

The God Of This World

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What Every Person Should Know About Him

“- the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Corinthians_4:4

The God of This World Topics

The Devil, Myth or Reality.....	1
The Curse of The Sin Nature.....	2
The Big Sin Question; I Really Don't Sin Too Much!.....	3
The Garden and The Fall of Adam and Eve.....	3
The Edenic World Is Entirely Devastated by The Fall.....	4
All Born Under the Race of Adam Inherit Adam's Sin Nature.....	4
The Natural Man and His Fallen Spiritual State.....	5
God Addresses Satan and Outlines His Plan For Redeeming the World "The Proto-Evangelium.".....	5
The Kingdoms of This World Are Shown to Be Under the Devil's Authority.....	5
The Purpose of The Lord's Coming.....	6
The Gospel of God's Grace and Redemption.....	6
Jesus the Messiah Admonishes Us About This World.....	7
Jesus prays for His Disciples After the Passover Meal.....	7
The Final Defeat of the God of This World.....	8

The Devil, Myth or Reality

Most of us have heard of this character known as “The Devil” since we were kids. What we thought we knew was nothing more than fable. He could as easily have been just another character from a comic book, an unseen and therefore imaginary personality, like “The Joker.” Who knew what he had to do with us as individuals, if anything?

In the course of time some of us become exposed to some kind of “*religious*” *training* and discover there is a *spiritual* connection to a *devil* of some sort. We learn that this entity has a connection to evil, danger, darkness and destruction. This begins to open an understanding into one of the principal players in the spiritual world and our cosmology.

We have to bridge the chasm between myth and fantasy into Spiritual reality. Behind the curtain lurks an ever-present malevolent being. Eventually many grow aware that he is a force factor that impacts not only our experience and but also ongoing world events. Meanwhile billions of souls who are living in this world are ignorant of this. Other billions have died in this ignorance and come to face the consequence of living a life of ignorance. Had we known we would have sought a remedy to escape the snares of the god of this world.

The Curse of The Sin Nature

I have become profoundly aware in recent years of a powerful concept that addresses humanity’s “sin nature.” This profound reality is one which the world remains mostly ignorant. This is the fact that all, ALL, come into the world being

Spiritually “lost” “and *Without strength.*” *Romans 5:6* - “*For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.*”

This is the curse; that each and every one of us are born with a moral defect, a fallen nature. This is the “sin nature.” This aspect of humanity is addressed by Paul the apostle throughout his epistles. I would especially like to point to a reference in **1 Corinthians 2:14:**

“-- *the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*” This natural man (or woman) refers to every human being alive in the world since the fall of Adam.

The natural man lost his intimate and immortal connection with the Creator and was subject to death thereafter. The natural man or woman is functional in all domains of human life and thought but is cut off from “Eternal Life.” Where spiritual life is concerned he is “dead” and without hope in the world. But of that fact, the natural man is unaware.

Ephesians 2:12 “-- *remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*”

The Big Sin Question; I Really Don't Sin Too Much!

Evangelists and preachers proclaim that we are all “sinners.” This is a true statement! *Romans_3:23* *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;* *Romans_5:12* *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*”

We are “*all sinners in need of a savior.*” This is also a true statement. I find that framing our need for salvation in this way can, in some cases, cause individuals to think of their own sins quantitatively and dismiss the urgency of dealing with seeking

a remedy. Individuals will measure their sinfulness against another's more egregious sins and conclude, "I don't sin too much. This equates to; I am basically a good person."

The Garden and The Fall of Adam and Eve

It is a certainty that God created the first humans in this present earth age. (This is the Biblical creation doctrine.) He created them perfect. He set them in a pristine garden paradise and afforded them to have dominion over all manner of life on earth. In this garden there was a tree whose fruit if eaten would result in calamity. It would test the obedience of the man and woman. Meanwhile, another *supernatural being* had found access to the garden. This being is a rebel and an enemy of God, *the tempter*. He is described *as being reptilian*. How this once, anointed, perfection of beauty became a reptilian is unknown to me. This remains is an untold story. How did he come into the picture to disrupt God's purposes and what is the backstory of his previous existence is never fully explained and open to conjecture. Through the ages we have come to know him by many names including Satan, the Adversary, The Devil, and "the god of this world."

