

# First John

## 1 Jn. 2:15-23



Sonship



Fellowship



Fruitfulness



1 Jn. 2:15 Love 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.

18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

20 But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.





21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.





I. GOD'S LITTLE CHILDREN – LIVING AT HOME IN THE  
SPHERE WHERE THE FATHER IS LOVED, 1:1-3:24

A. How We Share the Family Life, 1:1-2:29

1. The Beginning of that Life, 1:1-4

2. The Basis of that Life, 1:5-2:2

3. The Betrayal of that Life, 2:3-11

a. The test of the Lord's person, 2:3-5

b. The test of the Lord's precept, 2:6-8

(1) A confident expectation, 2:6

(2) A critical examination, 2:7-8

(a) The previous commandment, 2:7

(b) The present commandment, 2:8

i. The test of new life in Christ

ii. The test of new light through Christ

c. The test of the Lord's people, 2:9-11

(1) The principle stated, 2:9

(2) The principle studied, 2:10-11

(a) Loving one's brethren, 2:10

(b) Loathing one's brethren, 2:11



#### 4. The Beauty of that Life, 2:12-14

##### a. The first round of reasons, 2:12-13b

- (1) Little children: because of their condition in the family, 2:12
- (2) Fathers: because of their concept of the faith, 2:13a
- (3) Young men: because of their conquest of the foe, 2:13b

##### b. The further round of reasons, 2:13c-14

- (1) Little children: because of their progress, 2:13c
- (2) Fathers: because of their perception, 2:14a
- (3) Young men: because of their power, 2:14b-d
  - (a) How it is described, 2:14b
  - (b) How it is derived, 2:14c
  - (c) How it is displayed, 2:14d



World = *Zeitgeist* (the spirit of the age)

The New Testament uses the term "world" (Gr. *kosmos*) in at least three ways:

1. planet earth, the physical world (e.g., Acts 17:24)

Acts 17:24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

2. humankind, the human world (e.g., John 3:16),

3. human culture as influenced by Satan, the world system (here).



1 Jn. 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

(2) A critical examination, 2:7-8

(a) The previous commandment, 2:7

1 Jn. 2:7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

- The commandment is “old” regarding a known fact, but “new” in the effectiveness being practiced.

Jn. 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye **love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.**

35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.



John again presented three pairs, as he did in verses 12-14.

V. 15	The love of the world	The love of the Father
V. 16	comes from the world	comes from the Father
V. 17	The world passes away	The one who obeys God remains forever

<http://www.soniclight.com/constable/notes/htm/NT/1%20John/1John.htm>

## 5. The Boundaries of that Life, 2:15-23

### a. The forbidden sphere, 2:15-17

#### (1) The love of the world, 2:15





(a) What it begets, 2:15a “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world...”

Jn. 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of **this world** cometh, and hath nothing in me.

Gal. 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom **the world** is crucified unto me, and I unto **the world**.

Eph. 2:2 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:





2 Pet. 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of **the world** through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

(b) What it betrays, 2:15b "...If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

Jas. 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.

1 Jn. 5:19 And we know that we are of God, and **the whole world** lieth in wickedness.





Jn. 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of **this world** be cast out.


(2) The lusts of the world, 2:16

(a) Its shameful appetites, 2:16a  
“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh ... is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

Matthew Henry called these three factors as follows:

- the lust of the flesh = "luxury,"
- the lust of the eyes = "covetousness,"
- the pride of life = "ambition."

Henry, Matthew. *Commentary on the Whole Bible*. One volume ed. Edited by Leslie F. Church. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing Co., 1961. p. 1957.





(b) Its showy appearance, 2:16b  
“For all that is in the world...the lust of the eyes...is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

<b>THE CHRISTIAN'S THREE-FOLD ENEMY</b>	
<b><i><u>Problem</u></i></b>	<b><i><u>Solution</u></i></b>
<b>The World</b> <a href="#">1 John 2:15-17</a> <i>Lust of the Flesh</i> <i>Lust of the Eyes</i> <i>Pride of Life</i>	<b>Flee</b> <a href="#">1 Timothy 6:11</a> <a href="#">2 Timothy 2:22</a>
<b>The Flesh</b> <a href="#">Romans 7:18-24</a>	<b>Deny</b> <a href="#">Romans 6:12-13</a> ; <a href="#">8:13</a> ; <a href="#">Titus 2:12</a>
<b>The Devil</b> <a href="#">1 Peter 5:8</a>	<b>Resist</b> <a href="#">1 Peter 5:9</a>





## THE TRINITY IN 1 JOHN

<b>"God the Father</b>	<b>God the Son</b>	<b>God the Holy Spirit</b>
Through Christ, we have fellowship with the Father (1:3).	Jesus is called 'the Word of life' (1:1).	The Spirit indwells us and gives assurance of salvation (3:24).
God is light (1:5).	Jesus' blood cleanses us from sin (1:7).	The Spirit causes us to confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh (4:2).
The Father has great love for His children (3:1).	Jesus is our Advocate with the Father (2:1).	The Spirit is the gift of God to all believers (4:13).
God is 'greater than our heart, and knows all things' (3:20).	Jesus is the propitiation for our sin (2:2).	The Spirit bears witness to the truth and to Jesus Christ (5:6).
God is love (4:8).	Jesus is sinless (3:5).	The Spirit is one with the Father and the Son (5:7, 8).
God 'sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins' (4:10).	The Son of God destroyed the works of the devil (3:8).	
God abides in believers, and they in Him (4:15).	Jesus has come in the flesh (4:2).	
God is the Giver of eternal life through Jesus Christ (5:11).	The Son is the Savior of the world (4:14).	
	The Son is the source of eternal life (5:11).	
	Believing in the Son of God is necessary for us to inherit eternal life (5:13)." <a href="#">[142]</a>	





