

Distinguishing Ages from the World System Part IV

Scripture Reading:

I Corinthians 1:17 – 2:6

INTRODUCTION

- **God has and is giving revelation through 4 ways**
 - Through nature
 - Through His Son becoming man
 - Through His spoken and written word
 - Through His activities in His designed and arrayed ages
- **All forms of revelation come to mankind through 2 of our senses**
 - Sight
 - Hearing

INTRODUCTION

- **Since God's mode of existence is unseen spirit essence (Jn 4:24), He is now displaying His quality of (eternal) Life in the present age, through saved and mature human beings (His sons), being SEEN and HEARD, while experiencing difficult and degrading circumstances (suffering).**

INTRODUCTION

- **While God's sons are displaying ETERNAL LIFE, Satan motivates his sons to use their own strength to display a form of righteousness that appeals to the human senses. This kind of righteousness promotes a temporary well being of humanity that does not recognize**
 - **Man's fallen condition**
 - **Inability to alter that fallen conditions**
 - **Not recognizing eternal salvation that only God can provide**

INTRODUCTION

- The contrast between the kinds of righteousness displayed by these 2 kinds of sons is the purpose of “this present evil age” (Gal 1:4)
- This present evil age is associated with our 3rd spiritual enemy, the World System, but not to be confused as being the same thing as the World System.

The Term
"Age" and
"World"
used
Together

- **I Cor 1:20** (Darby Translation) **"Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this age? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?"**
 - The World System supports the wisdom of this "present evil age" (questioning Scripture)
 - Therefore, the wisdom of the World System is also the wisdom of the Age

The Term
“Age” and
“World” used
Together
(continued)

- Eph 2:2 (Darby Translation) “...in which ye once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience”
 - The things that make up the World System appeal to the 5 human senses
 - These things support the Wisdom of the Age that questions the things of Scripture
 - The things of Scripture do NOT appeal to the 5 senses

The Term
“Age” and
“World” used
Together
(continued)

- **Titus 2:12** “... Teaching us that, saying no to ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present age”
 - How the Christian should live in this present evil age
 - By saying “no” to ungodliness
 - By saying “no” to worldly lusts
 - By living soberly, righteously and godly

The
Christian is
Not to Love
This Evil
Age

II Tim 4:10

- Demas loved this age and disputed with Paul that a believer did not have to suffer tribulations and indignities from the unsaved world in order to mature as a Christian (cf Phil 1:29)

Acts 14:22

- Demas desired the well-being of this Age by using its wisdom to consider and debate alternatives to things that unsaved men objected to in Scripture

Both the World System and this Present Evil Age share common qualities

- Both are related to Satan; Satan is the ruler:
 - “Prince of the World System - Jn 14:30 KJV
 - “God of this Age” - II Cor 4:4
- Christians are not to love the World System or this Evil Age
 - Nor should they be conformed to this age
 - II Tim 4:10, I Jn 2:15-16, Rom 12:2

Though this Age and the World System share certain commonalities, they are NOT identical!

The World System promotes this Age but is not the Age itself.

CONCLUSION