

The World System

- I. The term kosmos conveys the idea of order, arrangement.
 1. Kosmos is used in reference to several different concepts (Jn. 1:10; 1. The earth 2. The material universe 3. Mankind).
 2. Kosmos is also used to describe Satan's organization of mankind on earth (Eph. 2:2).
 3. Satan designed the world system in response to the murder of Able (Lu. 11:50-51).
 4. The world system is always changing. This situational adaptation is an indication to Christians that it will pass away (1 Cor. 7:31; 1 Jn. 2:17).
- II. The world system is the satanically controlled structure that functions in every society where there are unsaved people.
 1. It is a system designed to oppose God.
 2. It is a system intended to curb mankind's sin nature.
 3. During this time, the system is orchestrated by Satan while men think that they are in charge. It is their idea.
- III. The elements to of the world system; the first attempt.
 1. Urbanization.
 - 1) In direct opposition to God's instructions to spread out and reproduce, Satan influences Cain to begin a city (Gen. 1:28; 4:12).
 - 2) Humans could remain close to each other.
 - 3) Share strengths.
 - 4) Rapid changes in technique.
 - 5) Intensifies the appeal of owning possessions (zeal, envy).
 - 6) Created need for rules/customs.
 - 7) Became a place where works of the flesh could abound, yet be somewhat channeled.
- IV. The Christian's correct relationship with the world system.
 1. The Christian is in the world, but not of, *as a source*, the world (Jn. 15:18-19).
 2. Jesus made this distinction regarding His kingdom (Jn. 18:36). He did not say that His kingdom would not be on earth (Ps. 2:6-9).
 3. The spiritual Christian does not befriend the world system (Jam. 4:4).
 4. The spiritual Christian does not direct love, a part of the fruit from the Spirit, towards the world system (1 Jn. 2:15).