

The Examiners

...Examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so...Acts 17:11

COSMOS DIABOLICUS

In the OT "*eres*" which is properly earth in contrast to heaven (Gen. 1:1). Is occasionally rendered "world" but the more usual term is "*tebel*", which signifies the planet as having form and topographical features, as habitable and fruitful (Psalm 19:4, 90:2).

The NT words are "*oikoumene*" denoting the populated world (Luke 4:5); "*aior*", which is usually rendered age, but occasionally combines with the concept of time that of space (Heb.1:2 & 11:3); and *kosmos*, which contains the thought of order or system.

The latter term may denote the material world (Rom.1: 20) or even the totality of heaven and earth (Acts 17:24); the sphere of intelligent life (1Cor. 4:9); the place of human habitation (1 Corinthians 5:10), mankind as a whole (John 3:16).

The most intriguing biblical concept of cosmos is that society alienated from God and under the sway of Satan (1 John 5:19); and the complex of ideas and ideals, which govern men who belong to the world in this ethical sense (1 John 2:15-17, James 4:4).

The term cosmos is combined with the term "diabolicus" denoting the power that controls human being apart from the plan of God, purpose and will of God. Cosmos diabolicus is use with readiness in the evil sense. Again and again in the Gospel of John, the term is presented as something hostile to God, to His Bible Doctrine and to His children, the regenerated believers.

This seems to spell disorder. How then can the cosmos be used to describe such a state of affairs? The answer is likely to be found in the fact that the powers of spiritual evil, which have Satan as their head or CEO and appear to be organized on a vast scale and with great efficiency (Ephesians 6:12), dominate the life of the unredeemed humanity. Satan rules a kingdom that is completely opposed to the kingdom of God (Luke 11:18). He rules a kingdom not of his own.

We are not dropped into the depths of a hopeless dualism by reason of this opposition, for the word teaches that the sphere of divine control embraces "all things". Therefore, even over the world, which is marred by the love of evil and by the sinister hold of devil, God is still sovereign as ever.

Satan's kingdom (the kingdom of the world) exists by permission, not by reason of divine helplessness. Reconciliation has been provided for the world (2 Corinthians 5:19), whereby men may leave the realm of darkness and be transferred into the kingdom of the Son of God by simply believing the Gospel of Christ. Those who will not do so, must share the condemnation of Satan.

The Devil is using the lusts of the world (the satanic policy of good and evil and sin) to trap, manipulate, utilize and then destroy the Church Age believers. Since the believers are unprotected in the cosmic system, there is no escape from the devil's snare except through spirituality and Bible doctrines stored in the soul.

Worldliness, though not a scriptural term, is certainly a scriptural concept. It is affection for that which is unlike God and contrary to God's will (James 4:4, 1 John 2:15-16). The refusal to live an ascetic life is not proof of worldliness, nor is the love of the beautiful. The determination of what is worldly should not rest solely upon the nature of an activity or habit viewed as a thing-in-itself, but also upon the spirit of the one whom indulges himself. If personal selfishness or neglect of God actuates one, he may be worldlier in God's sight than another whose onward acts are more questionable, but whose heart does not condemn him, because he is not consciously disobeying God.

The cosmic system is Satan's orderly, cohesive system of thinking which includes a purpose, strategy, and structure of authority designed to subvert the human race and rule of the world. The satanic system is highly systematized and organized system on earth.

The cosmic system is the classroom for nurturing and communicating satanic doctrines. Every person in this planet is capable of advocating satanic doctrines. The higher the degree of human intelligence possessed by an individual, the more complex the level of demonic doctrines residing in his soul.

