

Significance 1

Responding to how the world sees us

1 John 2:15-17

(See also: John 15:18-26; John 17:6-20; 1 Corinthians 9:19-23)

About this thing called the “world”

- Its **SYSTEM** is built on the **SAND** of compromise, lust and selfishness.
 - It needs the **CEMENT** of Christ, His love and His cross.
- Its **PEOPLE** operate on values and practices of **SHIFTING** sand.
 - They need the solid values and practices of Christ, the **ROCK**.

God hates the world’s ways but loves the world’s people!

He wants our focus on the later with an eye on the former.

About our role in the world

Christ’s work is always relevant and significant **FOR** the world
Even if it is not **TO** the world (their **OPINION**).

For the church, the burden is on our **FAITHFULNESS** and our **PRESENTATION**.

(If their *view* of us is “murky” – the message can be lost)

For people in the world the burden is on **RECEPTIVITY**.

(If they can see the message clearly – they are responsible to respond)

CONCLUSION

The world needs us as the cornerstone of Gospel truth.

They need to understand our view of the

Problem: sin and hell

Goal: salvation, peace with God

Intervention: The cross

The world can criticize our methods and **WE MAY NEED** to adjust

The world can criticize our message and **THEY NEED** to adjust

The world can criticize our consistency, commitment and practice and **WE BETTER** adjust!