

THE WORLDVIEW SERIES

A DEFENSE FOR AN ACTIVE, ENGAGING
AND CULTURALLY RELEVANT FAITH

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“OUR BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUALITY” – PART 2 THE CHRISTIAN AND HIS WORLDVIEW

Acts 17:15-28 NKJV

for in Him we **live** and **move** and have our **being**:**16** Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, **his spirit was provoked** (*Exasperated*) **within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols.** **:17** Therefore he **reasoned** (*challenged*) in the synagogue with the Jews and with the *Gentile* worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. **:18** Then certain Epicurean and Stoic **philosophers** encountered him. And some said, “What does this babbler want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods,” because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection. **:19** And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new doctrine *is* of which you speak? **:20** For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean...**:21** For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. **:22** Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “*Men of Athens, I perceive that in **all things** you are **very religious** = (spiritually minded or having a spiritual predisposition) and here comes the proof....* **:23** for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: *TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: **:24** God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. **:25** Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. **:26** And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, **:27** so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; **:28** for in Him we live and move and have our being,*

We began last time by looking at 5 warning signs regarding spirituality.

1.) Warning: Failing to recognize what you are

Ecclesiastes 3:11b

...He has put eternity in their (our) hearts.

WE ARE SUBJECT TO SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIPS

And we are prone to pursue them or even search for them.

***‘But Pastor Jack what could possibly be wrong
with a person being spiritual?’***

Proverbs 4:23

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

And So We Are Warned to Be Careful About Spiritual Issues
Listen to What The Bible Says...

1 Timothy 4:1-2

Now the (Holy) Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, **giving heed to deceiving (seducing) spirits and doctrines of demons**, :2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

Spirituality and Spiritism is Bigger than ever.

Temples and Edifices Erected to the gods has never stopped.

We Laugh at Things Like;

Ouija boards / tarot cards / palm reading / channeling / séance /

Deuteronomy 18:9-12

“When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, **be very careful not to imitate the detestable customs of the nations living there.** :10 For example, never sacrifice your son or daughter as a burnt offering. And do not let your people practice fortune-telling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft, :11 or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead. :12 **Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD.**

Idols / Images & Icons

1 Corinthians 10:19 NIV

Do I mean then that a sacrifice offered to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? :20 **No**, (*powerless as a material thing*) **but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons**, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. :21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord’s table and the table of demons.

Why / What's The Point?

Mark 13:22-23

For false Christ's and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. :23 But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand.

There's An Evil Purpose Afoot

2 Peter 2:1-3

But there were also **false prophets** among the people, even as there will be **false teachers** among you, who will **secretly** bring in (*to slip. slide in. lace. taint. Hide among the true*) destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, *and* bring on themselves swift destruction. :2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. :3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.

It's Another Indicator of The End of Days

Matthew 24:1-5

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. :2 And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." :3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" :4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. :5 For many will come in My name, saying, "I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

It's Heartbreaking for the True Shepherds

Acts 20:29-30

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. :30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

>>>>>>> Simple Test for Your Soul <<<<<<<<

Can you think of anyone in your life that you know of who (1) claims to be a Christian and (2)...all they can do is talk down about other Christians and (3) are negative and critical regarding the church (4) tell others that they need to follow them (5) see all others as being wrong?

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into Apostles of Christ. **:14** And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. **:15** Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

But The Good News Is: The Bible Illuminates Your Spiritual Life Putting On Your Bible Clothes, Wedding Gowns and Hand Grenades

Ephesians 6:10-18a

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. **:11** Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **:12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. **:13** Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. **:14** Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, **:15** and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; **:16** above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. **:17** And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; **:18** praying always...

2.) Warning: Refusing to consider the obvious

Eternity and the Eternal Awareness of a Human Being Comes from the fact that we are non-angelic, non-animal beings created in the image of The LORD God Himself.

That said – we possess a sad and distant representation of what humans once were. We are fallen and spiritually disconnected from our Father - and because we're fallen, we are, knowingly or unknowingly searching for a way to get back up.

