

## The Third Ten Verses of Your Life

1 John 2:15-24

### Our Relationship To The World

Let's read together the First Ten Verses of Your Life

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—

2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—

3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

**The First Ten verses** of your life were the ten verses of chapter one of 1 John 1:1-10

-They emphasize our relationship thru corrections in two important doctrinal areas:

-The person of Jesus Christ

-And the true nature of sin and its remedy thru the blood of the same, corrected, Jesus Christ.

**The Second Ten verses** of your life are found in 1 John 2:2-11

-With verses one being an important summary bridge verse,

-A summary bridge that takes from our vertical relationship with God

-to our relationship with God and each other and the world.

-That transition is found in the middle of 2:1 which verse reads ...

2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin.

And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

-The key transition phrase is: 'And if anyone sins'

-Anyone means anyone: You or the people you know or the world

-What do we do about it first?

-We go to the Father thru our Advocate, Jesus Christ The Righteous one.

-Seldom does anyone sin only against God and themselves

-Most often our sins are also against others

**The Second Ten Verses of Your Life**

-Fully transition us to include obedience and others in our relationship with God

**The Second Ten Verses** read:

2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

-Here we have the 'world' introduced for the first time

-The 'world' will be an important theme in **The Third Ten Verses of Your Life**

3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

4 He who says, "I know Him (*the Father thru Jesus*)," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected (is mature, complete) in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

### **What Command is he talking about?**

7 Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.

8 Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.

9 He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.

10 He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

11 But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

### **Following these very strong words Pastor John the Apostle stops and ministers to his hearers**

-He reminds them of certain truths about themselves

-Therefore verses 12-14 are parenthetical and a bridge to the Third Ten Verses in Your Life

-He is addressing his audience, he is addressing us!

-How so? We are children, mothers, young adults

-John was so anxious to get into his concerns

-That he didn't start his linking himself to his readers or thanking God for them

-He starts with the word 'That'

-So after some pretty strong words of exhortation

-He pauses as a pastor would and reminds them of certain facts about themselves

-He may be wondering if they are discouraged or overwhelmed

-Are they shaken to their very core?

-He recalls to them who they are

-He recalls them why they are so spiritually successful

(12 I write to you, little children,

**Because** your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.

13 I write to you, fathers,

**Because** you have known Him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men,

**Because** you have overcome the wicked one.

I write to you, little children,

**Because** you have known the Father.

14 I have written to you, fathers,

**Because** you have known Him who is from the beginning.

I have written to you, young men,

**Because** you are strong, and the word of God abides in you,

And you have overcome the wicked one.)

-6 times **Because** ....

-He uses the word **because**: On account of certain facts that he know about them

-What they **are** about already.

### **Moving into The Third 10 Verses of Your Life ....**

- He is now going to remind that there is no excuse for failure in this life in Christ
- Even in a world held in the sway of the wicked one (5:19).
- He will remind them that his exhortations are not beyond the resources they already have

### **So .....**

- ...He immediately commands a stoppage of certain affections going on amongst them, within them ...
- If they are commanded they can do so, but will they want to?
- The continuance of these affections would neutralize or disable their victory and light in the world

### **So he commands them in Third Ten verses of Your Life ....**

**15 Do not or stop loving (agapao) the world or the things in the world.**

- Two things to stop loving but they are connected in a specific way for his readers
- We would summarize these two this way: 'worldly things'

### **Then speaking hypothetically to the extreme end result of this love, if left unchecked .....**

**v.15 cont. .... If anyone loves the world, the love of, (that is for...) the Father is not in him.**

- We generally associate 'agapao' with the love of God, and generally that is so
- But 'agapao' is used of other superior or preeminent loves, other than to or from our Lord or to others as He has commanded us.
- Examples:
  - 1-**John 3:19** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men (*intensively agapao,*) loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
  - 2-**Luke 11:43** Woe to you Pharisees! For you love (*agapao*) the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces.
  - 3-**James 4:4-5** points out what this continuous love of the world means in our relationship to God
  - 4 **Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.**
  - 5 **Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns (*similar to our word in 2:16 for lust*) jealously"?**

### **John then gets specific as to what about the world we are not to love ...**

**16 For all (the visible things) that is in the world**

- Three attributes are focused on here ...
- 1- **—the lust of the flesh,**
- The constant unchecked cravings of our sinful flesh or nature
- The word "desire" (epithymia) is found 38 times in the NT. In only three places does it have positive connotations (Luke 22:15; Phil 1:23; 1 Thess. 2:17);

