“If Anyone Loves The World”
1 John 2:15

Introduction:
A. Can we love anything in this world? A sunset? Singing bird? Beautiful scene?
B. Must we reject everything in this world? Comforts? Conveniences? Modern inventions?
C. Could it be that world has different meanings?
D. If anyone loves the world, he loves:

Discussion:
I. “The Lust of the Flesh.”
A. Desiring things unconditionally forbidden. (Gal. 5:19-21)
B. Desiring things conditionally forbidden. (Cf. 1 Cor. 8:9-13; 10:6).
C. Desiring things intemperately (cf. 1 Cor. 9:25).
   1. One can be controlled by desire for food, clothing, etc — rather than being in control.
   2. One can be controlled by desire for hobby, recreation, etc. — even work.

II. “The Lust of the Eye.”
A. Forbidden fruit in Eden was “pleasant to the eyes.” (Gen. 3:6).
B. Lot’s choice of land began with the eyes. (Gen. 13:10)
C. David’s sin with Bathsheba began with eyes. (2 Sam. 11:2).
D. Looking up an woman to lust (Matt. 5:28).
E. Theft, shoplifting, etc. often begins with the eyes.
F. Advertising capitalizes on lust of the eye.

III. “The Pride of Life.”
A. The pride of being fashionable can lead to sin. (Cf. Rom. 12:1,2).
   1. In appearance.
   2. In speech.
   3. In behavior (life-style).
B. The pride of notoriety can lead to sin. (Matt. 23:5).
   1. Whatever gets attention.
   2. Often motive behind acts of service to God and man.
C. The pride of power and prestige can lead to sin. (Cf. Acts 12:21-23; 1 Pet. 5:3)
   1. Not to serve, but dominate.
   2. See things not as means for good, but for prestige.
D. The pride being righteous can lead to sin. (Lk. 17:10; 18:10-14).
E. Ethnic, social and/or economic pride can lead to sin. (Gal. 2:11,12; Rom 12:16).

Conclusion:
A. “Worldliness” is subtle — often hard to define and detect.
B. “Worldliness” was as old as man — Adam and Eve used all three avenues.
C. “Worldliness” can be avoided by seeking first the kingdom of God. (Mt. 6:33).