The World, The Cross
And The Church
by Derek Prince

— Study Note Outline —

WCC1

Three Tape Series
4143 Delivered From This Present Evil Age
4144 The World That Satan Rules
4145 The Line Of Separation

Delivered From This Present Evil Age
4143

I. Introduction
A. Wisdom: Seeing things from God’s perspective
   1. The sun does not revolve around the earth
   2. God does not revolve around man or exist for him
B. World vs. age
   1. Age — Greek: eon — time
   2. World — Greek: cosmos — space

II. Age—Galatians 1:3–4
A. Hebrews 1:1–2
   1. Jesus, the heir of all things
   2. Through Jesus God made the ages
   3. Jesus is the brightness of God’s glory
   4. Jesus is the express image of God
   5. Jesus upholds all things by the word of God’s power
   6. Jesus purged our sins
   7. Jesus sat at God’s right hand
B. Theory of relativity
   1. You cannot specify space without time or time without space.
   2. “Worlds” connotes space and “ages” connotes time.
C. Hebrews 11:3
   1. The ages were brought into being by something that is not visible: the Word of God.
   2. What cannot be seen is the ultimate reality (2 Cor. 4:18)
D. Ages are made up of generations (Eph. 3:21)
E. Ages of ages: forever and forever:
   1. “I am alive for the ‘ages of the ages’” (Rev. 1:18)
   2. Sevenfold doxology (giving glory to God) (Rev. 7:12)
   3. Jesus will reign (Rev. 11:15)
   4. Torment of Babylon (Rev. 19:3)
5. Torment of the devil, antichrist, etc. (Rev. 20:10)
6. Believers will reign (Rev. 22:5)
F. Jesus came at the consummation of the ages (Heb. 9:26)
   Cosmic applications for His coming
G. The ends of the ages have come on us (1 Cor. 10:11)
   All God’s eternal purposes focus on us
H. The present age is coming to an end
   2. Matt. 24:3
I. Jesus’ name is supreme in this age and the next (Eph. 1:20–21)
   Nothing is going to change the place of Jesus
J. Satan is the god of this age (2 Cor. 4:3–4)
K. The present age is evil (Gal. 1:4)
   1. We have been delivered from this present evil age
   2. We belong to the next age
L. We taste the powers of the next age through the Holy Spirit (Heb. 6:4–5)
M. The present age: (Matt 13:22)
   1. Causes worries
   2. Makes believers unfruitful
N. Do not be conformed to the present age (Rom. 12:2)
   1. Primarily in your thinking
   2. Self-centered vs. God-centered
O. A faithful servant cannot love this present age (2 Tim. 4:9–10)

III. Diagnosis (Phil. 3:17–21)
A. Do not set your mind on earthly things
B. Do not be an enemy of the cross of Christ
C. The cross is the line of separation (Gal. 2:20)

The World That Satan Rules

The World: Cosmos
A. Definition: A social world order which is temporary (1 Pet. 2:5, 3:6)
B. Satan has become the ruler of this world
   1. John 12:31, 16:11
   2. “He [Satan] has nothing in Me” (John 14:30)
C. Satan controls through deception
   1. Satan has the whole world in his grasp (1 John 5:19)
   2. Satan deceives the whole world (Rev. 12:9)
D. Satan rules over all rebels
   1. All of us are children of God’s wrath because of our rebel nature (Eph. 2:1–3)
   2. A picture of Satan: “He is king over all the children of pride” (Job 41:34)
E. Satan claims control of the governments of the world (Luke 4:5–7)
   1. The devil is a liar
2. The world was “betrayed” to Satan by Adam
F. God loves the world and gave Jesus to die for it (John 3:16)
   Despite all that is bad, God loves the world
G. Cross: God’s judgment on Satan and the world
   1. The cross terminated Satan’s claims (John 12:31–32)
   2. The cross: the just judgment of God upon the world and our carnal nature
   3. “The ruler of this world is judged” (John 16:11)
H. The cross resulted in Satan’s defeat
   1. Total, eternal, irreversible defeat
   2. The law was nailed to the cross (Col. 2:13–15)
   3. How the cross accomplished Satan’s defeat: It made provision for the past and the future
      a. God can only bless the righteous
      b. We must achieve righteousness to qualify
      c. You cannot achieve righteousness by keeping a set of rules (Rom. 10:4)
      d. Through the cross God made provision and forgave all sin
      e. The law stood between God and us
      f. Jesus removed the law as a requirement for achieving righteousness with God
      g. We still stumble but our faith is reckoned to us as righteousness
I. The world does not recognize Jesus or His disciples
   1. The world did not know Him (John 1:10)
   2. The world does not know us because it did not know Him (1 John 3:1)
J. The world hates Jesus and His disciples
   1. John 15:18–19
   2. John 17:14
   3. Humanism is “the world”—they hate us
K. The Spirit of God and the world are opposed (1 Cor. 2:12–13)
   1. The spirit of this world keeps Christians from the Spirit of God
   2. Any attempt to categorize man that leaves out the reality of the spirit distorts the truth. Man is spirit, soul and body.
L. The Spirit of God in believers is greater than the spirit of the world
   1. We cannot afford to meet the world on its terms
   2. Be graceful, tactful, humble—but do not bow to this world

