

Loving what we cannot lose
Part 1 of 5 – Stewards, not owners
1 John 2:15-17 (p. 986)

Stewardship – Psalm 24:1; Eccl. 5:15; Genesis 39:4-6; 2 Cor. 4:2

I. WHEN WE LOVE THINGS OF THIS WORLD IT WILL REPLACE OUR LOVE FOR GOD (1 JOHN 2:15).

Crucial questions

- A. Are you devoted to God or do you just say you love Him?
- To love God is to NOT love the world (2:15).
 - To love God is to love those God loves (1 John 4:20-21).
 - To love God is to eagerly obey His word (1 John 5:3).
- B. What in this world captures your devotion instead of God (Deuteronomy 6:5)?

II. SATAN TEMPTS US TO LOVE WORTHLESS THINGS THAT DISTRACT US FROM LOVING GOD (1 JOHN 2:16).

God-replacements

1. Lust/desires of the flesh – Cravings for physical pleasures that violate or exceed God's will for us
2. Lust/desires of the eyes – Cravings for material things we don't have or shouldn't have
3. Pride of life – Arrogance about money, possessions or status

III. WHEN WE LOVE WHAT GOD LOVES, OUR LIFE HAS VALUE FOREVER (1 JOHN 2:17).

1. What we crave in this world becomes worthless forever.
2. Pursuing God's will has value that lasts forever.