The Foundation of the World

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<u>The world around us is based on lies</u>. Western Civilization was once based on the Judeo-Christian ethic, now that is all but gone; but even in that, lies were fundamental: primacy of the church of Rome, Sunday worship, pagan holidays, etc. <u>Going right back to the beginning</u>, human civilization has always been based on lies. <u>How did the world get this way</u>? <u>What can we do about it</u>? (Gn3:1-4, Jh8:44, 2Cr4:4, Jh17:9,14-15)

<u>In the Beginning</u>: Before there was a physical universe, before there was time, <u>two Divine Beings</u>, who inhabit eternity <u>created a plan</u> (Jh1:1-3, Is57:15, 40:12a, Ps90:2). The plan required the creation of <u>a physical universe</u> (Gn1:1). Prior to the creation of the physical universe, <u>a host of "angelic" beings</u> had been created – they rejoiced at the physical creation (Job 38:4-7). <u>The earth required a "Steward"</u>; so, one of the created angelic beings was selected to administer the earth on behalf of the two Divine Beings. Isaiah refers to him as "<u>Day Star son of Dawn</u>" (Ez28:12b-14). Eventually the Steward become jealous, and he convinced a large number of other angelic beings to join him in revolt (Ez28:15-17a, Is14:12-14). Following the rebellion, <u>the Steward became know as "Satan"</u>, <u>the Adversary</u> (Lk10:18, Gn1:2a, Job1:6-7).

<u>The Big Lie</u>: The plan of the Divine Beings now moved on to the creation of physical beings who could develop into beings that could become Divine Beings and join their Creators in eternity – so <u>human</u> <u>beings were created</u> (Gn1:26-28). <u>Satan was pushed aside</u>, but remained in his position as Steward – <u>he determined to thwart the Plan of God for the human beings</u> (Ez28:12b-13a, Gn3:1-4, Jh8:44). This is the "<u>foundation of the world</u>" – <u>because of Adam's sin</u>, the whole human race has been consigned to struggle with sin in <u>a world under the control of Satan the Devil</u> (Rm5:12, 3:23, 6:23a, 2Cr4:3-4, 11:14, Eph2:1-3, 6:11-12).

NOT Fix the World Now: God has made NO provision to in any way make this world a better place (Jh17:6,9-11a,13-18). We are NOT required to try to fix the world now, but we are definitely required NOT to be part of the world (1Cr5:9-10). True Christians must live in this world as it is today – the filth and corruption will be removed in due time, but the challenge is to "remain unstained" (1Jh2:17, Jm1:27). Everything about his world is designed to bring people into the way of sin, the way of Satan the Devil – Satan's primary target is True Worshippers (1Pt5:8-9). Satan HAS BEEN defeated: Jesus, the Word, used the words he had inspired to be recorded in the Writings of Moses to defeat Satan the Devil (Mt4:1-11, Lk4:1-13, Dt6:13,16, 8:3, Ps91:11-12). This battle shows the power of the Word of God – the Bible, and the Holy Spirit which is the power of God.

Our Daily Battle: The war is NOT over – Jesus defeated Satan, but Jesus has not yet taken his position as King of kings. Until then, Satan remains the "god of this world" (2Cr10:3-4, 1Tm1:18-19a, 2Tm2:3-4, Jm4:1,4b, 1Pt2:11, 1Jh2:15-17). We require the "whole armour of God" to personally defeat Satan (Eph6:10-18a). We must wear it every day. Jesus defeated Satan by the Word of God and the Power of the Holy Spirit – we also have these at our disposal to come out victorious in our daily battle against Satan and his world. The Belt of Truth (1Kg17:24, Ps51:6, Is45:19b, Jh1:14, 8:31b-32, 17:17); The Breastplate of Righteousness (Gn15:6, Dt6:25, Ps119.138, Mt5:6, 6:33, Rm1:17); The Gospel of Peace (At20:24, Rm1:16a, 1Cr9:23, Eph1:13); The Shield of Faith (Gn15:1, 2Sm22:3, Pr30:5); The Helmet of Salvation (Is59:15b-17, 1Th5:8-9); The Sword of the Spirit – the Word of God (Mt10:34, Hb4:12, Rv1:16, 2:16, 19:21); Praying at All Times (Mt26:41, Lk21:36, Rm8:26)

The world is steeped in lies which ultimately originate with the god of this world – Satan the Devil.

God has made no provision to fix this world now – we CANNOT make it a better place. But God requires us to function in this world as it is without getting stained by it.

Daily we fight a war that is to the death – Satan is relentless, cunning, subtle.

Jesus defeated Satan in a battle of wits by knowing and using the Word of God. Similarly, we can succeed only through the Word of God which is the Sword of the Spirit.