The Edenic World Is Entirely Devastated by The Fall

The aftermath of the fall was devastating and world changing. It destroyed the humanity's dominion. What followed was that Satan became the default "god of this world." Adam's sin brought the sentence of death upon the human race. The fall destroyed the entire biosphere and ecosystems of the planet. We are living with that aftermath even to the present day. Entropy ensued, lives were shortened, disease and

distress entered the lives of humans. The once peaceable animal kingdom became dangerous.

All Born Under the Race of Adam Inherit Adam's Sin Nature

This is a foundation Biblical Understanding!

All humans are born from the Adamic lineage. They are born with a *fallen nature or "born in sin."* This was in accordance with the imprint of fallen Adam. Being born with a sin nature is the fate of every person born since *the fall* in Genesis 3. The entire world fell under the domination of Satan as Adam surrendered his dominion to *the (now) "god of this world."* Satan became Earth's default sovereign. The fallen world will require the redemption of both the human race and the corrupted, natural world.

The Natural Man and His Fallen Spiritual State

Eph 2:1 *And you were dead in the trespasses and sins* Eph 2:2 *in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—*

Eph 2:3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind."

God Addresses Satan and Outlines His Plan For Redeeming the World

"The Proto-Evangelium."

(Genesis 3:14) And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

(Genesis 3:15) And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

The Kingdoms of This World Are Shown to Be Under the Devil's Authority

(Revealed from the account of Christ's temptation in the wilderness)

Luke 4:6,7,8 *Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. "Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."*

The God of This World Keeps Unbelievers Blind to The Truth

2 Corinthians 4:4 *"- the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."*

The Purpose of The Lord's Coming

If we were to ask the question, "Why did Jesus go to the cross? What purpose was served by Christ's sacrifice and resurrection? What would be your answer? I think this would quickly bring into focus your entire understanding of "the gospel" and more broadly, the meaning of life. I have been thinking of the list of answers to that question myself lately but I won't supply any of my answers.

The Gospel of God's Grace and Redemption

Eph 2:1 *And you were dead in the trespasses and sins*

Eph 2:2 *in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of*

disobedience— Eph 2:3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. (in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.)

The gospel of God's grace and redemption is an offer that will deliver us from wrath which is the consequence of dying in our unregenerate state. The gospel means "good news" and provides an opportunity to experience becoming a part of the family of God in good standing just as if we had not been born under Adams curse. Good news also means that it is without cost or obligation.

Isaiah 55:1 Ho, every one that thirsts, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

Jesus the Messiah Admonishes Us About This World

Jesus, again and again addressed the matter of "the world" and why our focus and aims should not be worldly. John in his gospel and in his epistles reiterates the idea. *To love the world, the love of the Father is not in you.* The things of the world are not of the Father. This draws our focus to "*lusts of the flesh, lust of the eyes and pride of life.*" Are these not the attributes and focus of *the god of this world?* Paul sadly writes: Demas has forsaken me, 2 Timothy 4:10; "*For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.*"

Jesus prays for His Disciples After the Passover Meal

In John Chapter 17, we read of Christ's prayer. It is often called his "high priestly prayer." He commends himself to the Father and the prays on behalf of his disciples. Seventeen times in the prayer he speaks concerning *the world* and prays to keep us free from its pernicious influences. This is because it is the Devil's domain and will remain so until the time known as "The Day of The Lord" of which there is much to be understood. That day will be notable in as much as will bring the god of this world into judgment along with those *who have served him and believed his lies*.

The Final Defeat of the God of This World

1 John 3:8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

The Seventh Trumpet

Rev 11:15 *"-And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."*

The kingdoms of this world are under God's supervision, times and guidelines. His judgment is coming and a new world awaits those who answer His call.