Ecclesiastes 3:11b

...He has put eternity in their (our) hearts.

Acts 17:16-19, 26-28

:16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was **provoked** (*Exasperated*) within him when he saw that **the city was given over to idols**. **:17** Therefore he **reasoned** (*challenged*) in the synagogue with the Jews and with the *Gentile* worshipers, (**remember now - these were no country bumpkin's but highly educated people of the world – the children of Socrates and Aristotle, and Plato**) because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection. **:19** And they took him and

brought him to the **Areopagus**, saying... :**26** And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, :**27** so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; :**28** for in Him we live and move and have our being,

This Issue of Eternity Demands Caution

There are demonic, satanically empowered non-humans at work.
Their Goal – To Trick You Like They Have Been Tricked.

His **Lust** for Attention, Power & Control –
Is So Big - He Used What He Fell For on **Eve.**

He Will Use It Again – On and With The Antichrist

“A” Spirituality is Necessary for The Last Days Deception

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, :**4** who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

3.) Warning: Making certain you're on the right road

The Danger of Doctrinal Error.

It is Satan's plan to undermine, discredit, cast doubt upon the Word of God.

Matthew 7:13-15

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. :**14** Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. :**15** “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

Philippians 3:18

For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ: **:19** whose end *is* destruction, whose god *is* their belly, and whose glory *is* in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.

Satan has excellent strategies among many in his pockets.

(#1) To sow in your heart.

But what about the Horoscope or Zodiac.

Satan getting you to look to stars to speak to you or direct you

“My sister said she had a dream on Friday the 13th about a black cat walking under a ladder with a broken mirror tied to its tail – on fire!!!”

What about dreams and thoughts and visions and the like?

Are they from God, are they all from God, can they be demonic?

(#2) To plant into your soul

Matthew 7:13-15

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **:14** Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. **:15** “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. (this whole warning points to a brazen, bold arrogant religionist)

We Humans most often go from faith in God

(Think of a child’s faith in God)

To doubt in God

(Why did God do this, allow this, cause this)

To pride in self.

(I would have done things differently and so I am going to do just that)

Jude 24-24

Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen.

4.) Warning: Staying focused on the main thing

The Demonic Agenda is Devoted to Doctrinal Deception.

But Why? – Why Would Satan and His Demonic Creeps Care?

Matthew 13:24-30

Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; :25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. :26 But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. :27 So the servants of the owner came and said to him, “Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?” :28 He said to them, “An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ :29 But he said, “No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. :30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ ”

The Main Things are These Things

The Word of God – It’s our only weapon.

The Power of the Holy Spirit – He’s our present help in time of need.

The Defense of Your Faith – without faith in God you’re lost and wandering.

Acts 20:29-31

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. :30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. :31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

But The Good News Is: He Will Not Stop Until You’re With Him

Philippians 1:6

Being (*be being*) confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ.

5.) Warning: Being sure about loving God

Unbiblical – Spirituality is designed by Satan to draw your heart away from dependence upon God. – and it's powerful.

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit **expressly** says that in latter times some will depart from the Faith. Why? Giving **heed** to **deceiving** spirits and **doctrines** of demons.

Getting Lost Along The Way;

It doesn't have to be the biting off of snakes heads or being a disciple of dungeons and dragons.

Apathy, Materialism, Worldly Affections, Self Interests

Will all rob us from loving God the most.

Just Be With Jesus Everywhere – All The Time

(But keep your helmet on spiritually speaking)

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. **:4** For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, **:5** casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, **:6** and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

1 Peter 1:6-9

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, **:7** that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, **:8** whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, **:9** receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

What's The Take Away Tonight?

Ask yourself if what you believe is absolutely biblically based?

If so – It will never contradict the scriptures.

If so – it will always glorify the Lord Jesus Christ

If so – it will always display a spirit of love

If so – it will be humble and submitted

If so – has what I believed changed?

But The Good News Is: We Have Been Possessed By The Holy Spirit

John 14:16

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—:17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

John 16:13

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. :14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

1 John 4:4

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

The Cross

Come Forward for Prayer Tonight

End of Study

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