

World System and the Wisdom of the Evil Age

- 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. An age is not the same as a dispensation.*
 2. **Wisdom is:** *the insight of knowing how and when to apply previously acquired knowledge, an insight into the true nature of things.*
- II.** Satan rules the world system and his methods are described by the evil age in contrast to how God rules righteously (Gal. 1:4).
1. The evil age has values (1 Tim. 6:3-5).
 2. The evil age influence misdirection of love (2 Tim. 4:10).
 3. During the evil age there is a "contest" between Satan's sons and God's sons (Eph. 2:2; Rom. 8:14).
 - 1) Satan's sons emphasize Jesus' earthly ministry—His humanity (2 Cor. 11:4, 13-15).
 - 2) Jesus, during His earthly ministry, never gave the gospel for salvation for today (Mt. 16:21-22; 17:22-23; Mk. 9:31-32; 10:33; Lu. 18:31-34).
 - 3) Satan's sons teach false gospels and false doctrine (1 Cor. 15:2, 17; 2 Cor. 11:4; 2 Thes. 2:11-12 1 Tim. 4:1; 1 Jn. 4:1-4).
 - 4) Jesus the God-man cannot be copied—walk on water?
 - i. Christ likeness is lived out (2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 2:20)
 - ii. This is not by imitation of Jesus, or WWJD.
 - 5) Paul emphasized the glorified and risen Christ (2 Cor. 5:16 *cf.* Acts 2:32-36; Heb.).

After the Holy Spirit came to earth in Acts, the Son's names name change meaning.

Jesus: The God-man who died for our sins (Heb. 10:12).
Christ: the exalted risen One on the right hand of the Father; this elevated position was made by the Father.
Lord: The One with all authority; this authority was given Him by the Father (Mt. 28:18).
 4. The evil age's wisdom:
 - 1) Is marked by debaters who question every biblical truth (1 Cor. 1:20-21).
 - 2) Disputes God's method for Christians to mature (1 Cor. 1:22; 2:5-7).
 - 3) Opposes any Christ-like behavior (1 Cor. 3:16-18).