

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE

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“ THE LOVE GOD HATES “

PART 3

I JOHN 2 VS 12-14

THE LAST TWO LESSONS WE LEARNED FROM JOHN THE REASON WHY GOD TELLS US WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD NOT LOVE THE WORLD:

I. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD IS

II. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD DOES

TODAY IN THESE NEXT TWO VERSE WE WILL FIND THE NEXT REASON WHY GOD TELLS CHRISTIANS NOT TO LOVE THE WORLD:

III. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE CHRISTIAN IS (2 VS 12-14) THIS RAISES A PRACTICAL AND IMPORTANT QUESTION ABOUT THE NATURE OF A CHRISTIAN AND HOW HE KEEPS FROM GETTING WORLDLY.

THE ANSWER IS FOUND IN THE UNUSUAL FORM OF ADDRESS USED IN (I JOHN 2 VS 12 -14). NOTE THE TITLES USED AS JOHN ADDRESSED HIS CHRISTIAN READERS.

LITTLE CHILDREN FATHERS YOUNG MEN LITTLE CHILDREN - WHAT WAS HE REFERRING TO ?

A. **LITTLE CHILDREN** – REFERS TO ALL BELIEVERS – LITERALLY , THIS WORD MEANS “ BORN ONES. “ ALL CHRISTIANS HAVE BEEN BORN INTO GODS FAMILY THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST, AND THEIR SINS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN. THE VERY FACT THAT ONE IS IN GOD’S FAMILY, SHARING HIS NATURE , OUGHT TO DISCOURAGE HIM FROM BECOMING FRIENDLY WITH THE WORLD. TO BE FRIENDLY WITH THE WORLD IS TREACHERY !

“ FRIENDSHIP WITH THE WORLD IS ENMITY WITH GOD , WHOSOEVER THEREFORE WILL BE (WANTS TO BE) A FRIEND OF THE WORLD IS THE ENEMY OF GOD “ (JAMES 4 VS 4)

NOTE ; WE BEGIN AS LITTLE CHILDREN – BORN ONES – BUT WE MUST NOT STAY THAT WAY ! ONLY AS CHRISTIANS GROW SPIRITUALLY DOES HE OVERCOME THE WORLD.

NOTICE JOHN MENTIONS THREE KINDS OF CHRISTIANS IN THE LOCAL CHURCH:

1. **FATHERS** – OF COURSE ARE MATURE BELIEVERS WHO HAVE AN INTIMATE PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF GOD. BECAUSE THEY KNOW GOD, THEY KNOW HOW THE DANGERS OF THE WORLD. NO CHRISTIAN WHO HAS EXPERIENCED THE JOYS AND THE WONDERS OF FELLOWSHIP

WITH GOD, AND SERVICE FOR GOD, WILL WANT TO LIVE ON THE SUBSTITUTE PLEASURES OF THIS WORLD

2. **YOUNG MEN** – ARE THE CONQUERORS : THEY HAVE OVERCOME THE WICKED ONE, SATAN , WHO IS THE PRINCE OF THE WORLD SYSTEM. HOW DID THEY OVERCOME HIM ?
 - A. **THE WORD OF GOD** – (I JOHN 2 VS 14) THE “ YOUNG MEN “ THEN ARE NOT YET FULLY MATURE , BUT THEY ARE MATURING , FOR THEY USE THE WORD OF GOD EFFECTIVELY . THE WORD IS THE ONLY WEAPON THAT WILL DEFEAT SATAN(EPH 6 VS 17)
3. **LITTLE CHILDREN** – THE LITTLE CHILDREN ADDRESSED IN(I JOHN 2 VS 13) ARE NOT THE LITTLE CHILDREN ADDRESSED IN(I JOHN 2 VS 12); TWO DIFFERENT GREEK WORDS ARE USED :

I JOHN 2 VS 13 – CARRIES THE IDEAL OF “ ***IMMATURE ONES*** “ OR LITTLE CHILDREN STILL UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF TEACHERS OR TUTORS . THESE YOUNG CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE NOT YET GROWN UP IN CHRIST. LIKE PHYSICAL CHILDREN, THESE SPIRITUAL CHILDREN KNOW THEIR FATHER BUT THEY STILL HAVE SOME GROWING TO DO.

HERE, THEN, IS THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY ! ALL OF THEM ARE “ BORN ONES, “ BUT SOME OF THEM HAVE GROWN OUT OF INFANCY INTO SPIRITUAL MANHOOD AND ADULTHOOD. IT IS THE GROWING MATURE CHRISTIAN IN WHOM THE WORLD DOES NOT APPEAL. HE IS TOO INTERESTED IN:

1. **LOVING HIS FATHER**
2. **DOING HIS FATHERS WILL**

THE ATTRACTIONS OF THE WORLD HAVE NO ALLURE FOR HIM. HE REALIZES THAT THE THINGS OF THE WORLD ARE ONLY TOYS, AND HE CAN SAY WITH PAUL “ WHEN I BECAME A MAN, I PUT CHILDISH THINGS AWAY “ (I COR 13 VS 11)

NOTE : A CHRISTIAN STAYS AWAY FROM THE WORLD

1. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD IS- **A SATANIC SYSTEM THAT HATES AND OPPOSES CHRIST**
2. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD DOES TO U- **ATTRACTS US TO LIVE ON SINFUL SUBSTITUTE S**
3. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE CHRISTIAN IS – **A CHILD OF GOD**

