
INTRODUCTION: DISCUSSION & THEME (*world*; Jms.1:27; 2:5; 3:6; 4:4)

I. THE WORLD IN THE BIBLE

A. AN ORDERED SYSTEM (see 1Tm.2:9; 3:2)

B. SPACE: THE CREATED ORDER (Gen.1:1f; see Acts 17:24; Jn.6:33; Ps.24:1)

C. TIME: THIS PRESENT AGE (1Cor.1:20; see Eph.1:4,21)

D. HUMANITY: THE NATIONS (Rev.5:9; see Mt.4:8; 24:14)

II. THE WORLD IN THE PLAN OF SALVATION

A. CREATED: ALL GOOD (Gen.1:31; 1Tm.4:4)

B. ENSLAVED: SATAN, SIN, DEATH

1. conquered by Satan (1Jn.5:19; Eph.2:2; 6:12; 2Cor.4:4)

2. ruled in sin & death (1Cor.5:10; see Mk.4:19; 1Jn.2:15-17; 4:3; Heb.2:15)

C. REDEEMED: OUT OF THE WORLD & IN TO THE CHURCH

1. Christ and His kingdom are not from & came into this world (Jn.8:23; 16:28; 18:36; 1Tm.1:15)

2. Christ conquered Satan in the world (Mt.4:1f; Heb.9:26; Rom.6:9; see Jn.12:31; 16:33; 1Jn.4:4; Rev.12:7f; Lk.11:20; Mt.28:18f)

3. Christ frees Satan's captives from the world (Ex.20:1f; Jn.8:36; 15:19; 17:6; Col.1:13; 2Cor.6:17f)

4. Christ's sends His freedmen into the world (Jn.17:11f,15,21f; 1Jn.3:13; 5:3f; 1Cor.5:10; Mt.5:13f)

5. Christ guards His freedmen in the world (Jn.17:11f; Jms.1:27; 4:4; 2Pt.2:20; 1Jn.2:13f; Lk.16:8)

D. GLORIFIED: THE NEW WORLD (Rom.8:18; 2Pt.3:13; Rev.19-22; see Eph.1:21)

E. SUMMARY: WAR OF THE WORLDS (Eph.6:12f; 1Jn.4:3; 1Pt.2:11)

III. THE WORLD & YOU

A. BE FAITHFUL TO YOUR SAVIOR IN THE WORLD (Josh.24:15; 1Kngs.18:21f; Mt.6:24; Jms.4:4; see Col.1:13; 3:1f)

B. MAKE A THANKFUL, OBEDIENT & CONTENTED USE OF THE WORLD (created things; Gen.1:31; 1Tm.4:4; 6:6f)

C. LIVE FREE IN THE WORLD (redeemed; see Tt.2:11-15)

1. do not be enslaved to the love of *evil* things in the world (*immorality*; Jms.1:27; 1Pt.2:11; 2Pt.2:20)

2. do not be enslaved to the *love* of good things in the world (*idolatry*; Mt.6:24; Mk.4:19; 1Jn.2:16; Jms.4:4; 1Tm.6:10)

3. do not be enslaved to the *false order* of the world (*legalism*; Gal.4:8,9; Col.2:20; see Gal.5:1f; Heb.9,10)

4. do not be enslaved to the *disorder* of the world (*lawlessness*; Gal.5:13f; Jms.1:27; 3:16; 4:4; 1Jn.2:16; 1Tm.6:10)

D. BE SALT & LIGHT IN THE WORLD (Jn.17:11f,15,21f; 1Jn.3:13; 5:3f; 1Cor.5:10; Mt.5:13f)

SERMON: Friendship with the World

1 March 2009

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE, FAMILY AND SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP

*Suggestions: Don't feel obliged to use every question or every part of every question. Go through and discuss those that are of greatest **interest** to you. Then consider going back and discussing those that may also be **useful**, including those that may have seemed a bit difficult. In all questions, keep the outline before to identify entries relevant to the question and to look up appropriate verses listed.*

1. What most surprised, puzzled or impressed you from this sermon?
2. What was most helpful? Why? How will you apply it in your daily life?
3. What is the basic idea of "world" in the Bible?
4. In what three different senses is it used?
5. What is the overwhelming significance of this word in the Bible?
6. What are the four states of the world?
7. What is the significance of each one for our lives?
8. What are the aspects of Christ's relationship to the world?
9. What are the aspects of our relationship to the world through faith-union with Christ?
10. What are our privileges and duties in view of these aspects?
11. How do you love *evil* things in the world?
12. How do you love good things in the world *too much*?
13. How are you enslaved to the *false order* of the world?
14. How are you enslaved to the *disorder* of the world?
15. How are you salt in the world?
16. How are you light in the world?