

The World Order

The Kósmos

And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

(1 Corinthians 15:19 NLT)

Today I am thankful, mostly for the faithfulness of God, His care for all His creation, and particularly those He calls His children—those born again of His Spirit.

I was thinking about what the *world* is. We have been taught, and we well know, what the flesh is, as we have lived in it since day one. We are well aware of our enemy—satan, and we have learned many of his devices here at NUMA, but the *world*, too, is one of the hindrances to our Christian life that we are warned about (the world, the flesh, and the devil). We are also aware of a “New World Order” that is being pushed upon us by governments, that will be ruled by The Antichrist. The Apostle John warned that the spirit of the antichrist was already here, even way back in early AD.

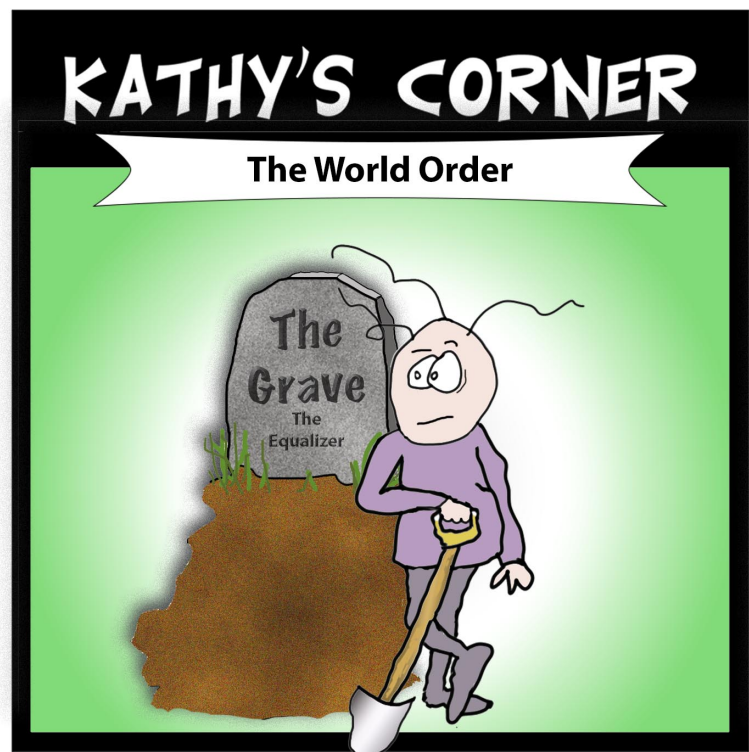
We would be blind not to see that the world which God created for us is not as He designed it to be. There is a spiritual dimension to the world into which satan has inserted himself; unfortunately, with a lot of help from mankind. This world order is opposed to God’s order, though it will offer “good” things to be promoted and accepted by dupes.

Kósmos, a greek word for world, (in Strong’s concordance # G2889) has several definitions. The one I am considering is “orderly arrangement.” In Biblehub’s HELPS Word-studies section is a good definition: ***kósmos* (literally, “something ordered”) – properly, an “ordered system” (like the universe, creation); the world.** That is a simple, but fairly thorough definition.

Kósmos is translated *world* in the following verses from the CSB:

James 4:4: You adulterous people! Don’t you know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? So whoever wants to be the friend of the world becomes the enemy of God.

1 John 2:15-16: Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride in one’s possessions—is not from the Father, but is from the world.



1 John 5:19 **We know that we are of God, and the whole world is under the sway of the evil one.**

God's order is established on His own righteousness and goodness. His commands produce the harmony that we desire to have in the world, but His commands are not forced upon us, as we retain freewill. His commands are for our good—the Creator knows what is best for us. We benefit by submission to Him, our LORD, and receive His favor through Jesus' blood covering for when we fail. The LORD gives us **light and guidance** all through His word. He also spells out the consequences for the unrepentant. I am so thankful for the wisdom provided, particularly in Proverbs, which could **guide** even the unsaved, should they read it, until they, hopefully, accept a relationship with Jesus through faith. The given **light** can expose the stumbling blocks to the wholesome life which God intends for us. In God's order, judgement and justice are always righteous. His rewards are stability, peace and honor into eternity—life and blessings. What about the world order?

In contrast to God's order which **leads willing followers**, the world order **demand compliance**. It establishes laws upon laws, and regulates access to many of the gifts and freedoms God meant for us to have. Some laws, of course, help initially and are necessary since the conscience of many is ignored because of greed and selfishness; but many laws become a heavy burden and more and more oppressive as the world order becomes more and more rebellious to God's order; and many laws are twisted and perverted by godless controllers. This *world order* makes okay what God forbids; it skews the consequences; it perverts justice. This world engineers and perverts and restricts those things necessary for life and health; it allows poisoning of our foods, atmosphere, environment—all for what?—its bottom line. Its rewards are wealth, status or fame, special favors and bribes, and a double standard for any possible consequences. All of which, I might stress, are removed at the grave. **“Each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment.”** The grave is the great equalizer. (Quote from Hebrews 9:27)

Jesus, “the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the *kosmos*” (see John 1:29), said of His disciples—disciples both then and now, **“I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. They do not belong to this world any more than I do.”** (John 17:14-16 CSB)

I thank the Father and the Son for the gift of the Holy Spirit. He is the provision for us to live and rejoice in God's order. “Greater is He that is in you than He that is in the world.” Praise Him!