

The Elements of World System

- I.** The world system is linked to this present malignantly evil age (Eph. 2:2).
 1. **An age is:** *a phase in God's program during which He reveals something about Himself to created beings. This revelation may be by comparison or contrast.*
 2. The Son of God made and defined all the ages (Heb. 1:2; 11:3).
 3. We are in the present evil age (Gal. 1:4).
 4. We will be delivered from this evil age (Gal. 1:4).
 5. Satan is allowed to be the god of this age (2 Cor. 4:4).
 6. Satan rules this age through demons (1 Cor. 2:6; Eph. 6:12).
 7. We are not to love this age, as Demas did (2 Tim. 4:10).
 8. This age provides a false object for divinely enabled love and thus offers a fake New Commandment (2 Tim. 4:10).
 9. This age is a contrast between what Satan can do through his sons and what God accomplishes through His sons (Eph. 2:2; Rom. 8:14).
 10. This struggle is pictured as a theatrical play (1 Cor. 4:9).
- II.** This present age has its own wisdom (1 Cor. 2:6).
 1. This age is marked by debaters who question the very basis of every biblical truth (1 Cor. 1:20).
 2. This age disputes God's plan for Christian maturity (1 Cor. 1:20; 2:5-7).
 3. This age opposes any Christ-like behavior (1 Cor. 3:16-18).
- III.** The world system has its own wisdom.
 1. Its wisdom schemes that man can know God by any chosen way (1 Cor. 1:20-21).
 2. Its wisdom assumes one can define who and what God is (1 Cor. 1:20-21).
 3. Its wisdom opposes the power of the saving work of the cross (1 Cor. 1:20).
- IV.** The elements of the world system.
 1. Previous: urbanization, human government, commerce, education, and music.
 2. Today: art (Gen. 4:22).
 - 1) Appeals to emotions, primarily the eye.
 - 2) Art can affect a person's emotions and invoke religious superstitious awe, being self-centered, and idolatry.