

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2008**

GENERAL SUBJECT: THE BELIEVERS

Message Forty-Six

**Their Present—Experiencing the Dispensing of the Divine Trinity
in Not Loving the World and in Overcoming Satan, the Devil**

Scripture Reading: 1 John 2:15-17; 5:19b; Rom. 12:2; James 4:7; Rev. 12:11

- I. The believers experience the dispensing of the Divine Trinity in not loving the world—the evil satanic system—1 John 2:15-17; 5:19b; Rom. 12:2:**
- A. “Do not love the world nor the things in the world”—1 John 2:15a:
 - 1. In order to usurp man, who was created by God for Himself, Satan has formed an anti-God world system on earth by systematizing people with religion, culture, education, industry, commerce, entertainment, etc., through the fallen human nature.
 - 2. Not loving such a world is the ground for overcoming the evil one—v. 14.
 - B. “The whole world lies in the evil one”—5:19b:
 - 1. The whole world (and especially the people of the world) is lying passively under the usurping and manipulating hand of the evil one.
 - 2. *The evil one* refers to one who is pernicious, harmfully evil, one who affects others, influencing them to be evil and vicious; such an evil one is Satan, the devil, in whom the whole world lies.
 - C. “If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him”—2:15b:
 - 1. As the devil is against the Son (3:8) and the flesh is against the Spirit (Gal. 5:17), so the world is against the Father.
 - 2. Literally, “love for the Father” is “the love of the Father,” referring to the Father’s love within us, which becomes our love for Him.
 - 3. To love the Father with such a love is to love Him with the love with which He has loved us and which is enjoyed by us—1 John 3:1; 4:16.
 - D. “Because all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the vainglory of life, is not of the Father but is of the world”—2:16:
 - 1. This verse discloses the contents of the satanic world system:
 - a. The lust of the flesh is the passionate desire of the body.
 - b. The lust of the eyes is the passionate desire of the soul through the eyes.
 - c. The vainglory of life is the empty pride, boast, confidence, assurance, and display of the material things of the present age.
 - 2. We should not love the world nor what is in the world—v. 15.
 - E. “The world is passing away, and its lust, but he who does the will of God abides forever”—v. 17:

1. The world is in opposition to God, and the things that are in the world are in opposition to the will of God.
2. To do the will of God is to practice the will of God habitually and continually.

II. The believers experience the dispensing of the Divine Trinity in overcoming Satan, the devil—James 4:7; 2 Cor. 2:11; 2 Thes. 3:3; Rev. 12:11:

- A. “Be subject therefore to God; but withstand the devil, and he will flee from you”—James 4:7:
 1. To be humble toward God, that is, to be subject to God, is to withstand the devil.
 2. This is the best strategy to fight God’s enemy; it always causes him to flee from us.
- B. “Neither give place to the devil”—Eph. 4:27:
 1. We should not give place to the devil in anything.
 2. If we hold on to our anger (v. 26), we give place to the devil, but if we relinquish our anger, we close the door to the devil and give him no place.
- C. “That we may not be taken advantage of by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes”—2 Cor. 2:11:
 1. This verse discloses that the evil one, Satan, is behind the scenes in everything and works in everything.
 2. We should not be ignorant of Satan’s schemes, that is, his plans, plots, devices, designs, wiles, intentions, purposes, and stratagems—Eph. 6:11.
- D. “The Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one”—2 Thes. 3:3:
 1. Only the eternal life can guard us from the evil one—1 John 2:25; 5:13.
 2. The whole world lies in the evil one, but the divine life with which we have been born of God always keeps us and guards us from him—3:9; 5:4, 18.
- E. “They overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death”—Rev. 12:11:
 1. The blood of the Lamb, which was shed for our redemption, answers all the accusations of the devil against us and gives us the victory over him; we need to apply this blood whenever we sense the accusation of the devil.
 2. The word of their testimony is their word that testifies that the devil has been judged by the Lord; whenever we sense the devil’s accusation, we should verbally testify how the Lord has already dealt with him and declare with the uttered word the Lord’s victory over him—Heb. 2:14.
 3. To overcome Satan we must not love our soul-life—Luke 9:23; 14:26:
 - a. Because of man’s fall, Satan joined himself to man’s soul-life—man’s self—Matt. 16:23-24.
 - b. Not loving the soul-life is the basis for overcoming Satan—Rev. 12:11.
 - c. Satan is afraid of only one kind of people—those who do not love their soul-life.
 - d. If we would overcome Satan, we must realize that the basis of victory is the renunciation of our self-love—John 12:25.