

The Abiding Life is Incompatible with the

Κοσμος

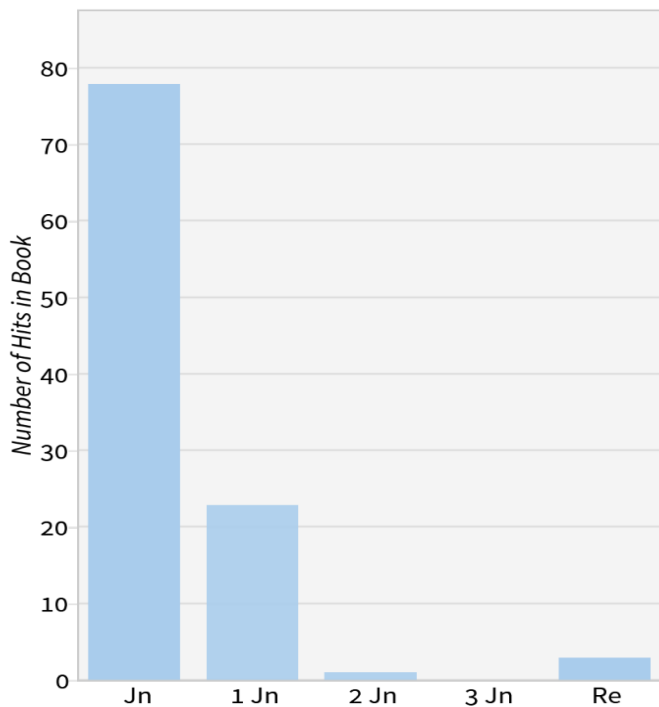
1 John 2:15-17

The World

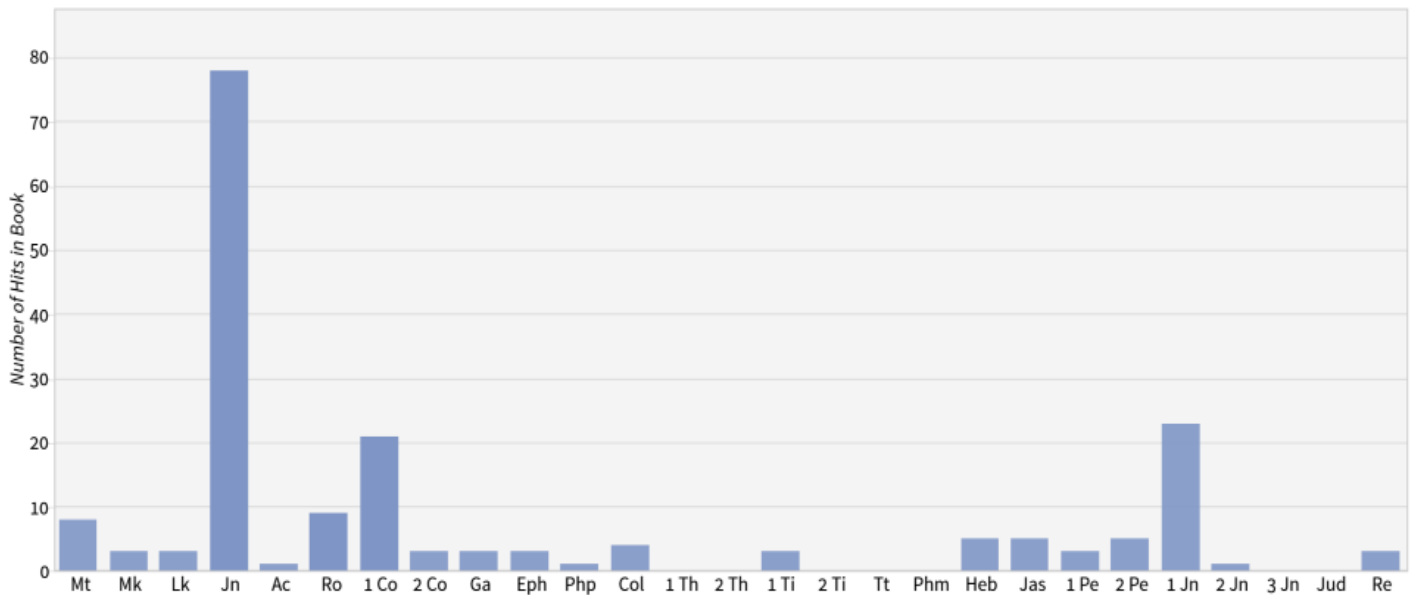
John employs this term in five distinct and basic ways:

