

## The Feature Presentation 1 John 2:15-17

Regal Cinemas has me figured out. They know I love movies, but they also have correctly identified a few other things I love...

This video is a great sales pitch! Why? It catches our eye, it ignites our fleshly desires, and why not indulge? You're at the movies...

**1 John 2:15-17 Vs. 15 - "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."**

But doesn't God's Word also say,

- That God created the world, and He Himself declared it good?  
Yes, it does, but that was before the "fall" when all of God's creation became tainted by sin!
- "For God so loved the world that He gave His one & only son..." (John 3:16)  
Yes, it does, but the world in this context refers to the people in the world, not the "stuff" of the world!

So... what are we to do, if we fall into this category (like I do) of people who love things in this world? Are we to become monks? Any other options?

- We must understand that the things of this world cannot satisfy long-term!
- We must understand that the things of this world can lead us to sin!
- We must understand that the things of this world were never intended to be the "feature presentation!"

Nobody goes to Regal Cinemas just to see the roller coaster video! What comes after is far better! This is how we ought to approach life as well!

Worldly "stuff", even the time we spend here with it, is like that intro video! It's not the "feature presentation", the main focus, or the reason for why we're here! We must hold the things of this world in their proper context!

**"The world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever" – 1 John 2:17**

How should, just this one verse, shape our perspective on: This world? Our desires? What's important? What endures? What is God's plan/His will?

**"For all that is in the world"** (not every single thing, but the things that fall into

these specific categories) – **the desires of the flesh, and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life – is not from the Father but is from the world.**" – Vs. 16

And the god of this world is the devil who tries to do all he can to derail the will of the Father for all of creation, as well as lead us away from the truth!

**1 Corinthians 4:4 – "The god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel..."**

When the desires of our flesh, our eyes, our pride, become the focus of our lives, then the devil's sales pitch has become for us the feature presentation

We saw this play out in the lives of Adam & Eve in **Genesis 3:1-6**

Adam & Eve got seduced by Satan, & he used the desires of their flesh, their eyes, & their pride, to bring about their fall!

**Vs. 6 – "So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise..."**

In other words, the devil convinced them both to walk out on seeing God's true "feature presentation", for a measly bag of popcorn!

We can clearly see the parallels between John's warning here in this letter and the path of destruction that Adam and Eve took in the garden! But we can also see the same parallels in Jesus' triumph in the wilderness!

**Matthew 4:1-11** – The temptation of Jesus

**The desires of the flesh** – "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." - Satan

**The desires of the eyes** – "All the kingdoms of the world I will give to you, if you fall down and worship me." - Satan

**The pride of life** – "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, He will command his angels concerning you & they will bear you up"

Where Adam & Eve failed & took worldly things & made them the "feature presentation", Jesus kept earthly & heavenly things in their proper context!

What about us? The roller coaster ride of this life is short, and it will come to an end (just like the video)! Let us make sure that there is something more in store for us after the ride of this life comes to a complete stop!

## The Feature Presentation 1 John 2:15-17

Regal Cinemas has me figured out. They know I love movies, but they also have correctly identified a few other things I love...

This video is a great sales pitch! Why? It catches our eye, it ignites our fleshly desires, and why not indulge? You're at the movies...

**1 John 2:15-17 Vs. 15 - "Do not love \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."**

But doesn't God's Word also say,

- That God created the world, and He Himself declared it good?  
Yes, it does, but that was before the \_\_\_\_\_ when all of God's creation became tainted by sin!
- **"For God so loved the world that He gave His one & only son..."** (John 3:16)  
Yes, it does, but the world in this context refers to \_\_\_\_\_ in the world, not the "stuff" of the world!

So... what are we to do, if we fall into this category (like I do) of people who love things in this world? Are we to become monks? Any other options?

- We must understand that the things of this world cannot satisfy \_\_\_\_\_
- We must understand that that the things of this world can lead us \_\_\_\_\_
- We must understand that the things of this world were never intended to be the \_\_\_\_\_

Nobody goes to Regal Cinemas just to see the roller coaster video! What comes after is far better! This is how we ought to approach life as well!

Worldly "stuff", even the time we spend here with it, is like that intro video! It's not the "feature presentation", the main focus, or the reason for why we're here! We must hold the things of this world in their proper \_\_\_\_\_

**"The world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever" – 1 John 2:17**

How should, just this one verse, shape our perspective on: This world? Our desires? What's important? What endures? What is God's plan/His will?

**"For all that is in the world** (not every single thing, but the things that fall into

these specific categories) – **the desires of the flesh, and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life – is not from the Father but is from the world.**" – Vs. 16

And the god of this world is the \_\_\_\_\_ who tries to do all he can to derail the will of the Father for all of creation, as well as lead us away from the truth!

**1 Corinthians 4:4 – "The god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel..."**

When the desires of our flesh, our eyes, our pride, become the focus of our lives, then the devil's \_\_\_\_\_ has become for us the feature presentation!

We saw this play out in the lives of Adam & Eve in **Genesis 3:1-6**

Adam & Eve got \_\_\_\_\_ by Satan, & he used the desires of their flesh, their eyes, & their pride, to bring about their fall!

**Vs. 6 – "So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise..."**

In other words, the devil convinced them both to walk out on seeing God's true "feature presentation", for a measly \_\_\_\_\_!

We can clearly see the parallels between John's warning here in this letter and the path of destruction that Adam and Eve took in the garden! But we can also see the same parallels in Jesus' triumph in the \_\_\_\_\_!

**Matthew 4:1-11** – The temptation of Jesus

The **desires of the** \_\_\_\_\_ – "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." - Satan

The **desires of the** \_\_\_\_\_ – "All the kingdoms of the world I will give to you, if you fall down and worship me." - Satan

The **of life**– "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, He will command his angels concerning you & they will bear you up"

Where Adam & Eve failed & took worldly things & made them the "feature presentation", Jesus kept earthly & heavenly things in their proper context!

What about us? The roller coaster ride of this life is short, and it will come to an end (just like the video)! Let us make sure that there is something more in store for us after the ride of this life comes to a \_\_\_\_\_!