

**Problem:**

*worldliness is not a style of Christianity  
worldliness is not normative for a true Christian*

**CPT:**

*2:15 Love of the world  
2:16 comes from the world  
2:17 the world passes away*

*2:15 Love of the Father  
2:16 comes from the Father  
2:17 the one who obeys remains forever*

**Main Idea:**

*You can either love the world or you can love God  
You can either pursue worldliness  
or you can pursue godliness  
You can't do both*

**implication:** *what does it mean to be godly in this world?*

*it means to want what He wants - Rom 12:1-2 (His will)  
it means to value what He values - 2 Cor 10:3-6 (His thoughts)  
it means to boast in what He boasts in - 1 Cor 1:27-3; 10:31 (His glory)*

**Application:** *it means His love must have no rivals - Lk 14:25-26*

**text:****You can either love the world or you can love God**

1John 2:15a Do not **love the world** (23x) or the things in the world. If anyone **loves the world**, the **love** of the Father is not in him.

*do not love the world?*

*different uses of world Jn 3:16-21 - people chose darkness*

*(people -> Jn 12:19;*

*world system/darkness -> eph 2:1-3*

*(wide world of sports/world of warcraft/world of watches -etc.)*

*if anyone loves the world...they don't love the father - 1 Jn 4:10, 19 (love of the father is parallel)*

*spiritual adultery; Ezek 16:1-22 (He wants all of us) -bride analogy)*

*greatest commandment - Mk 12:28-30*

**You can either pursue worldliness**

1John 2:16 For all that is in **the world**—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but (strong adversative) is from **the world**.

*began in the garden - Gen 3:6*

*- she saw looked tasty (desires of flesh),*

*- delight to the eyes - beautiful (values),*

*- desired to make wise - no need for God (pride of life)*

*- desires of the flesh - lusts -Gal 5:16-21*

*- desires of the eyes - values - 1 Cor 3:1-4*

*- pride of life - attitudes -Phil 3:17-19*

*there is no grey area - James 4:4*

**Or you can pursue godliness**

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

*cannot serve two masters - Matt 6:24*

*the will of God generally:*

*He made us to be like Him (Gen 1:26-28) love as I have loved you - be like me*

*God hates worldliness - (Rom 1:18)*

*God saved us for godliness - 1 Tim 4:7-8; 6:3-7; Titus 1:1; 2 Pet 1:3; 2:4-3:12*

**You can't do both**

**implication:** *what does it mean to be godly in this world?*

*it means to want what He wants - Rom 12:1-2 (His will)*

*it means to value what He values - 2 Cor 10:3-6 (His thoughts)*

*it means to boast in what He boasts in - 1 Cor 1:27-31 (His cross)*

**Application:** *it means there can be no rivals to His love - Lk 14:25-33*

**video:**

*martyrs are not special kinds of Christians - they are normal Christians who remained committed exactly the same as every Christian is called to be committed even when it cost them everything*

**articles for further study:**

*worldliness is not a style of Christianity:*

<http://www.trunews.com/why-hillsong-dancing-naked-cowboy-story-matters/>

*regarding worldliness for Christians:*

<http://www.gotquestions.org/worldliness.html>

*JC Ryle on tests of assurance (read the comments too at the end to see how much confusion there is):*

<http://www.churchleaders.com/daily-buzz/279623-j-c-ryle-10-questions-test-whether-true-christian.html>

*a sermon on our passage:*

<https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-9-choose-your-love-world-or-father-1-john-215-17>