

- ↪ **1st John 5:19** - I think many of us have failed to realize that there is something that the devil is in total control of. What is the "world"? It can't be the planet because the earth is the Lord's and fullness thereof. Flow of history also belongs to God.
 - ↪ **World** = an invisible system that pervades the human situation and is totally in the enemy's control. To the degree we yield to this system to that degree the enemy has control over us. Because this system is in total control of the enemy.
 - ↪ **1st John 2:15**, The World is much more than material stuff; it is a system and force that is not to be embraced at all. We saw last time that this pervasive system is really just makeup that the devil has put on reality to deceive. **Galatians 1:3-4**, The purpose for which Jesus died was to deliver us from this present evil age; it is inherent in our salvation.
 - ↪ **Ephesians 6:18**, Take on the whole armor that you might pray "in the Spirit." Is it possible to not pray in the Spirit? Why does it matter if it's not in the Spirit? Can't God hear you if your prayers are not in the Spirit? Makes no sense unless you understand that there is a system and force that is all around us that must be overcome and pushed back.
 - ↪ Prayer is not just I talk, and God listens but is also always a pushing back of the powers of darkness. Why would Paul precede all this by telling us "We wrestle not with flesh and blood" if this were not so?
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1. The world: satanically planned system that pervades the earth and it exerts pressure on our lives and causes, among other things, a false system of values.

- ✓ Kosmos = "order" This is an ordered, well thought out system put out by the enemy as to what is important, what matters, what's valuable, what's great, and what's success. It is intentionally formulated to ensure that you never get there; you never arrive. Our planet is under this system; "the whole world lies in the power of the evil one".

2. What is great/who is a somebody according to this world system?

- ✓ **This system says:** Having a lot of things and a big bank account means you're great. Having a lot and having a little is not the issue; it's do you need it to be somebody? To the degree that you do, you are caught up in the world.
- ✓ **This system says:** A title or earning degrees will make you be somebody. Nothing wrong with degrees; the Bible says, "study to show yourself approved", but do you need to have them to be somebody...to the degree that you do, you are caught up in the spirit of the world.
- ✓ God doesn't care what you live in or what you wear or what kind of car you drive, what hair style you wear, He doesn't care if you have a tattoo or an earring (or a whole bunch of them)... what He cares about is **do you need those things to be somebody?**
- ✓ **This world system says:** You have to be able to do something impressive to be valuable. So, our world's heroes are the athletes, rock, and movie stars. **This world system says:** You have to look a certain way to be great or valuable. The guys on top in this system are as insecure as the guys on the bottom; because this system is designed so that you never arrive which keeps you chasing after something that isn't there.

3. 1st John 2:15-17a, you can't derive identity from anything in this System; our identity is only in God and this is not from Him!!

- ✓ **Verse 17a**, Funeral language "so-and-so has passed away"; if your heart is in the worldly system, then you are always at a funeral because your heart is in something that is passing away.

What's the answer to a false value system and a false basis of acceptance? 1st John 5:19b.
