THE WORLDVIEW SERIES

A DEFENSE FOR AN ACTIVE, ENGAGING AND CULTURALLY RELEVANT FAITH

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WNX564 APRIL 18, 2012

#### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

## "OUR BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUALITY"

THE CHRISTIAN AND HIS WORLDVIEW

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER: Maturity, Worldview, Apologetics, Discipleship

## Introduction to the Text;

Acts 17:28

#### Acts 17:28 NKJV

for in Him we live and move and have our being,

**Live** ζάω **zao**, *dzah´-o;* to be given life. To receive life. To be quickened.

**Move**  $\kappa \iota v \epsilon \omega$  kineo, kin-eh'-o; to be stirred or aroused or awakened.

Being ἐσμέν esmen, es-men'; existence of personality, our individuality,

#### The 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment (vertical)

Exodus 20:2-3

"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. "You shall have no other gods before Me.

#### What's the Logic to a Duplicity or Multiplicity of gods?

(babylonianism – paganism – Satanism)

#### Listen to What The Bible Says...

1Tim. 4:1-2

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving (seducing) spirits and doctrines of demons, :2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

So When Paul Saw His World – He Saw It as It Really Was.

Locked in an Epic battle Between Light and darkness.

#### Acts 17:16-28

:16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked (exasperated) within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. :17 Therefore he reasoned (challenged) in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. :18 Then certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers encountered him. And some said, "What does this babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods," because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection. **:19** And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new doctrine is of which you speak? :20 For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean." :21 For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. :22 Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious (spiritually minded); :23 for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: :24 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. :25 Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. :26 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, :27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; :28 for in Him we live and move and have our being,

# So let's look tonight at 5 warning signs regarding spirituality.



**OUR BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUALITY** 

## 1.) Warning: Failing to recognize what you are

you are a created being that has been **imbedded** with God-engineered characteristics unique to humanity.

## In the proper environment:

you flourish and develop as you were created.

## In an improper environment:

you can become the tragic opposite.

**C.S. Lewis points out the difference** between man and his created surroundings. If a hamster were to be good or bad – how good or bad could a hamster be? If a dog were to be good or bad – how good or bad could a dog be? If an angel were to be good or bad – how good or bad could that angel be? If a man were to be good or bad – how good or bad could that man be?

## Human Kind has Fallen from His Original Peak.

And our surroundings have come under the sway/influence of our evil.

## You see, Guns are not the issue. Oil is not the issue, Money is the issue,

It is the depravity of the human heart that takes all things captive to its desires.

# Why is there the need of absolute truth?

Because eternity is at stake and its extremely "technical" meaning exact, detailed specific. Just like our electronic world – codes and protocols and procedures.

#### But The Good News Is: You can be a purchased possession of God.

**1Cor. 6:20** For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

#### 2Cor. 6:14-16

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? **:15** And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? **:16** And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God.



#### **OUR BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUALITY**

DEVELOPING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

2.) Warning: Refusing to consider the obvious

#### Eternity and the Eternal Awareness of a Human Being

Comes from the fact that we are non-angelic, non-animal beings created in the image of God Himself.

That said – we possess a sad and distant emanation of what humans once were. We are fallen and because we're fallen we are searching for a way to get back up.

> Eccl. 3:11b ...He has put eternity in their (our) hearts.

#### Acts 17:16-28

:16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked (exasperated) within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. :17 Therefore he reasoned (challenged) in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. :18 Then certain Epicurean and Stoic **philosophers** encountered him. And some said, "What does this babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods...."

....because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection. **:19** And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new doctrine *is* of which you speak? **:20** For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean." **:21** For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. :22 Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious (spiritually minded); :23 for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: :24 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. :25 Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. :26 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, :27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; :28 for in Him we live and move and have our being,

## This Issue of Eternity Demands Caution.

There are demonic, satanically empowered non-humans at work.

#### Their Goal - To Trick You Like They Have Been Tricked.

I Find It Interesting That Satan Desires Nothing More Than to be as a god or to be God himself.

His **Lust** for Attention, Power & Control – Is So Big - He used what he fell for on **Eve**.

#### Rev. 12:3-4

And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. **:4** His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.

#### Rev. 12:7-9

And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. **:8** But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. **:9** The great dragon was hurled down — that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

## Spirituality and Spiritism is Bigger than ever.

Temples and Edifices Erected to the gods has never stopped.