(c) Its shallow applause, 2:16c  
“For all that is in the world...the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

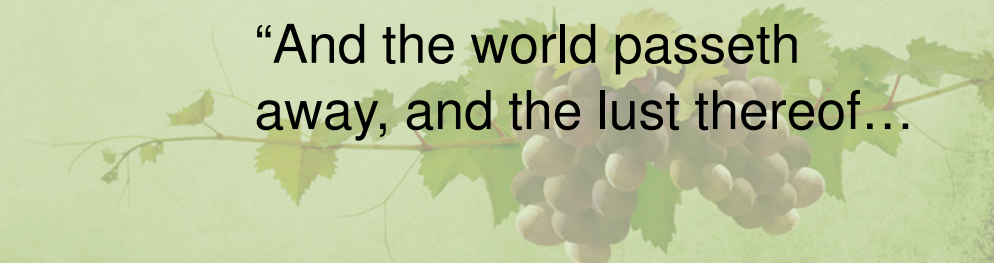
"The same three foes appear in the three classes of soil on which the divine seed falls: the wayside hearers, the *devil*; the thorns, *the world*; the rock underoil, *the flesh*."

Jamieson, Robert; A. R. Fausset; and David Brown. *Commentary Practical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible*. Reprint ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1961. p. 1501

(3) The loss of the world, 2:17

(a) That which is passing, 2:17a

“And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof...”





(b) That which is permanent,  
2:17b "...but he that  
doeth the will of God  
abideth for ever."

John urged his readers—in view of its attractiveness—to understand the avenues of its temptation, and to remember four things:

- (1) Love for the world indicates lack of love for God (v. 15).
- (2) It results in consequences that are not what our loving heavenly Father desires for our welfare (v. 17).
- (3) It lasts only a short time (v. 17).
- (4) It precludes intimate fellowship with God (v. 15).





b. The false spirit, 2:18-23

(1) A word about the time, 2:18

(a) A past warning about the time Antichrist will come, 2:18a “Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come...”

Original Word: παιδίον

Transliteration: paidion

Definition: a little child, an infant, little one.

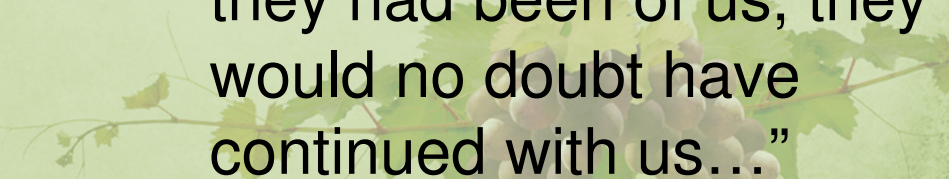
*paidíon* – properly, a child under training; the *diminutive* form of *país* ("child"). *paidíon* ("a little child in training") implies a *younger* child (perhaps seven years old or younger). Some scholars apply (*país*) to a son or daughter *up to 20 years old* (the age of "*complete adulthood*" in Scripture). <http://biblehub.com/greek/3813.htm>



(b) A present warning about the time antichrists have come, 2:18b "...even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time."

(2) A word about the transients, 2:19

(a) Their departure from the fellowship, 2:19a "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us..."





(b) Their disclosure about their faith, 2:19b "...but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us."

(3) A word about the truth, 2:20-21

(a) The unction of the Spirit, 2:20

1 Jn. 2:20 But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

Original Word: χρίσμα  
Transliteration: chrisma  
Definition: an anointing.

*xrísma* (from *xríō*, "anoint with oil") – *anointing*, referring to the *teaching* ministry of the *Holy Spirit*, guiding the receptive believer into fullness of God's preferred-will. <http://biblehub.com/greek/5545.htm>



1 Jn. 2:27 But the **anointing** which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same **anointing** teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

(b) The understanding of the  
Scripture, 2:21

1 Jn. 2:21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.





Original Word: οἶδα

Transliteration: eídō

Definition: I know, remember, appreciate.

*eídō (oída)* – properly, to *see* with *physical* eyes (cf. Ro 1:11), as it naturally bridges to the *metaphorical* sense: *perceiving* ("*mentally seeing*"). This is akin to the expressions: "*I see what you mean*"; "*I see what you are saying.*"

*eídō* ("*seeing* that becomes *knowing*") then is a *gateway* to grasp spiritual truth (reality) from a physical plane. (*eídō*) then is physical seeing (sight) which should be the constant bridge to mental and spiritual seeing (*comprehension*).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1492.htm>





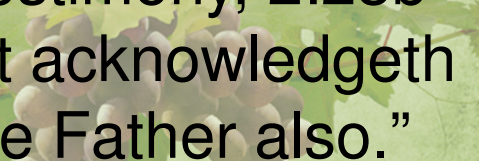
(4) A word about the traitors, 2:22-23a

(a) The challenge of the  
Antichrist, 2:22

1 Jn. 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

(b) The children of the  
Antichrist, 2:23a  
“Whosoever denieth the  
Son, the same hath not  
the Father...”

(5) A word about the testimony, 2:23b  
“... (but) he that acknowledgeth  
the Son hath the Father also.”







Conclusion

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.