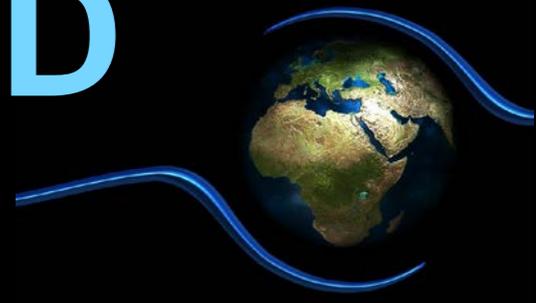




LOVE OF THE WORLD

1 JOHN 2:15-17

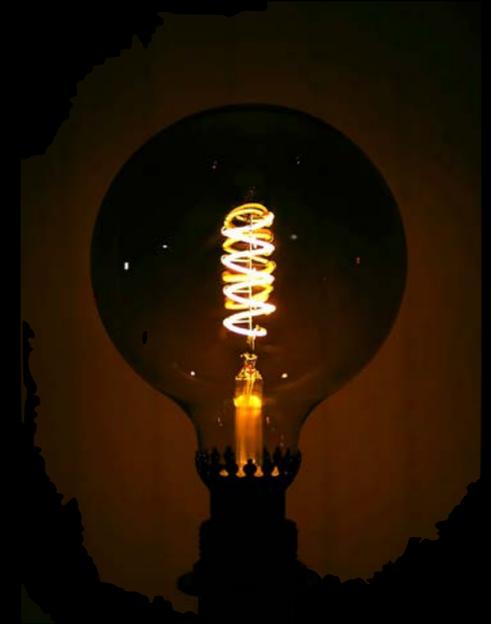


1 JOHN

- One of only two New Testament Epistles (letters) in which the author does not identify themselves (the other is Hebrews)
- We cannot know for certain, but authorship has most commonly been attributed to John the Apostle
 - One of Jesus' closest disciples
 - Probably the author of the four other New Testament books (The Gospel of John, 2 John, 3 John, Revelation)
 - Evidence for this includes: literary style, testimony as an eye-witness, authoritative tone, indication of close ties to Christ
- Purposes for writing are identified in the text but include...
 - To expose false gnostic teaching (and associated lack of morality), to identify Christ and to give assurances of faith

SEE LIGHT, BE LIGHT

- From 1 John 1 & 2:1-11...
 - We have light
 - We are light
 - We must walk in the light
 - Living out the truth = loving people ~ loving God
- From 1 John 2:12-14
 - Be Affirmed - your sins are forgiven and you know the Father
 - Be Reminded - Our God has always been and always will be The Lord
 - Be Encouraged - You have and will overcome the evil one by the Word of God



1 JOHN 2

“15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. 16 For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.”



ONE WHAT, THREE WHYS

“15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. 16 For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.”

- A command/instruction followed by with several arguments to support



LOVE
CARU

GOD
PEOPLE
DUW
POBIL



...cept a man be
... cannot see the
...
... ch. 1:13
... saith unto
... a man be born
... can he enter
... into his moth-
... e born?
... ed, Verily,
... hee, Except
... ater and of
... enter into
... Mark 16:16
... n of the
... which

... ed up: ... wilderness, ... ed up
... the Son of man
... Num. 21:9; ch. 8:28
15 That whosoever
... lieveth in him should not per-
... ish, but have eternal life.
16 ¶ For God so loved the
... world, that he gave his only
... begotten Son, that whosoever
... believeth in him should not
... perish, but have everlasting
... life.
17 For God sent not his Son
... into the world to condemn the
... world; but that through him might
... the
18 ¶ He that
... him is

... question
... John's dis
... about puri
26 And
... John, and s
... bi, he that
... yond Jordan
... barest witne
... same baptize
... come to him.
27 John ans
... A man can re
... except it be g
... heaven.
28 Ye ... 1 Cor



GOD LOVED THE WORLD

- Why shouldn't we?
- Aren't we called to be like Him?
- Isn't 'love' the greatest command and the most enduring of all gifts?



