

Things the Devil Loves

All Christians know that worldliness is sinful, after all, the bible says so, right? *“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.”* (1 John 2:15) Well, there it is in black and white, yet how many times have I said, “I just love _____!” (You can fill in the blank). As I stare at that verse, my eyes keep focusing on the phrase, *“the things in the world”*. So just what does that include? Everything!

It would be safe to say that everything God hates the devil loves. We’re familiar with the list of sins found in *Proverbs 6: 16-19* or *Galatians 5:19-21* and other passages that name sinful behavior. But have we considered that Satan loves even the good things in the world? Those things that would seem perfectly innocent, yet the devil can use them to distract us from God. Satan transforms himself into an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14) and if he can do that he can certainly deceive us into loving the things of the world too much.

Here is a short list of examples, which is by no means complete. The devil loves family gatherings, weekend get-aways, youth sports, Saturday night concerts, hunting, fishing, golf, vacations, anniversaries, holidays, dance or music recitals, children’s plays, graduations, gardening, and more. All of these things can be things we “love” to do, but draw us away from worship times, bible studies, prayer services, and serving others. Not only do we harm our spirituality when we excuse ourselves from the Lord’s service to do things we enjoy, but can be sending the wrong message to our children, unsaved friends and members of our community.

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