

I John 2:15-17

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.

16 For all that is in the world — *the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life* — is not of the Father but is of the world.

17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

The Pride of Life

The Pride of Life is a belief system that is produced by the spirit of this world that blinds a person to the brevity of life.

Frank Sinatra's accomplishments:

- Won 2 Academy Awards
- Won 3 Golden Globe Awards
- Won 13 Grammy Awards
- Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom (Highest civilian)
- Worth over 200 million dollars at his death

82 years of life – represented by a small tombstone

James 4:13-14

13 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money."

14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. *What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.*

The Pride of Life blinds us to the reality that our life is a vapor.

I wonder what list would matter to Sinatra and if he would have done it “MY WAY”?

When we say yes to the wrong thing, we are saying no to the right thing.

The Pride of Life misshapes our priorities and distorts our values.

- Many have sacrificed their families on the altar of their career and their pursuit of money.

Lazarus and the Rich Man – Death brought a change in priorities

Luke 16:27-28

27 "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house,

28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

Luke 12:15-21

15 Then he said to them, "*Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.*"

16 And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop.

17 He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

18 "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." '

20 "But God said to him, '*You fool!* This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

21 "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up *things for himself* but is not *rich toward God.*"

Psalm 90:12 - *So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.*

Wisdom enables us to make decisions that are eternal in focus and will maximize our lives upon the earth.

II Timothy 4:6-10

6 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure.

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day-and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

9 Do your best to come to me quickly,

10 for Demas, because he *loved this present world*, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica.

Colossians 3:1-4

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts and affection on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

2 Set your minds and affections on things above, not on earthly things.

3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

4 When Christ, *who is your life*, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.