

Kingdom of This World - 4

Matthew 6:25 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? 28 “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The Kingdom of this world will tell you, “It’s about stuff!!”

And if you don’t keep up with accumulating stuff you and your household will suffer!!!!
Do you notice that “the system” has not changed in over two thousand years!?!”

The world system is still using the same principles and tactics as it has from the beginning.

In the Garden the serpent used the same tactic to trick man into giving over allegiance.

You need this ... (Fruit), You deserve this ... (Fruit), If you don’t have this ... (Fruit) your life will be lacking!!

AND GOD WON’T OR CAN’T PROVIDE IT FOR YOU! YOU MUST TRUST ME TO PROVIDE IT FOR YOU!! FOR A PRICE!!

Did Adam and Eve need the fruit?

Genesis 2:8 Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. 9 The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

Genesis 3:4 "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Satan deceived man through negotiations, that the World system had more to offer than the Kingdom of God.

The problem is ... He's a liar.

He changes the focus of our attention from "What God can do for us" to "What the World will do to us"

Satan's tactics always morph from enticement to intimidation.

And then that intimidation ramps it's intensity to coercion and then to blackmail.

That is the world system.

You need this _____, isn't it beautiful!!!

If you don't have this _____ you are really going to miss out on all the fun.

Everyone else has a _____ and they think you're a dork because you don't have one yet!!

You must now have a _____ or you are an outsider and you will be punished accordingly!!

The kingdom of this world drives people into making a decision that they shouldn't and probably have had no desire to make.

Much like how cattle are brought to slaughter.

A big V set of fence rows which narrow to only enough space for one to pass through at a time where they can be slaughtered, manageably.

By the time they get to the exit it is too late. They crush from behind is so powerful and they perceive the constraints are so rigid they have no room to maneuver to safety.

This is how the world system has always operated.

Another example:

1 Samuel 17:1 Now the Philistines gathered their forces for war and assembled at Sokoh in Judah. They pitched camp at Ephes Dammim, between Sokoh and Azekah.

2 Saul and the Israelites assembled and camped in the Valley of Elah and drew up their battle line to meet the Philistines. 3 The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them.

This is how we've always gone to battle

8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us."

This is an enticing idea, Why have everyone fight, why should everyone suffer, let's settle it the easy way!!

Do you see what's missing here? They never asked God how the battle should be fought.

Then the enemy's strategy changes from enticement to intimidation.

10 Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." 11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

The armies of God let Goliath determine the rules of engagement!

16 For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand.

Israel froze from fear!! Saul never seems to think there might be a different way to fight this battle.

It doesn't seem that he ever says, "God, what do you have to say about this situation?" It takes an unlikely young boy to snap "God's People" back to reality.

*26 David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? **Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?**"*

David would not allow the enemy of God to dictate the conditions of his surrender.

33 Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it

and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God.

David had already seen God deliver him from some “impossible situations”. This one would be no different!!

Who are you going to believe?

A lying, conniving, vulgar, bully of a world system
Or
The Spirit of the Living God

Real life example:

This past week a judge ruled that pastors in Wisconsin can no longer receive a benefit called a “Housing Allowance”. It’s “Unconstitutional”

Housing allowances were instituted so that churches could pay their pastors less and stay afloat financially without their pastors suffering as much economically. The pastor is not taxed on the amount he pays for housing expenses such as mortgage, rent, insurance, or utilities, etc.

To take away this benefit would mean a 30% - 40% loss in income for the average minister.

Reports say this will cause a domino effect to ripple throughout the country with all laws governing pastoral compensation to be reduced or eradicated.

Can you say intimidating?

My Question: Who is this uncircumcised philistine that threatens the people of God?

37 The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.”