

A World Turned Upside Down



Danny Wyatt
Jobe Publishing Contributor

"...These who have turned the world upside down have come here too." Acts 17:6

At Acts 17, when Paul and Silas preached Jesus as the only way, the only truth, and the only life, they were accused of turning the world upside down with their teaching. In reality, they were turning the world right-side up. The society of that day was so corrupt that they were blind to the truth. Many of the religious world rejected Christ as the true Son of God. There was moral corruption, cruelty, worship of false idols, and general wickedness which filled the world with its foul odor. The men of God dared to stand against this hypocrisy and against the evils of the popular culture and were so

charged with turning the world upside down by their teachings against such things.

The world in which we live today is truly upside down. Sex before marriage is accepted as right and good by many. Sex outside of lawful marriage is winked at. Homosexual practice is applauded as an acceptable lifestyle choice, and anyone who speaks against any of these is labeled as a hater or a bigot. Divorce is winked at, lying is rampant, and we are told that there are many ways to God; we only need to choose which one suits us and all will be acceptable. From the halls of educational institutions comes the deluded idea that the bible is not inspired by God and that much of it is a myth.

Ignorance of God permeates our society, and if we do not turn it right side up, we are doomed just as surely as was Sodom.

The Course of this world and our only hope to escape



Jason Abston
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Ephesians 2:1-6, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

No matter where you live on this earth you live under a system that impacts virtually every part of your life. It has existed since Adam and Eve transgressed the Lord's commands.

The system is what tells each of us that we must follow a specific course to be successful in life. It pressures us to go against morality and chase after vanity. It is the course of this world that benefits some while others struggle. It is the course of this world that will eventually fail as reading the Bible clearly shows.

Death is certain for each of us eventually. No one can escape the grave in their physical body. Upon the day of death, the course of this world ends for us and eternity begins. There is

only one of two places where we will spend that eternity.

Just as the Ephesians, each of us has lived after the course of this world and followed Satan's ways of life. Those who continue in that life are the children of disobedience who will face the ultimate judgment and who have no hope.

Unlike the legal system we have in the United States, there is no statute of limitations on breaking God's Law. However, as our legal system is supposed to work, an overwhelming amount of evidence of breaking a law results in the defendant being found guilty and facing punishment.

Ezekiel 18:4, "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die."

God has passed judgment on sin and a penalty must be paid.

Our only hope is in Jesus Christ. There is no hope in any other. There is no escape from the course of this world other than Christ.

Mark 1:15, "... The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel."

Repent from your sins and put your faith in Jesus Christ as the only hope for your soul. Do not wait until you think you can change your life. You have already seen that you cannot. Come to Christ as you are and let Him change you.

Are you drowning in a sea of sin? Cry out to Him and He will pull you from it. You cannot change yourself but He can.

Each day we live is a gift and it is also one day closer to physical death. Jesus Christ took your place of punishment and there is no hope for those who reject Him.

SMILES

By
WENDELL KENNISON
Jobe Publishing Contributor



City slickers never cease to amaze me with their lack of smarts.

Every once and a while, a slicker will stop by Snerd Ferdley's combination post office, dry goods, feed, funeral home, dentist office, barbershop, gas station, marriage parlor, grocery store and tries to impress th' fellers sittin' around whittlin' and chewin',

I recall one fine Spring day when a city dude stopped by, purchased a Nehi orange, and proceeded to bore everybody present with his attempt at tryin' to be one of th' "good ole boys."

He spied Rancid Rashbottom sittin' on th edge of th' porch and started in his di-

rection. At Rancid's feet there wuz a big, big ole coon dog dozin' in th' sun.

Th' slicker asked, "Will your dog bite?"

"Nope gentle as a kitten," sez Rancid. Th' feller reached down to pat th' dog on th' head and that old coon dog nearly bit his hand off! Tore that slicker up somethin' fierce!

In great pain, the slicker yelled, "You fool! I thought you said your dog didn't bite!"

Rance answered, "That's what I said alright."

"Look at my hand," th' slicker screamed, "Whatta you mean, your dog don't bite?"

"My dog don't bite. Th' dog that jest bit ya ain't my dog!"

ANXIETY

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It is important to remember that social distancing does not mean social isolation. Connecting with loved ones and friends can help everyone maintain ties and give one another strength during this chaotic time.

"Social distancing can worsen some anxiety issues," Cassman said. "With the advancement of technology, a video call is fairly easy. Calling regularly on loved ones can help those loved ones, but can also give us who do the calling a sense of being helpful. This can also be done by children and teens."

For those coping with anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic, Cassman said optimism is key. For others, reaching out for help is also a necessity.

"I'd encourage folks to take a deep breath," Cassman said. "Education on the pandemic is

good, but obsession is not. Bring balance into your life by engaging in some normalcy. Have fun, laugh, and reconnect with some of your family members if you are stuck in your house. Create new family traditions. Watch for negative thinking, and focus on the positive in your life. Reaching out to a therapist who provides telehealth can be beneficial. We at Bluegrass Professional Counseling offer that, but so do other providers. Seek them out if you feel as though your anxiety or depression is more than you can handle. Sometimes waiting can make it worse."

If you or someone you know are feeling overwhelmed with anxiety, stress, or sadness, contact Bluegrass Professional Counseling at 270-696-3181. You can also contact the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.



LET'S TALK ABOUT

By **CAROL PERKINS**
Jobe Publishing Contributor

Flies and Raccoons

A few weeks ago (when I wasn't afraid of the virus), I bought a large box of assorted flower bulbs from a hardware store, intending to plant them in pots, watch them push through the dirt, and then replant them in my flower bed. I looked out the window one day and sitting on the edge of one of the pots was a squirrel. I opened the door and yelled, "GET OUT OF HERE!" He did. Then I remembered an article I had read in the Glasgow Daily Times about how to keep animals from stealing bulbs from flowerpots. "Place a plastic fork with the tongs upright, and the animals won't come near."

I had a box of plastic utensils somewhere, but when I located the box, all the forks were gone, only knives and spoons. I stuck several (to be on the safe side) into the dirt directly around the bulbs. I never saw another squirrel. However, in a few days, another problem arose. FLIES. Dozens and dozens of flies surrounded the pots. I couldn't get near the flowers for fear a fly would go up my nose or in my ear. I called for Guy. "I have never seen so many flies except hovering over a dead animal." We had no fly spray, so I used a spray for ants and roaches.

In thinking about all those flies, I came to a very logical conclusion. They saw all those white plastic spoons and knives and thought

someone was having a picnic!

Another incident occurred with our bird feeder. Having so much trouble last year with beautiful birds suicide bombing into our breakfast room windows, we moved the feeder to a safer location a few feet away. One night, we heard a crash on the deck. Guy ran to the door to see the house-shaped wooden bird feeder on the floor of the deck with seeds scattered everywhere. Something had tried to climb the shepherd's hook where the birdhouse sat. Guy assessed the probable cause and decided the culprit was a raccoon. I was confident it was a bear. Sure enough, the next night, the same thing happened, but this time Guy caught the raccoon in the act. The next day Guy said, "How do you place an order online?"

"What are you ordering?"

"A camera that hunters use to see what is around them."

This camouflaged camera should arrive any day. This project will keep him busy for a few days, setting it up and checking to see what is trespassing. As for the flies, I think they figured out there were no hotdogs or hamburgers. The bird feeder is back in place, waiting for that raccoon to show up on the camera. I am hiding the shotgun.

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