# We Laugh at Things Like;

Ouija boards / tarot cards / palm reading / channeling / séance /

#### Deut. 18:9-12

"When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, be very careful not to imitate the detestable customs of the nations living there. **:10** For example, never sacrifice your son or daughter as a burnt offering. And do not let your people practice fortune-telling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft, **:11** or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead. **:12** Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD.

> the question of time the issue of our conscience the example from natural illustrations

#### But The Good News Is: The Bible Illuminates Your Spiritual Life

## Putting On Your Bible Clothes Wedding Gowns and Hand Grenades

Eph. 6:10-18a

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. :11
Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. :12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. :13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. :14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, :15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; :16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the

wicked one. **:17** And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; **:18** praying always...

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## **OUR BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUALITY**

DEVELOPING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

## 3.) Warning: Making certain you're on the right road

## The Danger of Doctrinal Error

It is satan's plan to undermine, discredit, cast doubt upon the Word of God.

#### Matt. 7:13-15

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **:14** Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. **:15** "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

#### Phil. 3:18

For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ: **:19** whose end *is* destruction, whose god *is their* belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.

#### Satan has excellent strategies among many in his pockets.

(#1) to sow doubt in your heart.

#### But what about the Horoscope or Zodiac

Satan getting you to look to stars to speak to you or direct you

"My sister said she had a dream on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> about a black cat walking under a ladder with a broken mirror tied to its tail – on fire !!!"

What about dreams and thoughts and visions and the like? Are they from God? are they all from God, can they be demonic?

## (#2) to plant pride into your soul

#### Matt. 7:13-15

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **:14** Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. **:15** "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

(the whole warning points to a brazen, bold arrogant religionist)

## We Humans most often go from faith in God

(think of a child's faith in God)

## to doubt in God

(why did God do this, allow this, cause this)

## to pride in self.

(I would have done things differently and so I am going to do just that)

## But The Good News Is: Jesus Christ Has Committed Himself to You

#### Jude 24-24

Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen.

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# OUR BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUALITY

DEVELOPING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

## 4.) Warning: Staying focused on the main thing

#### The Demonic Agenda is Devoted to Doctrinal Deception.

But Why? – Why Would Satan and His Demonic Creeps Care?

#### Matt. 13:24-30

Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; **:25** but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. **:26** But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. **:27** So the servants of the owner came and said to him, "Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' **:28** He said to them, "An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' **:29** But he said, "No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. **:30** Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn." '"

# The Main Thing is This(s)

The Word of God – It's our only weapon. The Power of the Holy Spirit – He's our present help in time of need. The Defense of Your Faith – without faith in God you're lost and wandering.

#### Acts 20:29-31

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. :30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. :31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

## But The Good News Is: He Will Not Stop Until You're With Him

Phil. 1:6

being (be being) confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

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## OUR BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUALITY

DEVELOPING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

5.) Warning: Being sure about loving God

Unbiblical – Spirituality is designed by Satan to draw your heart away from dependence upon God – and it's powerful.

**1Tim. 4:1** Now the Spirit **expressly** says that in latter times <u>some will depart from the</u> <u>faith</u>, (why?) giving **heed** to **deceiving** spirits and **doctrines** of demons,

## Getting Lost Along The Way;

it doesn't have to be the biting off of snake heads or being a disciple of dungeons and dragons.

## Apathy, Materialism, Worldly Affections, Self-Interests

Will all rob us from loving God the most.

# Just Be With Jesus Everywhere – All The Time

(but keep your helmet on spiritually speaking)

#### 2Cor. 10:3-6

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. **:4** For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, **:5** casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, **:6** and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

# Church - Lets Turn to Matt 13:1-30

#### 1Pet. 1:6-9

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, **:7** that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, **:8** whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, **:9** receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

# What's The Take Away Tonight?

Ask yourself if what you believe is absolutely biblically based?

If so – It will never contradict the scriptures.

If so – it will always glorify the Lord Jesus Christ

If so - it will always display a spirit of love

If so - it will be humble and submitted

If so - has what I believed changed

#### But The Good News Is: We Have Been Possessed By The Holy Spirit

#### John 14:16

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—:17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

#### John 16:13

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. **14** He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

#### 1 John 4:4

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

# The Cross

**Come Forward for Prayer Tonight** 

End of Study

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