DIFFERENT LOVES?

- 1 John 2:15 - ἀγαπᾶτε (agapate)
 - John 3:16 - ἠγάπησεν (ēgapēsen)
 - Definition: to love
 - Usage: I love, wish well to, take pleasure in, long for; denotes the love of reason, esteem.
- (Strong's Concordance)



DIFFERENT WORLDS?

- 1 John 2:15 - κόσμον (kosmon)
- John 3:16 - κόσμον (kosmon)
- order, the world
 - Usage: the world, universe; worldly affairs; the inhabitants of the world; adornment.

(Strongs Concordance)



DIFFERENT WORLDS?

- order, the world
 - Usage: the world, universe; worldly affairs; the inhabitants of the world; adornment.

(Strongs Concordance)
- ‘The world’ can be understood in different ways
 - God’s love may be understood as love of people
 - Our love may be understood as love of the systems, ways and material things of the world
 - This is pointed to in the following sentence - ‘the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life’



DIFFERENT PRIORITIES

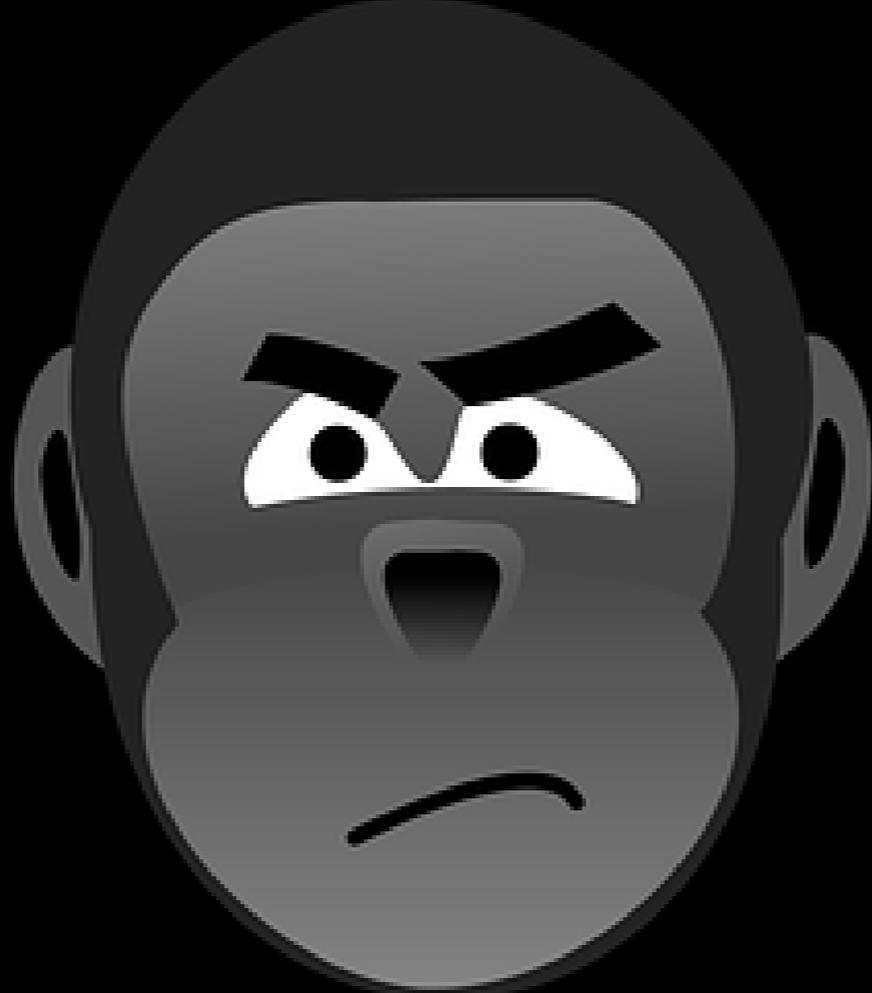
- “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
39 Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.” (Matt 10:37-38)
- So we see that what we are dealing with is an ordering of our priorities - this is how the Kingdom works
 - Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness (Matt 6:33)
 - This is not how our world works!
- Our love for people and for anything of the world is to flow from and be secondary to our love for Him