IV. **BECAUSE OF WHERE THE WORLD IS GOING** (I JOHN 2 VS 17) “ THE WORLD IS PASSING AWAY ! “ THAT STATEMENT WOULD BE CHALLENGED BY MANY MEN TODAY WHO ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE WORLD- THE SYSTEM IN WHICH WE LIVE –IS AS PERMANENT AS ANYTHING CAN BE. BUT THE WORLD IS NOT PERMANENT. THE ONLY SURE THING ABOUT THIS WORLD SYSTEM IS THAT IT IS NOT

GOING TO BE HERE FOREVER. ONE DAY THE SYSTEM WILL BE GONE, AND THE PLEASANT ATTRACTIONS WITHIN IT WILL BE GONE; ALL ARE PASSING AWAY. WHAT IS GOING TO LAST ? ONLY WHAT IS APART OF THE WILL OF GOD!

WHY SHOULD SPIRITUAL CHRISTIANS KEEP THEMSELVES “ LOOSELY ATTACHED TO THE WORLD

- A. BECAUSE THEY LIVE FOR SOMETHING BETTER**
- B. BECAUSE THEY ARE STRANGERS AND PILGRIMS ON EARTH (HEB 11 VS 13)**
- C. BECAUSE THERE IS A CONTINUING CITY FOR US (HEB 13 VS 14)**

NOTE: IN BIBLE TIMES , MANY BELIEVERS LIVED IN TENTS BECAUSE GOD DID NOT WANT THEM TO SETTLE DOWN AND FEEL AT HOME IN THIS WORLD.

JOHN WAS CONTRASTING TWO WAYS OF LIFE IN VERSE 17

1. A LIFE LIVED FOR ETERNITY

LIVES FOR THE JOY OF THE SPIRIT

LIVES FOR THE UNSEEN REALITIES OF GOD

LIVES FOR GOD’S APPROVAL

2. A LIFE LIVED FOR TIME

LIVES FOR THE PLEASURES OF THE FLESH

LIVES FOR WHAT HE CAN SEE

LIVES FOR THE PRIDE OF LIFE

NOTE : WE ARE TOLD HERE THAT CHRISTIANS WHO DEDICATE THEMSELVES IN DOING THE WILL – WILL ABIDE FOREVER ! (I JOHN 2 VS 17) SO THE QUESTION IS – HOW DOES ONE DISCOVER GOD’S WILL?

1. SURRENDER – (ROM 12 VS 1-2) A CHRISTIAN WHO LOVES THE WORLD WILL NEVER KNOW THE WILL OF GOD IN THIS WAY. THE FATHER SHARES HIS SECRETS WITH THOSE THAT OBEY HIM. “ IF ANY MAN DOES HIS WILL HE SHALL KNOW THE DOCTRINE (JOHN 7 VS 17) GOD ‘S WILL IS NOT A SPIRITUAL CAFETERIA – WHERE A CHRISTIAN TAKES WHAT HE WANTS AND REJECTS THE REST. NO THE WILL OF GOD MUST BE ACCEPTED IN ITS ENTIRETY. THIS INVOLVES A PERSONAL SURRENDER TO GOD OF ONE'S ENTIRE LIFE.

2. WORD – THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET , AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH “ (PSALMS 119 VS 105). A WORLDLY BELIEVER HAS NO APPETITE FOR THE BIBLE . WHEN HE READS IT, HE GETS LITTLE OR NOTHING FROM IT. BUT A SPIRITUAL BELIEVER , WHO SPENDS TIME DAILY READING THE BIBLE AND MEDITATING ON IT , FINDS GODS WILL THERE AND APPLIES IT TO HIS EVERYDAY LIFE.

3. CIRCUMSTANCES – GOD MOVES IN WONDERFUL WAYS TO OPEN AND CLOSE DOORS. WE MUST TEST THIS KIND OF LEADING BY THE WORD OF GOD- AND NOT TEST THE BIBLES CLEAR TEACHINGS BY CIRCUMSTANCES !

4. PRAYER AND THE WORKING OF HIS SPIRIT IN OUR HEARTS – AS WE PRAY ABOUT DECISION, THE SPIRIT SPEAKS TO US. AN “ INNER VOICE “ MAY AGREE WITH THE LEADING OF CIRCUMSTANCES. WE ARE NEVER TO FOLLOW THIS INNER VOICE ALONE ; WE MUST ALWAYS TEST IT BY THE BIBLE , FOR IT IS

POSSIBLE FOR THE FLESH OR SATAN TO USE CIRCUMSTANCES – OR FEELINGS TO LEAD US COMPLETELY ASTRAY.

A CHRISTIAN MAY DECIDE, WILL I LIVE FOR THE PRESENT ONLY, OR WILL I LIVE FOR THE WILL OF GOD AND ABIDE FOREVER ?

JESUS ILLUSTRATED THIS CHOICE BY TELLING ABOUT TWO MEN. (MAT 7 VS 24-27)

1ST MAN _____

2ND MAN _____

PAUL ILLUSTRATES THIS CHOICE BY TELLING ABOUT TWO KINDS OF MATERIAL FOR BUILDING (I COR 3 VS 11- 15)

1ST MATERIAL _____

2ND MATERIAL _____

CLOSE : LOVE FOR THE WORLD IS THE LOVE GOD HATES. IT IS THE LOVE A CHRISTIAN SHOULD SHUN AT ALL COST .

