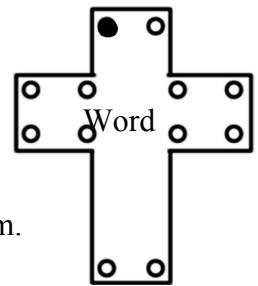


WORD of TRULY GREAT FREEDOM

2.12 This Separation

Bible Verse : 1 John 2:15

Do not love the world or the things in the world.
If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.



Proclaim : *If a man loves the world, he will depart from God's Love.*

Truth: We are a holy nation, a people belonging to God, who have left the darkness and have entered into His wonderful light.



Scripture Reference: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Lesson: (1) The Kingdom Of This World – *Since the world has been under Satan's influence and government, the values and tendencies of the world are contrary with God's values. The Bible teach the importance of <inner beauty> while the world is focused on <outward beauty>. Man looks at the appearance while God looks on the heart. When beauty fades, God still love the person greatly. Also, God wants man to seek the eternal things above, because the worldly things are temporal and do not last forever. (1 Samuel 16:7)*

(2) We Do Not Belong To This World – *Although we live in this world, we do not belong to this world. The word of God tells us "to seek those things that are above, where Christ Jesus is." God has purposed to help us live Christ-centred lives which make good impacts on others around. The bible reveals that our light can shine best especially where it is darkest - the glorious light which He has purposed to set on His people. (Colossians 3:1, 2; Isaiah 60:2-3)*

(3) We Shall Not Have Other Gods – *God has said, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me." Anything that controls one's life and take away our time for God equals one's 'other gods'. The things of this world will cause us to focus on the self and forget God. (Exodus 20:2-3)*

(4) We Must Make Good Decisions – *Imagine: A flight passenger cannot be seated in two different seats at the same time: if he chooses economy seat, he cannot have the first-class seat. Similarly, man cannot love the things of the world and love God at the same time. The worldly things distance man from the love of God. Let us choose separation from the world and be set apart for God.*

Conclusion: Today, many young people pursue expensive things and branded goods. Living on "credit money" has become common, causing people to love the world instead of the Heavenly Father. Those who believe the Lord Jesus cannot love the things of the world and love God at the same time, but must abide in God's love.

Prayer/Invitation: Pray that today's truths will be written on our hearts in Lord Jesus' name.