

The Elements of World System

- I.** As ruler of the world system, Satan's objective is to channel the sin nature of mankind.
 1. The system appeals to the flesh (1 Jn. 2:16).
 2. All three spiritual enemies cause their own lusts:
 - 1) The flesh (Gal. 5:16).
 - 2) Satan (Jn. 8:44).
 - 3) The world system (Tit. 2:12).
 3. Each of these three enemies present lusts that are unique to them, although they do "team up" against Christians.
 4. **Lust** (strong desire) may lead to **temptation** (appealing action) then to **trespass** (determining to do it) and then **sin** (the action).
- II.** The world system is linked to this current evil age (Eph. 2:2).
 1. An *age* is distinctly different from a dispensation.
 2. An age reveals things about God (Eph. 2:7).
 3. A dispensation reveals things about mankind (Eph. 3:2).
 4. An age is a phase in God's program whereby He reveals something about Himself to created beings. This may be by comparison or contrast.
- III.** This present evil age is in contrast to what God plans for His sons as opposed to what Satan wants to do with his sons (Rom. 8:14; Eph. 2:2).
 1. The evil age began when the Holy Spirit was sent as Pentecost (Lu. 18:30; 1 Jn. 5:11-13).
 2. During this evil age, Satan blinds people to the plan of salvation (2 Cor. 4:3-4).
 3. He is also trying to pervert God's method for Christian maturity (Gal. 1:6-7).
- IV.** The element of the world system (Gen. 4:16-24).
 1. Urbanization, human government.
 2. Commerce.
 - 1) All were vegetarians.
 - 2) Animal skins were used as clothing (Gen. 3:21).
 - 3) The usable products from cattle would have been skins, milk, hides etc., must have been traded for plant food.
 - 4) Tents implies mobility and others' stationary structures.
 3. Commerce appeals to greed, a form of idolatry, zeal, hatred, strife, sedition (class system), and envy.