<sup>12</sup>I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name's sake. <sup>13</sup>I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. <sup>14</sup>I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been 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 evil one. I John 2:12-14 NASB

- John speaks to children, young men, and fathers.
  - Little children these are younger people and/or those who are 'new in the Lord.' They are not spiritually experienced or mature, but they are in God's family and bear His name. (See Acts 4:12)
  - Young men they have grown some in the word and in their walk, and they have been introduced to spiritual warfare and dealing with the enemy.
  - Fathers those more mature in the things and ways of God. Those who have had encounters with God and are wise in His word and life in the kingdom.
- The Christian life is a process of knowing and growing, sowing and going, becoming and overcoming as we walk in the Light we are given.

<sup>15</sup>Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. <sup>17</sup>The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever. I John 2:15-17 NASB; see 2 Corinthians 11:1-3

<sup>15</sup>Don't set the affections of your heart on this world or in loving the things of the world. The love of the Father and the love of the world are incompatible. <sup>16</sup>For all that the world can offer us—the gratification of our flesh, the allurement of the things of the world, and the obsession with status and importance none of these things come from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup>This world and its desires are in the process of passing away, but those who *love to* do the will of God live forever. **I John 2:15-17 The Passion Translation** 

For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh [craving for sensual gratification] and the lust of the eyes [greedy longings of the mind] and the pride of life

## HE STANDS UP FOR US III

[assurance in one's own resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not come from the Father but are from the world [itself]. I John 2:16 AMPC

- We are exhorted to 'not love the world'... but the Bible says 'God so loved the world'...(John 3:16)
- So, what do we do?
- When John says, 'Love not the world', he isn't referring to God's creation or to the world of people.
- He is referring to the world system, the domain of darkness and sin which is organized against God. (See Ephesians 2:13)

Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

John 12:31 NASB

I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; John 14:30 NASB

You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. I John 4:4 NASB

We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. I John 5:19 NASB

• For all that is in the world...is not from God. (I John 2:16-17) And it is passing away...on its way out.

What's in the world?? (See Luke 4:5-8)

- The lust of the flesh...the gratification of our self-indulgent appetites...living lured and 'lassoed'...
- The lust of the eyes...the allurement of things fleshly and flashy...the greedy urgings of godless desires...living by sight and ignoring God's insight and wisdom.
- The boastful pride of life...self-indulgent, self-centered, self-assured confidence that man is in control and God is not needed.

Barclay calls this passage in I John 2:15-17, "Rivals for the human heart" ... the world is not simply a passive entity, but a rival for the allegiance of everybody's heart. The issue is... what do you love the most... we can't love the world and the Lord both the most at the same moment.

All that the world has to offer is fading and passing away...it is transitory...but those who love God and love doing His will will live forever.

## HE STANDS UP FOR US III

These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world. **John** 16:33 NASB

<sup>18</sup>Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour. <sup>19</sup>They went out from us, but they were not *really* of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but *they went out*, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us· <sup>20</sup>But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know· <sup>21</sup>I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie is of the truth. <sup>22</sup>Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. <sup>23</sup>Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also. <sup>24</sup>As for you, 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. **I John 2:18-24 NASB** 

But you have been anointed by [you hold a sacred appointment from, you have been given an unction from] the Holy One, and you all know [the Truth] or you know all things. I John 2:20 AMPC

- We have an anointing from the Holy One...the Holy Spirit. (v20)
- We must abide in Him as He abides in us.

<sup>24</sup> As for you, keep in your hearts what you have heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the first dwells *and* remains in you, then you will dwell in the Son and in the Father [always]. <sup>25</sup> And this is what He Himself has promised us—the life, the eternal [life]. <sup>26</sup> I write this to you with reference to those who would deceive you [seduce and lead you astray]. <sup>27</sup> But as for you, the anointing (the sacred appointment, the unction) which you received from Him abides [permanently] in you; [so] then you have no need that anyone should instruct you. But just as His anointing teaches you concerning everything and is true and is no falsehood, so you must abide in (live in, never

depart from) Him [being rooted in Him, knit to Him], just as [His anointing] has taught you [to do]. I John 2:24-27 AMPC

<sup>28</sup> And now, little children, abide (live, remain permanently) in Him, so that when He is made visible, we may have *and* enjoy perfect confidence (boldness, assurance) and not be ashamed *and* shrink from Him at His coming. <sup>29</sup> If you know (perceive and are sure) that He [Christ] is [absolutely] righteous [conforming to the Father's will in purpose, thought, and action], you may also know (be sure) that everyone who does righteously [and is therefore in like manner conformed to the divine will] is born (begotten) of Him [God]. **I John** 

## 2:28-29 AMPC

- Dig in...put down roots of faith...if we walk now by faith...walking by 'sight'
   will be no problem. (v28)
- He lives 'holy' in us and loves living holy through us. (v29)