

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE

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“THE LOVE GOD HATES “

PART 2

I JOHN 2:16

LAST WEEK JOHN’S EPISTLE REVEALED TO US THE FIRST OF OUR REASONS WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD NOT LOVE “ THE WORLD “ WHICH ARE;

I. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD IS

II. BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WORLD DOES

AS WE LOOKED AT WHAT THE WORLD DOES WE LEARNED THE FIRST OF THREE DEVICES THAT THE WORLD SYSTEM USES TO TRAP CHRISTIANS:

1. **THE LUST OF THE FLESH** – ANYTHING THAT APPEALS TO MAN’S FALLEN NATURE ; FLESH IS THE NATURE WE RECEIVED IN OUR PHYSICAL BIRTH- UNDEGENERATED MAN THAT MAKES HIM BLIND TO SPIRITUAL TRUTH

AS WE CONTINUE IN VERSE 16, WE FIND THE NEXT TWO DEVICES THAT THE WORLD SYSTEM USES TO TRAP CHRISTIANS :

2. **THE LUST OF THE EYES** – WE SOMETIMES FORGET THE EYES CAN HAVE AN APPETITE ! CONSIDER THIS STATEMENT : “ FEAST YOUR EYES ON THIS “ THE LUST OF THE FLESH APPEALS TO THE LOWER APPETITES OF THE OLD NATURE, TEMPTING US TO INDULGE THEM IN SINFUL WAYS. THE LUST OF THE EYES, HOWEVER OPERATE IN A MORE REFINED WAY: IN VIEW HERE ARE SOME PLEASURES THAT GRATIFY THE :

A. **SIGHT** – SOPHISTICATED PLEASURES

B. **MIND** – INTELLECTUAL PLEASURES

NOTE: BACK IN THE DAYS OF THE APOSTLE JOHN THE GREEKS AND THE ROMANS LIVED FOR ENTERTAINMENT AND ACTIVITY THAT EXCITED THE EYES

TIMES HAVE NOT CHANGED MUCH, IN VIEW OF TELEVISION PERHAPS EVERY CHRISTIAN’S PRAYER OUGHT TO BE AS IN (PSALMS 119 VS 37)

EXAMPLE : ACHAN BROUGHT DEFEAT TO JOSHUA’S ARMY – BECAUSE OF THE “ LUST OF THE EYES “ (JOSHUA 7 VS 21)

LET'S LIST ACHANS PROGRESSION

1ST - SAW

2ND - COVETED

3RD - TOOK

THE LUST OF THE EYES LED HIM TO SIN, AND HIS SIN LED THE ARMY INTO DEFEAT. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT THE EYES ARE A GATEWAY TO THE MIND. THE LUST OF THE EYES THEREFORE, CAN INCLUDE INTELLECTUAL PURSUITS THAT ARE CONTRARY TO THE WORD OF GOD.

3. **THE PRIDE OF LIFE** – (1 JOHN 2 VS 16) GOD'S GLORY IS RICH AND FULL : MAN'S GLORY IS VAIN AND EMPTY GREEK WORD FOR " PRIDE " WAS USED TO DESCRIBE A BRAGGART WHO WAS TRYING TO IMPRESS PEOPLE WITH ITS IMPORTANCE. PEOPLE ALWAYS TRY TO OUTDO OTHERS IN TWO WAYS:

A. **SPENDING**

B. **GETTING**

THE BOASTFUL PRIDE OF LIFE MOTIVATES MUCH OF WHAT SUCH PEOPLE DO. WHY IS IT THAT SO MANY FOLKS BUY HOUSES, CARS, APPLIANCES, OR WARDROBES THAT THEY REALLY CAN'T AFFORD? LARGELY BECAUSE THEY WANT TO IMPRESS OTHER PEOPLE- BECAUSE OF THEIR " PRIDE OF LIFE " THEY WANT FOLKS TO NOTICE HOW AFFLUENT OR SUCCESSFUL THEY ARE.

YES, THE WORLD APPEALS TO A CHRISTIAN THROUGH THE LUST OF THE FLESH, THE LUST OF THE EYES AND THE PRIDE OF LIFE. ONCE THE WORLD TAKES OVER IN ONE OF THESE AREAS, A CHRISTIAN WILL SOON REALIZE IT AND HE/ SHE WILL:

- A. **LOSE HIS ENJOYMENT OF THE FATHERS LOVE**
- B. **LOSE HIS DESIRE TO DO THE FATHERS WILL**
- C. **LOSE HIS LOVE FOR THE WORD OF GOD**
- D. **LOSE HIS DESIRE TO PRAY**
- E. **LOSE HIS DESIRE TO JOIN IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP – BECOMES BORING, EMPTY, DISAPPOINTING TO HIM**

IT IS NOT THAT THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH OTHERS- HOWEVER – WHAT'S WRONG IS THE CHRISTIANS WORLDLY HEART

GRADUAL PROCESS OF BECOMING WORLDLY

NOTE: IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT NO CHRISTIAN BECOMES WORLDLY ALL OF A SUDDEN. WORLDLINESS CREEPS UP ON A BELIEVER, IT'S A GRADUAL PROCESS:

1ST – THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE WORLD (JAMES 4 VS 4) BY NATURE, THE WORLD AND THE CHRISTIAN ARE ENEMIES (I JOHN 3 VS 13) A CHRISTIAN WHO IS A FRIEND OF THE WORLD IS AN ENEMY OF GOD

2ND – CHRISTIAN BECOMES SPOTTED BY THE WORLD (JAMES 1 VS 27) THE WORLD LEAVES ITS DIRTY MARKS ON ONE OR TWO AREAS OF HIS LIFE. THIS MEANS THE BELIEVER GRADUALLY ACCEPTS ADOPTS THE WAYS OF THE WORLD

3RD – WORLD CEASES TO HATE THE CHRISTIAN AND STARTS TO LOVE HIM – AS A RESULT THE BELIEVERS BECOME CONFORMED TO THE WORLD (ROM 12 VS 2) AND YOU CAN HARDLY TELL THE TWO APART

DOWNWARD STEPS AND CONSEQUENCES IN THE LIFE OF LOT

SCRIPTURES (GEN 13 VS 5-13, 14 VS 8-14;19)

1ST – LOT LOOKED DOWNWARD

2ND – LOT PITCHED HIS TENT TOWARD SODOM

3RD – LOT MOVED INTO SODOM

AND WHEN SODOM WAS CAPTURED BY THE ENEMY, LOT WAS CAPTURED TOO. HE WAS A BELIEVER (2 PETER VS 6-8), BUT HE HAD TO SUFFER WITH THE UNBELIEVING SINNERS OF THAT WICKED CITY. AND WHEN GOD DESTROYED SODOM , EVERYTHING LOT LIVED FOR WENT UP IN SMOKE! LOT WAS SAVED SO AS BY FIRE AND LOST HIS ETERNAL REWARD (1 COR 3 VS 12-15)