1 John 2:15-17 NKJV)

## Commentary

To love something is to be willing to sacrifice for it. Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends” (John 15:13 NKJV). When we are willing to lay down our lives for the world we have loved it.

The term world means this mortal life, the world system, and trappings associated with each. This is evidence by the description—lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. To love the world means to let these three things dominate and control you.

When these lusts control you it is impossible to love the Father because loving the Father requires that you obey Him. Jesus said, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him” (John 14:21 NKJV). Even a terse review of the commandments will reveal our need to deny ourselves and to focus on God and the needs of others.

(From Exodus 20:1-17)

1. You shall have no other gods before Me
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness [of anything] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy
5. Honor your father and your mother
6. You shall not murder
7. You shall not commit adultery
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
10. You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that [is] your neighbor’s

“Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor [is] he who does not love his brother.” (1 John 3:7-10 NKJV)

## Prayer

Father, we are easily distracted by the things around us. Keep us by your Spirit as we know that if we are lead by the Spirit we will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. Thank you for loving us for without your love we would never have loved you. Filled with unrighteousness, we would have perished in a hell prepared for the devil, but praise to your glorious grace we have peace. Have your way now Lord for your glory, amen.