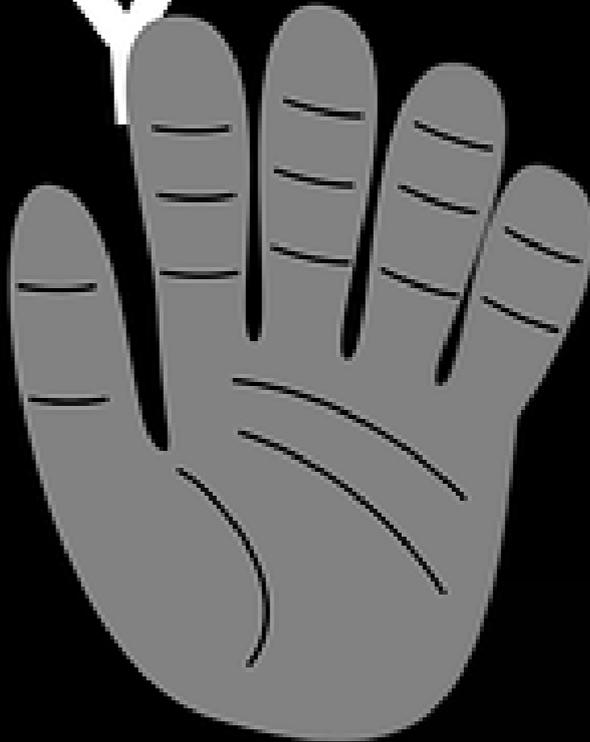
ARGUMENT ONE

- It's a case of 'one in, one out'!
- There is only space in our hearts for one or the other!
 - Is today a day to let the wrong one out and the right one in?!
- “If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.”
- Love of God is not compatible with love of ‘the world’
- One will push the other out!





SECURITY



‘ONE IN, ONE OUT!’

- Matt 6:24 “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”
- mammōnás – a Semitic term for "the treasure a person trusts in"

(J. Thayer, HELPS Word Studies)



ARGUMENT TWO

- The question of what is at the heart of our desires
- 16 For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.
- An explanation of the driving forces of worldly desires
- These things are not from the heart of God and are therefore inconsistent with His love and His ways
 - They are not His best for us
 - We are not to love the world because what it offers is not ‘good’



THE CORRUPT COSMOS

- The broom systems, philosophies and treasures of this world are not from God, they are from the enemy
- "The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." (2 Cor 4:4)
- The greatest viruses are sin and fear, their power are destructive and deadly and have infected this cosmos
- The heart of the Father in Christ is love and life
 - Christ came that we may have fulness of life eternally (Jn 10:10)



ARGUMENT THREE

- A truly compelling and enduring argument... in fact an eternal reason!
- 17 The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.”
- The value of the things of earth mean nothing compared to the value of what God has in mind for us
- “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard and what no human mind has conceived’ – the things God has prepared for those who love him” (1 Cor 2:9)



INVEST IN THE LIFE ETERNAL

- LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE
- ‘He is trying to show us that loving the Father and freeing ourselves from the love of the world is not optional. It is not icing on the cake of saving faith. It is a matter of eternal life and eternal death. It is number one on life’s agenda. Nothing in all the world is more important than experiencing love for God in your heart. This love is the first and great commandment, Jesus said. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might” (Matthew 22:36–40).’

John Piper, *Desiring God*



2 CORINTHIANS 4 - LOOK AHEAD

- 4:1 “Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart...6 For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ...
8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. 10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body... 12 So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you...16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