The favorite advocates of Satan are the "wise of this world", especially those who reject the Gospel of salvation and the carnal believers who openly oppose, ignore and reject Bible doctrines. The primary objective of the cosmic system is to put Satan in the pedestal of power of the entire universe. Satan who was also formerly known as Lucifer, an archangel of God revolted against divine authority (Isaiah 14:11- 14) in an attempt to overthrow God from His throne. Satan, stripped of his majestic glory, demoted, tried and sentenced by God, chose a self-exile in a planet designed as habitation for mortal and sinful men, took it by force and made himself as its god (1

Corinthians 4:4). He took the delegated authority to Adam and declared himself as the self-appointed "ruler of the world".

Satan is the adversary of God and all believers. The Devil uses the natural or unregenerate men and as well as the carnal believers to accomplish his devious purposes, and after using them, he simply discards them as mere garbage. His wiles are beyond human imagination or understanding.

The cosmic system is hostile to God, to His plan, purpose and Word. It is the perfect environment for breeding and fostering the good and evil policy of Satan. The world or the cosmic system can never be friendly to believers in any given terms. It hurts and snares them with the great pain of the world in every facets of life.

He hides his devious scheming behind the guise of humanistic endeavor to trap the unbelievers. His foolish and empty deception magnetizes the soul without Christ. Satan is a inexorable, brutal and atrocious slave master who destroys his slaves after manipulating and utilizing them.

The three basic enticement of the world are the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life (1 John 2:16), from which the believer is warned not to focus their love that rightfully belong to God alone (Rev. 2:4). The Devil uses the lust of the eyes as cosmic pattern for volitional enticement, the lust of the flesh as the pattern for operation of the old sin nature and the pride of life as the pattern for arrogance, which is linked to Adamic trends of evil, good and sin.

Evil refers to "good and evil" which is the satanic policy in the world. Good refers to human good works or self-righteousness as substitute for God's finish work of through the Lord Jesus Christ. Sin refers to lasciviousness that acts directly against the will, plan and purpose of God.

The focus of the Christian can never be dualism. He cannot love God and the world at the same time. Believers are strictly commanded to set their minds on the things above (that is to be filled with the Holy Spirit) and not to indulge their souls with the things of the world such as wine (Ephesians 5:18, Col. 2:2). A truly regenerated will seek the things above (that is, the will, purpose, and plan of God) in His Bible doctrines, and gradually learn to love His God. He cannot remain in love with the world (1John 2:15-16). He is seeking the things that will last forever (1 John 2:17).

Materialism is the love of the things, not the possession of things. The real issue is not the presence or absence of these material possessions but the mental attitude towards the materials. Both a millionaire and a vagabond can be materialistic in heart because both are greedy. In biblical viewpoint, a very poor person is materialistic if he is craving for material things, which he does not possess. In the same way, rich person is materialistic if his mind is occupied with his possessions.

A rich person pretending to be poor (false humility) and a poor pretending to be rich (arrogance) fall in the same category, both are worldly, both are lovers of money and lovers of self. The synonym of greed is the love of the world. A rich man, who tells a poor person, "we do not have money" is blocking all the possibility of sharing or contributing to the needs of his poor brethren. To act like poor when you are rich is not humility but greediness.

The cosmic system is the exact place for liars, pretenders, and greedy people whose first love is not God but the world. They love the things of the world more than their fellowmen. They use people and love their wealth. Since the powerful authority of the cosmos is untouchable until the proper time, the only escape route of the believers is through the way of the Cross-of Jesus. We cannot fight the cosmic system with worldly weapons and we cannot solve human problems with human solutions. We need Bible doctrines to fight Satan, we need Bible

doctrines to solve human problems, because human solutions are not the solution –they create more problems.

Satan, the prince of darkness (Ezekiel 28:12-14, Isaiah 14:13-), the master counterfeiter (2 Corinthians 11:13-15), the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4), is a condemned loser. The Lord Jesus Christ came to destroy his work (1 John 3:8b). Satan however is accepted and honored as hero by majority of the Church Age believers, because of their ignorance of Bible doctrines.