1. The universe created by God with design and order (Matthew 13:35; John 17:24; Acts 17:24).
2. The planet earth (John 11:9). This includes the idea of earth as the dwelling place of human beings (John 16:21) and of earth as contrasted with heaven (John 6:14; 12:46).
3. The total of humanity (Matthew 5:14; John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 4:13).
4. The total of human existence in this present life, with all of its experience and possessions (Matthew 16:26; 1 Corinthians 7:33).
5. A moral and spiritual system opposed to God and designed to draw humanity away from Him. It is this use that John has the most concentration of.

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κόσμος – Strongs #2889 185x in the NT, 105x in John's writings. Adornment, orderly arrangement, world, the created universe. Uses in 1 John – 2:2, 15, 16, 17; 3:1, 13, 17; 4:1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 14, 17; 5:4, 5, 19

The three components of the things that belong to the satanic system of this age: The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life.

Gratifying and Glorifying Self – Gen 3:6; Luke 4:1-13

Greedy Desires that Wage War Against the Soul

ἐπιθυμία – Strongs #1939 38x in NT 5 in John's writings. Desire, longing, craving, lust. John 8:44; 1 John 2:16, 17; Rom 1:24; 6:12; 13:14; Gal 5:16, 24; 1 Tim 6:9; 2 Tim 2:22; 3:6; 4:3; Tit 2:12; 3:3; 1 Pet 1:14.

Lust of the Flesh: Numbers 11:4, 34; Mark 4:19; Titus 2:12; 3:3; 1 Peter 1:14; 2:11; 4:2, 3; 2 Peter 2:10, 18; Jude 16-18

Lust of the Eyes: Genesis 3:6; 6:2; Joshua 7:21; Ecclesiastes 5:10-11; Matthew 5:28; 2 Peter 2:14

Boastful pride of life: Esther 1:3-7; Psalm 73:1-9; Daniel 4:30

The flesh and its desires are set against the Spirit (Romans 7:18, 23; 8:5ff; Galatians 5:16-26; James 3:14-15 cf. Ephesians 2:3; Romans 13:14).

This is not an injunction against the material world (Gen 1; John 1:1-18; 1 Tim 4:3-4; 1 John 3:17; James 2:15f).

Humanity is especially prone to pervert the goodness of God's creation (Romans 1:18-25).

The Poetic Breakdown		
2:15	Love of the World	Love of the Father
	↓	↓
2:16	Comes From the World	Comes From the Father
	↓	↓
2:17	The World is Passing Away	The One Who Does the Will of God Abides Forever
	↓	↓
	Leading to Death	Manifesting Life

The Exhortation

Our allegiance must be undivided (1 John 2:15; Matthew 6:24; Matthew 16:23 cf. 1 Kings 18:21; Galatians 1:10; 1 Peter 4:2; James 4:4).

Our affection must be focused and specific (1 John 2:15; Colossians 3:1-4; Hebrews 12:1-3; Romans 8:6; 2 Corinthians 4:18; Philippians 3:20).

Our Identity must be revealed in doing His Will (1 John 2:17; 3:7-10; Matthew 12:33-37).

God's love is not perfected in a Christian whose heart is simply a reservoir in which to receive it, but only in one whose heart furnishes an aqueduct to convey it to others.

- Zane Hodges

THE Prince of this world wishes to tear me in pieces, and to corrupt my mind towards God. Let none of you who are present help him. Be rather on my side, that is on God's. Do not speak of Jesus Christ, and yet desire the world. ² Let no envy dwell among you. Even though when I come I beseech you myself, do not be persuaded by me, but rather obey this, which I write to you: for in the midst of life I write to you desiring death. My lust has been crucified, and there is in me no fire of love for material things; but only water living and speaking in me, and saying to me from within, "Come to the Father." ³ I have no pleasure in the food of corruption or in the delights of this life. I desire the "bread of God," which is the flesh of Jesus Christ, who was "of the seed of David," and for drink I desire his blood, which is incorruptible love.

- Ignatius to the Romans 7:1-3