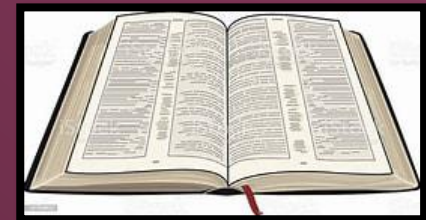


ALERT TO THE DANGERS OF MISDIRECTING AGAPE LOVE TOWARD THE WORLD SYSTEM

I JOHN 2:15. 4:7-17



INTRODUCTION and REVIEW

As NT believers are spiritual –

- With any sins having been confessed (1 Jn 1:9)
- Framing our minds on things above in our position in Christ (Col 3:2)

We can then be alert to the dangers from our 3 spiritual enemies.

INTRODUCTION and REVIEW

As we are alert to the World System, we will be realizing:

- We are IN it, but not OUT OF it as to source
 - We are citizens in heavens, no longer citizens of the World System
 - Jn 15:19, 17:16, Phil 3:20
- We can use it wisely without overusing or abusing it
 - I Cor 7:31, cf I Cor 3:22, Eph 1:22

INTRODUCTION

This morning we look at a third danger
of the World System:

The danger of
misdirecting God's
love toward it

God's One Act of Love Toward the World

John 3:16

The citizens of the system

At onetime, ~2000 years ago

God "so loved" - loved in this way

- By giving His Son as the Living Bread
 - Jn 6:30, 50-51

NT believers' response to John 3:16

- Cf I Jn 4:16
 - (KJV) "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us..."

God Does
NOT
Love the
World
System

Christ is going to destroy the
World System - Ps 2:6-9,
Rev 19:11-16

Christ will then begin His
earthly rule - Rev 11:15

Christ will rule over the new
human kings and judges of
the Earth - Ps 2:10-12

NT Believers Should NOT Direct Agape Love Toward the World System - I Jn 2:15

- Directing agape love toward the World System attempts to:
 - fix, adjust, or improve the inherent flaws of the system
 - The expression of the sin natures of the rich and poor, the oppressor and the sluggard - Matt 26:11
- Only a spiritual believer can direct or misdirect this kind of love
 - Gal 5:22-23, I Jn 2:14 (the “young men”)
 - Misdirected love toward the system ceases being ‘agape’ and turn into “fondness” - James 4:4

NT Believers Should NOT Direct Agape Love Toward the World System - 1 Jn 2:15

- Agape love is only to be directed toward God – by loving the brethren
 - 1 Jn 4:21 “And this commandment have we from him, That he who loves God loves his brother also”



CONCLUSION

Misdirecting agape love toward the World System will make that love void

Direct agape love toward other Christians, and all observing will know that we belong to Christ

- Jn 13:35 “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”