

i John Series

Lesson #042

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Dean Bible Ministries

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1 John 2:15, “Do not love the world, nor the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”

Love: Present Active
Indicative
Agapao,
Prohibition, to make a
habit, a character
pattern.

Love of the Father,
Objective Genitive,
Love for the Father

The world,
Kosmos,
Order, regular
disposition,
arrangement,
adornment

1. *Kosmos*, in the negative sense, describes the entire arrangement and system of thinking arrayed against God. It has as its primary meaning, order, arrangement, adornment.

2. Satan is the ruler of the *kosmic* system.

John 12:31, “Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out.”

John 14:30, “I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me;”

3. The whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

1 John 5:19, “We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.”

4. Satan as the ruler of the *kosmic* system was judged on the cross.

John 16:11, “and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.”

5. The *kosmic* system has its own way of thinking.

1 Cor. 2:6, “Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away;”

1 Cor. 2:7, “but we speak God’s wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom, which God predestined before the ages to our glory;

1 Cor. 2:8, “the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;”

**1 Cor. 2:9, “but just as it is written,
‘Things which eye has not seen and
ear has not heard, and which have
not entered the heart of man, all that
God has prepared for those who
love Him.’**

**1 Cor. 2:10, “For to us God revealed
them through the Spirit; for the
Spirit searches all things, even the
depths of God.”**

6. Man has always sought to establish his authority of knowledge apart from revelation.

The Basis of Knowledge

	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
Autonomous Systems of Perception	RATIONALISM	Innate ideas Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	EMPIRICISM	Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	MYSTICISM	Inner, private experience; intuition; Faith in human ability	Independent, nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable
Divine Viewpoint	REVELATION	Objective revelation of God	Dependent use of logic and reason

“I believe firmly that the scientific method, although slow and never claiming to lead to complete truth, is the only method that gives satisfactory foundations to belief.”

~Julian Huxley

7. A way of thinking produces a lifestyle consistent with it. There is a lifestyle consistent with *kosmic* thinking, it may be religious and ethical or nonreligious and immoral.

1 Cor. 5:10, “I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world.”

8. The *kosmic* system is antagonistic to God, to His plan, principles, and procedures.

James 4:4, “You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

9. The believer is to extricate himself from the morass of *kosmic* thinking in his soul.

Rom. 12:1, “I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

James 1:27, “This is pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father, to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.”

James 4:5, “Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: ‘He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us’?”

James 4:6, “But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, ‘God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ ”

2 Pet. 2:20, “For if after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.”

2 Pet. 1:4, “For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.”

***10. Kosmic* thinking is the thinking of arrogance, the thinking that characterizes the thought of Satan and the demons.**

James 3:13, “Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.

James 3:14, “But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth.

James 3:15, “This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic.”

**11. When the believer is thinking
divine viewpoint; then the world
is opposed to the Christian.**

**John 15:18, “If the world hates you,
you know that it has hated Me before
it hated you.”**

John 15:19, “If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”

John 17:14, “I have given them Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”

Truth is what you believe.

There is no absolute truth.

**If there were such a thing, how
would we know it**

**People who believe in absolutes are
dangerous.**

1 Chron. 12:32, “And of the sons of Issachar, men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their kinsmen were at their command.”

Rom. 13:11, “And this do, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.”

Rom. 12:1, “I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

Modernism/

Postmodernism

Human nature

Mankind is in the image of God; spiritual and physical

Humans are material machines. No opinion; suspicious of any dogmatic assertions. The universe is purely physical. Nothing exists beyond our senses.

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

Modernism/

Postmodernism

**Free
will**

**Diminished by sin;
still morally
responsible.**

**Autonomous and
self-governing.
People are
products of their
culture and only
Choose their own
direction.
imagine they are
self-governing.**

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Postmodernism**

**View of
reason**

Reason is necessary but not the basis for understanding reality; it discover some truth, but revelation is also needed.

Rationalism and empiricism are the only basis for discovering truth. Denies objective reason, rationalism is a myth.

Comparison of Modernism, Postmodernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

Modernism/

Postmodernism

**View of
progress**

**Mankind isn't
progressing toward
anything; advances
are positive, but
there is no utopia
brought in by man.**

**Mankind is
progressing by
Denies objective
using science and
reason, rationalism
reason.
is a myth.**