

1 John 2 - God's Friend or Enemy?

February 26, 2015

1 John 2:15-17

15 Love (to be fond of, to welcome, to entertain, to be pleased with) not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the LUST OF THE FLESH, and the LUST OF THE EYES, and the PRIDE OF LIFE, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

- *There is a line where God-given, wholesome desire becomes lust and sin.*
 - *sense of accomplishment versus self-exaltation*
 - *healthy self-image as God's child versus egotism or narcissism*
 - *admiration versus covetousness*

- *That line is crossed whenever:*
 - *God's Word is transgressed*
 - *what we desire is an idol, unsundered to God, exalted above God*
 - *we are discontent with God's plan and provision*

- *Through the trial and error of life experience, we learn where that line is for ourselves.*

James 4:4

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE WORLD IS ENMITY WITH GOD? whosoever therefore will be A FRIEND OF THE WORLD IS THE ENEMY OF GOD."

- *The lusts of the flesh, the lusts of the eyes and the pride of life is so opposed to the very nature, character and will of God that to favor one is to become the enemy of the other. There is no common ground between God's Kingdom and this world system.*

- *Every lust gratified is taking one step away from Father and one step into the world and the evil powers which control the world.*

Ephesians 2:2-3

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

1 Peter 2:11

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, ABSTAIN FROM FLESHLY LUSTS, WHICH WAR AGAINST THE SOUL."

- *Every lust gratified degrades and corrupts your **CONSCIOUS**, your **INTEGRITY**, your **DISCERNMENT**, your **COMMUNION** with Father and strengthens everything in you which opposes God.*
- *Temptation is not defeated in the battle but in the preparation.*