

The World

by John Newton

John Newton's sermon warns of the deceptive nature of the world and emphasizes the importance of trusting in Jesus for salvation.

Scripture: Psalm 37:4, Proverbs 14:12, Romans 12:2, James 4:4, 1 John 2:15

Topics: "Worldly Temptation", "Spiritual Wisdom"

Description

John Newton delivers a sermon warning the youth about the deceptive nature of worldly pleasures, comparing them to a harlot's gaudy snares that lead to destruction. He emphasizes the importance of gaining wisdom through experience and not being lured by the false promises of the world, using the analogy of a shepherd tempted by the calm but faithless sea. Newton shares his personal testimony of being saved by Jesus from the shipwreck of worldly pursuits, expressing gratitude and a newfound trust in God.

Transcript

1 See, the world for youth prepares,

Harlot-like, her gaudy snares!

Pleasures round her seem to wait,

But 'tis all a painted cheat.

2 Rash and unsuspecting youth

Thinks to find thee always smooth,

Always kind, till better taught,

By experience dearly bought.

3 So the calm, but faithless sea

(Lively emblem, world, of thee)

Tempts the shepherd from the shore

Foreign regions to explore.

4 While no wrinkled wave is seen,

While the sky remains serene,

Fill'd with hopes, and golden schemes

Of a storm he little dreams.

5 But ere long the tempest raves,

Then he trembles at the waves;

Wishes then he had been wise,

But too late--he sinks and dies.

6 Hapless thus, are they, vain world,

Soon on rocks of ruin hurl'd,

Who admiring thee, untry'd,

Court thy pleasure. wealth, or pride.

7 Such a shipwreck had been mine,

Had not Jesus (name divine!)

Sav'd me with a mighty hand,

And restor'd my soul to land.

8 Now, with gratitude I raise

Ebenezers to his praise;

Now my rash pursuits are o'er,

I can trust thee, world, no more.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-newton/the-world/>

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