Majority of believers today are not grounded in the Word of God, they lack Biblical references in their souls and spiritually untrained in godliness. They are proud to give their divided love and adoration to both God and Satan. They are friends of the world and at the same time claiming to be servants of God. Such friendship of the world is fatal (James 4:4), it is fatal to love the world.

Christians are in the world but not of the world. There is no link or harmony between the believers and the cosmic system, there is no point of agreement or similarity. We cannot put Satan and God in the same throne, we cannot in anyway, serve God and Satan at the same time. Therefore, the love of the world and the love of the things of the world are the kinds of love focused on Satan.

For the believers, the material things are part of logistical blessings provided for their existence in the world; it is designed to be used and not to be loved. We are mandated to love God not the things that He provides. Things like technology are given to make our lives comfortable, it is not designed to be loved. The world loves its prestige, power, possession and physical beauty but using people as merely tool for achieving its greed and selfish ambition. Christians are to love their brethren, not to use or abuse them just to reach their selfish goals.

Majority of the Church Age believers are merely existing in the cosmic world without clear-cut knowledge of divinely purpose for their existence. Others are existing without God (Ephesians 2:12). The real atheism is not the denial of the existence of God but the denial of His sovereignty in our lives (Psalms 10:4-6, 14:1-3, 53:1-5). The world has its norms and standards, but corrupted and imperfect norms and standards. The Bible called it the "elementary principles of the world" because it cannot accomplish the very purpose and will of God (Col. 2:2-21), it is nothing but idealism, something out of reality. We can accomplish the will of God only through His perfect method and system.

Religion for example, is an imperfect satanic tool for deceiving, misleading and destroying people. Religion cannot accomplish the will, plan and purpose of God. It promises the things it cannot provide (like heaven). It claims to provide the very thing that only Christ can provide (like salvation). It deceives people by pretense of doing the will of God. As master strategist, Satan uses diversionary tactics, which employs the art of substitution. He renamed cultic gods giving them sort of Christian names, he renamed things giving the Christian identity. People are worshipping the pagan gods in new names.

Satan accomplishes his objective whenever people worship someone or something else other than God. He is happy when people set their mind on someone or something mistaken for God or spiritual thing. The world is full of counterfeit gods, heavenly things and fake word of God. Satan is happy when people set their minds on things of the world, but he is furious when the children of God are learning Bible doctrines because they will grow and reach spiritual maturity. Spiritual growth and maturity is hazardous for the kingdom of the world.

God left the believers in the world for several reasons (John 13:1): first, to study the Word of God and to reach spiritual maturity. Secondly, to represent Christ in the world as His Royal Ambassadors. Thirdly, to experience the victory of the Lord

Jesus Christ, and therefore to receive the blessing of time and at Bema, the blessing of eternity.

Majority of Church Age believers are not suffering for Christ (Philippians 3:10, John 16:33) because they are living as people of the world. They are living as citizens of the world (Phil 3:20); their hearts and minds are set on the things of the world. There is no distinction between such believers and the unbelievers (Phil 2:15). Their lamps as light of the world are out of oil, they are spiritual losers, and they remained carnal and immature all throughout their Christian lives. They are wasting their spiritual resources and inheritance for the cosmic system that is totally hostile to them. They are serving their enemy- adversary. Trying to gain the friendship of the devil and the world is costly.

The only way to be continually protected in the world is for Christians to be filled with the Holy Spirit and by possessing Bible doctrines in the soul and for which, there is no alternative.

"I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. "They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth ". "And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth (NKJ John 17:14-17,19).

The cosmos diabolicus is not for the children of God but for the children of the Devil (John 8:44). The human souls are craving for the world and the things of the world and its passion and desire grows stronger every time the believer neglects the Word of God. The wiles of the cosmic system are beyond the ability of the believer to overcome, apart from filling of the Holy Spirit and continue intake of Bible doctrines. Any attempt to fight the Devil with human power is futile and waste of time.



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