The Line Of Separation
4145

I. The World—Recap
   A. A social world order in rebellion against God
   B. Through man’s fall Satan has become the ruler of this world
   C. Satan controls the world through deception
   D. Satan rules over all rebels (even Charismatics!)
   E. Satan claims to control the governments of this world
   F. God loves the world and gave Jesus to die for it
G. Cross: God’s judgment on Satan and the world
H. Cross: resulted in Satan’s defeat
I. The world does not recognize Jesus or His disciples
J. The world hates Jesus and His disciples
K. The Spirit of God and the world are opposed
L. The Spirit of God in believers is greater than the spirit of the world—The world and the spirit of the world is humanism

II. The World—Continued
M. Believers are the light of the world (Matt. 5:14)
   1. Education is not light: God and His people are the only source
   2. The well-educated can be totally in the dark
   3. We only shine as we hold forth the light of the Word (Phil. 2:15)
N. Believers represent Jesus in this world
   1. You are the only Bible somebody may ever read
   2. “As He is, so are we in this world” (1 John 4:17)
O. Believers must proclaim the Gospel to the whole world (Matt. 24:14)
   1. Make disciples, not church members
   2. Signs will follow. . . . They don’t follow because we don’t go
P. Believers must use but not abuse the world (1 Cor. 7:31)
   Don’t let the world grab you
Q. Believers must not be contaminated by the world (James 1:26–27)
   1. Bridle your tongue or your religion is useless
   2. Visit orphans and widows (James 4:17)
   3. Keep oneself unspotted from the world
R. Friendship with the world is enmity with God
   1. Be friendly with your neighbor but not the system (James 4:4)
   2. 1 John 2:15
S. Believers must expect tribulation in the world (John 16:33)
   Erroneous to believe if you have tribulation you are out of God’s will
T. Believers are victorious over the world through faith (1 John 5:4–5)—you don’t overcome something unless it opposes you
U. The world is corrupt through lust (2 Peter 1:3–4)
   1. Lust: Perverted desires
   2. Lust takes 3 forms: (1 John 2:15–17)
      a. The lust of the flesh
      b. The lust of the eyes
      c. The pride of life—desire to exalt self
   3. Eve experienced all 3 forms of lust (Gen. 3:6)
   4. The essence of sin is the desire to be independent of God
   5. Jesus’ temptation focused on all 3 forms of lust (Luke 4)
      a. Bread: lust of the flesh
      b. Kingdoms of the world: lust of the eyes
      c. Cast yourself down/perform a miracle: the pride of life—All religious error enters by pride
   6. Corruption is irreversible (2 Tim. 3:1–5,13)
   7. Regeneration is needed (Matt. 19:28)
V. Present world is impermanent (1 John 2:17)
W. God is establishing a kingdom not of this world (John 18:36)

III. Remedy

A. The cross and no other
   1. Those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires (Gal. 5:24; Rom. 6:6)
   2. Personalize Gal. 2:20: “I am crucified”
      a. Deny yourself
      b. Pick up your cross
   3. The world has no claim this side of the cross (Gal. 6:14)