

The Curse of the World System

Part III in a series on This Present Evil World

Purpose:

Show how the curse on the world affects our economic and social order.

Outline:

1. This Present Evil World

- a. Sickness; Natural disaster (acts of God); Poverty; Death
- b. What happened? Is this God's idea of a good time?
- c. Gal 1:4 – The root of our ailments is sin

2. World System

- a. Gen 1:1, 31 - God established a world system
 - i. Gen 2:8-9, 15 - God creates an environment, a meaningful purpose, a provision, and eternal life
- b. God's Blessings - Lev 26:3-5; 12 –

3. The Curse – Romans 5:12; Lev 26:15-16

- i. sound operation of the world system requires a proper spiritual relationship
- b. Gen 3:17-19 (won't be healed until Isaiah 65:17-23)
 - i. Nature – Disaster and Disease - Rom 5:12 - Cursed is the ground
 - 1. will operate against us
 - ii. Work – Scarcity and Poverty (Gen 2:15, God's purposes)
 - 1. No guarantee of success or happiness
 - 2. Autarky – your own provision (Gen 2:16, God's provision)
 - iii. Vanity - Death
 - 1. vanity - from dust to dust (Gen 2:9, tree of life)
 - 2. From then, 'Vanity of vanities' - Ecc 1:2-4
 - 3. Uselessness, without purpose and hope
 - iv. Solution? Ecc 12:13 – Fear God and keep his commandments
- c. Every industry of man is subject to vanity because of man's futility and sin
 - i. Ecc 1:15 – that which is crooked cannot be made straight
 - ii. Corruption, Rebellion, Sin, Injustice - Matthew 5:45

4. God's Solution

- a. Earthly – Covenant
 - i. Isaiah 65:17-23 – Rev 22:1-4
 - ii. Regeneration of Nature – a new creation (v17)
 - iii. Abundance in Work – will bring forth her increase (v22)
 - iv. Inheritance - shall not labor in vain (v23)
- b. Heavenly - Grace
 - i. Regeneration of Nature – nails it to the cross, a new creation (2 Cor 5:20)
 - 1. Nailed the law to the cross- Col 2:14, Gal 3:10-13
 - 2. We will be delivered – Romans 8:19-21
 - ii. Abundance – riches in glory - Romans 8:32, Phil 4:19
 - iii. Inheritance and hope – only if your faith is in vain – 1 Cor 15:14-17
 - 1. Our eternal inheritance - Eph 1:11, 14

5. Conclusion: We are in the midst of a warfare within a cursed creation

- a. We operate within a broken ship, knowing we have an eternal inheritance
 - i. Regeneration, abundance, and inheritance - Titus 3:5-7
 - ii. Do it all heartily as to the Lord - Col 3:23-24