

“SPIRITUAL WARFARE: THE COURSE OF THE WORLD, part 1”

Ephesians 2:2 . . . in which you once walked “According To The Course Of This World,” according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience . . .

I. We must align ourselves with God’s motivation for the world

- God loves the world

John 3:16 . . . *For “GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD” that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

Mark 16:15 . . . And He said to them, “Go into “ALL” THE WORLD and preach the gospel to every creature.

- God knows the world

1 John 2:16 . . . *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.*

- God seeks to Save the world

John 12:46–47 . . . *I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. 47 And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.*

- God will judge the world

2 Peter 2:8–9 . . . *(for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)—9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment.*

II. Satan’s World System is designed Create an Enemy where one doesn’t exist

- The Pride Of Life!

- Comparison – I am better than that person
- Competition – I can beat that person
- Classifications – My status is better than that person
- Culture – my way of life is better than that of others
- Country – My nation is better than others

- No Comparisons:

2 Corinthians 10:12 . . . *For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.*

- No Competition:

Romans 12:4–5 . . . *For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually MEMBERS OF ONE ANOTHER.*

- No Classifications:

Galatians 3:26–28 . . . *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

- One culture

Matthew 6:10 . . . *Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.*

- One country

Ephesians 2:19 . . . *Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God . . .*

Philippians 3:20 . . . *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ . . .*

III. Satan's World System is designed to Distort God's value system

- The Elevated Valuation of Your Own Life:

Luke 18:9–12 . . . Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 *“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’*

Philippians 2:3 . . . Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

Romans 15:1 . . . We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

- The Devaluation of other Human Life

John 10:10a . . . *The thief does not come except to steal, and to KILL, and to destroy . . .*

Jeremiah 19:4–5 . . . *“Because they have forsaken Me and made this an alien place, because they have burned incense in it to other gods whom neither they, their fathers, nor the kings of Judah have known, and have filled this place with the blood of the innocents 5 (they have also built the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or speak, nor did it come into My mind).*

Genesis 9:6 . . . *“Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.*

Psalms 139:13 . . . For *“YOU FORMED”* my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb.

John 10:10b . . . *I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

Romans 12:2 . . . *DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*