### **So How does the lust that of the flesh find its fulfillment?**

**2-the lust of the eyes,**

- literally: 'the desire that comes from the eyes'
- That which the flesh craves the eyes as an instrument of our lusting flesh seek to latch onto and covet..
- And once your acquire what you covet
- James** affirms this in chapter 1:13-15 **13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.**
- 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires (lust, same word) and enticed (or outwardly baited).**
- 15 Then, when desire (lust, same word) has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, becomes dominant, brings forth death.**

- How is what the eyes see interpreted for us?
- By the words which we have heard or read about what we see
- The marketing and advertising and propaganda campaign if you will
- These 'words' either lead us to interpret what we see lustfully
- or as something we need to hear about and thus see thru the Word of God

### What is the first fruit of fulfilling the lust of the flesh thru the eyes?

#### 3-and the pride of life—

- a pride of 'bios', earthly life (not Zoe which is the life given by Jesus)
- or life full of the cravings inwardly of our flesh that are sought for in the world by our eyes and fulfilled materially and leads us to pride in this earthly life...
- This word 'pride' is used in one other place and yes it is in James
- James 4:16** But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.
- Thayer's Lexicon** defines this word pride/arrogance this way: an impious and empty presumption which trusts in the stability of earthly things ...

### Then John says categorically this ....

#### v.16 cont. .... is not of (or has its origins in) the Father but is of the world.

- Everything that makes up the world, those attitudes and values which are defined in 2:16, are 'not from the Father'.
- Clearly then, as the author says in 2:15b, 'if anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him'.
- His love is not driving our craving and ultimately possessing these things

### That which is not of the Father ....

#### 17 And the world is passing away (fading away), and the lust of it;

- literally passes by and moves on after staying for a short time.
- Heaven and will 'pass away' but not my Words, Matt. 24:35

### Does the Father give us possessions, things that are in the world?

#### Or Does He deny us things that are found in the world?

- Paul addresses this with the right perspective

**1 Tim. 6:17** Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty (may we say proud), nor to trust in uncertain riches

- Now here is the correct perspective and order ....

**But** (trust) in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

- And what does this faith, trust in God look like ....

but he who does the will of God abides forever.

- John responds to this verse in Timothy in our verses, in our last verse of 3<sup>rd</sup> 10

- John gives us in v.24 the secret to a prioritized life in this world, with things from the Father

- v.24 reads: **24 Therefore** let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.

- As we know from John 15 abiding, remaining, clinging to Jesus the vine is a key to bearing pleasing, remaining fruit ...

- Here we have another key, which really is not another, to not only abide in Jesus,

- but we are to abide in His words from the beginning

### Paul gives our proper perspective toward the world and its things

- 1Cor. 7:29-31** 29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short, so that from now on even those who have wives should be as though they had none,

30 those who weep as though they did not weep, those who rejoice as though they did not rejoice, those who buy as though they did not possess,

-Here is the key regarding the things of this world that is from the Father ...

31 and those who use this world as not misusing it. For the form (*schemes*) of this world is passing away.

### How do we counter, minimize our lust factor?

-Both the inward lust and as the inward is given vision thru our eyes and interpreted thru words...

### Here is our counter: In a word .... contentment

-**1Tim. 6:6-10** Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

-**Heb. 13:5** Let your conduct (*way of life*) be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

-what we have most of all is Jesus, who will never leave us ...

### Lastly: How do we get to contentment from dis-contentment?

**Phil. 4:11-13** 11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned (*thru experiencing the fade away*) in whatever state I am, to be content:

12 I know how (*content*) to be abased, and I know how (*not be arrogant*) to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

**Col. 3:1** If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For you died, and your life (*Not bios, but Zoe*) is hidden with Christ in God.

-Seek the K of G and everything we need will be added to us

-Our antidote is **Godly Contentment** while living and seeing with our eyes in this world

-Pursue after the unseen, the Spiritual

-Think Spiritual, React Spiritual

-**2Cor. 4:18** while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary (*they will fade, pass away*), but the things which are not seen are eternal.

