WE DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD

(11/10/2024; Life Group; 1 John 2:15-17; Steve Thiel; Christ Proclamation Church)

Sermon Theme: Those who love the world do not love God. They haven't experienced the glorious reality that Christ died to deliver them not only from the presence of sin, but the power of sin. True believers love Jesus and live increasingly for His Kingdom. Therefore, they have a growing assurance of salvation.

I. Essence of Worldliness – Read 1 John 2:15

- A. What does John mean when he references the world? What does it mean to "love the world"?
- B. What would be some indicators that a person loves the world?
- C. As you think about it, why is loving the world and the things of the world diametrically opposed to loving God, the things of God, and the people of God? How would you explain that?

II. Warning Against Worldliness – Read 1 John 2:16-17

- A. In verse 16, how does John summarize the temptations of the world?
- B. How would you define the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the boastful pride of life? Which of these desires are you most prone to struggle with in your life?
- C. Read 1 John 2:17. How would you interpret this verse? In what ways does this verse encourage Christians in the fight of faith against worldliness?
- D. What is the difference between loving the world and enjoying the good gifts God gives us in the world? How should these good gifts cause us to desire God rather than "things in the world"?

III. Victory Over Worldliness - Application

- A. How should Christians live in the world and yet be separate from the world?
- B. Read Psalm 37:4. How does a great affection for Christ cause a greater relinquishing of love for the world? Where would you like to grow in being captivated by the Lord Jesus?
- C. How is the body of Christ essential to fighting worldliness? What does it look like to "walk in the narrow way" with fellow Christians?