

# Ordered Love



1 John 2:15-17

# Ordered Love



## 1. Love Ordered

- ‘though it is good, it can be loved in the right way or in the wrong way – in the right way, that is, when the proper order is kept, in the wrong way when that order is upset’ (City of God, XV.22).
  - ✦ E.g. ‘Beauty’

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  - ✦ E.g. ‘Beauty’
- ‘It is probably impossible to love any human being simply “too much.” We may love him too much in proportion to our love for God; but it is the smallness of our love for God, not the greatness of our love for the many that constitutes the inordinacy...’ (CS Lewis in *Four Loves*).
  - ✦ People’s goodness point us to God’s goodness!

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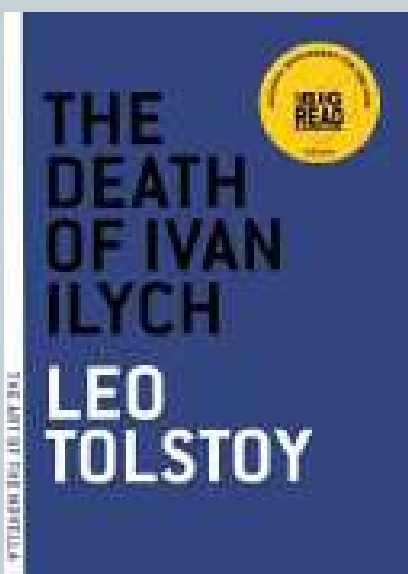
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  - ✦ People’s goodness point us to God’s goodness!
- Learn to enjoy *God* through things he’s made
  - ✦ Adds to our love
  - ✦ Guards us from devastations

# Ordered Love



1. Love Ordered
2. Disorderly Love
  - 'Lust' of the flesh (cravings of the sinful men)
  - 'Lust' of the eyes
  - The pride of life



“It occurred to him that those scarcely perceptible impulses of his to protest at what people of high status considered good, vague impulses which he had always suppressed, might have been precisely what mattered, and all the rest had not been the real thing. His official duties, his manner of life, his family, the values adhered to by people in society and in his profession – all these might not have been the real thing.”

# Ordered Love



## 1. Love Ordered

## 2. Disorderly Love

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- 'Lust' of the eyes
- The pride of life (boasting of what he has done)



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2. Disorderly Love
3. Love in View of Eternity

## Peggy Noonan, Sep. 1992 *Forbes Magazine*



“I think we have lost the old knowledge that happiness is overrated—that, in a way, life is overrated. We have lost, somehow, a sense of mystery—about us, our purpose, our meaning, our role. Our ancestors believed in two worlds, and understood this to be the solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short one. We are the first generations of man that actually expected to find happiness here on earth, and our search for it has caused such-unhappiness. The reason: If you do not believe in another, higher world, if you believe only in the flat material world around you, if you believe that this is your only chance at happiness—if that is what you believe, then you are not disappointed when the world does not give you a good measure of its riches, you are despairing.

## Ordered Love



1. Love Ordered
2. Disorderly Love
3. Love in View of Eternity
  - Bucket list mentality
  - The world and its desires pass away!