### This loss of loving the Father does not happen on its own ....

**18** Little children or Dearest Children, it is the last hour or season (*when did the last hour start?*); and as you have heard that The Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

-The World's 'Instead-of-as-well-as-against-Christ' is: Antichrist or Antichrists

-The Antichrist is coming: **2Thes. 2:7-10**

7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work (*antichrists, w/a small 'a'*); only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way (*steps aside, gets out of the way of manifest lawlessness*).

8 And then the lawless one will be revealed (*apokalupto*), whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.  
9 The coming (*advent*) of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,  
10 and with all unrighteous deception (*the powers, signs and lying wonders will verify their as righteous their righteous teachings*) among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.  
-they had the truth, but rejected it and now they pursue lies as truth

### Where do they come from ....

-Or In Order to be anti-Christ do you need to know something about the real Christ?

**19** They (*small 'a' antichrist's*) went out from us (*included in us is John and probably the other Apostles*), but they were not of us (*Apostolic*); for if they had been of us (*Apostolic*), they would have continued with us; but they went out *in order* that they might be made manifest (*make it very clear*), that none of them were of us.

### What was behind their going forth and truly manifesting themselves?

#### Were there safeguards in place to ensure the doctrinal purity of the church?

**20** But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things

**Two keys here:** The have an anointing and they know all things

-They didn't come to 'know' the anointing, they have it because they have received it along with John's teachings

-The 'all things' were taught to them by John who was there from the beginning

#### Anointing

**Colin Kruse:** -The word 'anointing' is found only here twice and in 2:27 in the entire NT.

-Where the anointing is described as being received and abiding in them

-The cognate verb 'to anoint' (*chriō*) is found in several other places,

-Where it refers mostly to Jesus being anointed by God with the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:18; Acts 4:27; 10:38),

-Once of Paul being anointed by God, who put his Spirit in him **2 Cor 1:21-22**.

-which reads:

**21** Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God,  
**22** who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

-Its consistent use in the NT is in relation to an anointing whose agent is God the Holy Spirit.

-Again they had two things: The Anointing Holy Spirit within them and they 'knew all things'

-Spirit and Truth working together to keep the Body pure .....

### Why did they leave? Sound doctrine and they could not change or corrupt it from within

-The truth-sayers kept on speaking and teaching the truth of sound doctrine!

-They tried to deceive the truth sayers per v.26, but failed

-The Dear Children of will not be taught something less than or different from what they heard from John and the other Apostles,

-Especially as it concerns the person and work of Jesus Christ

### Again the last part of v.20 ....

**v.20 cont. ...** and the result of this is ..... and you have known (*perfect*) all things (*taught from the beginning*).

-you know all ... the whole council of God

-How do they ... come to know all things?

-In v.27 the same Anointing, the same Holy Spirit teaches you all things

-How does the Holy Spirit do this teaching?

-Thru hearing the sound teaching of the Word.

**21 I have not written to you because you do or have not know the truth, but because you have known it, and that no lie is of the truth.**

-There are no changes to the truth

-There are no deletions to the truth

-There are no new additions or new revelations to the truth

-The truth is not locally applied to some, but not applicable to other localities, unless specified

**What is the Antichrist's chief lie?**

**22 Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ?**

**He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.**

-The denial of the Son also involves a denial of the Father because:

1-it was the Father who sent his Son (4:10),

2-it is the Father who bears testimony to the Son (5:9-10).

-All who deny the Son, and so deny the Father, can no longer be regarded by the author as true believers

-The Jews understood what Jesus meant when He claimed God as His Father

**-John 5:17-18**

17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.

-They understood the theological concept of eternal generation

-Which means that the Second Person of the Trinity is Equal, never created

-Yet He proceeds forth as the Son from the Father, in the plans of the Father.

-And therefore places Himself under the authority of the Father

**You cannot claim the Father if you Deny Christ's Dual Nature and Anointed Calling**

**23 Whoever denies the Son (ship of Jesus) does not have the Father either;**

**he who acknowledges the Son (confesses for who He is) has the Father also.**

-They are inseparable.

-Diminish one and you cannot claim the other, He will not be in you!

**24 Therefore let 'that' (there's that word from 1:1, 'ho', the same word here and in 1:1) abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.**

-What is the key to victory over the World and its lures and its lying Antichrists?

-To abide in the Logos: Both the Logos who is the Vine of John 15 and the Logos, the Word of God we have been taught

-We are to Abide in the Vines

-And the Word, the truth is to abide in us!

Amen