

“DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD”

INTRODUCTION

A. 1st Corinthians 13:13; Colossians 3:14

The greatest of all attributes is love. It is the very bond of perfection.

B. 1st John 2:15-17

Nevertheless, not all love is appropriate. Indeed, love for the world stands in defiance of love for God. Our purpose in this study is to examine certain loves specifically prohibited in the scriptures.

I. DO NOT LOVE YOURSELF

A. 2nd Timothy 3:2

It is regarded as perilous that people would love themselves.

B. Mark 12:30-31

Our love must be directed toward God and others.

C. Ephesians 5:28-29

This is not to say that we should have absolutely no regard for ourselves whatsoever; only that our love of others far exceeds any concern we have for ourselves.

D. Philippians 2:3-8

Our chief concern must be for others.

E. Galatians 5:19-21

Selfishness is a damnable work of the flesh.

II. DO NOT LOVE MONEY

A. 2nd Timothy 3:2

Another perilous love is that of money.

B. 1st Timothy 6:6-10

The love of money is a root of all manner of evil because in its pursuit people will engage in many other sins. They will lie, cheat, and steal. They will engage in immorality like prostitution, drug dealing, casino work, or serving drinks. For overtime pay, they will sacrifice time reserved for worship of God or time set aside to spend with family.

C. Luke 16:13-15

In pursuing money, God is forgotten, ignored, even despised.

III. DO NOT LOVE PLEASURE

A. 2nd Timothy 3:4

Loving pleasure is here set in contrast to loving God.

B. Hebrews 11:24-26

Pleasure is fleeting and ought to be sacrificed in order to gain the reward.

C. James 4:1-4

The cause of strife and unanswered prayer is the pursuit of pleasure.

D. Titus 3:1-8

Those who are slaves to passions and pleasures are apparently unfamiliar with the love of God.

E. Luke 8:14

Pleasures have the potential to choke out faith.

F. Ecclesiastes 2:1

The pursuit of pleasure is vanity, useless, worthless.

IV. DO NOT LOVE SLEEP

A. Proverbs 20:13

Sleep should not be loved inasmuch as it conflicts with work.

B. Genesis 2:1-3

Rest is actually God ordained and divinely exemplified, but notice that God did not rest until His work was finished.

C. Ecclesiastes 5:12

It is only when work is complete that rest can truly be sweet.

D. Proverbs 6:6-11; 24:30-34

Emphasis on rest rather than labor brings about ruin. Laziness is unacceptable.

E. Hebrews 4:10-11; Revelation 14:13

Spiritually speaking, rest awaits those who complete their labors in Christ.

CONCLUSION

A. Romans 8:28

Those who love God receive His blessings, not those who love worldliness.

B. 1st John 2:3-5

Those who love God do what He says.