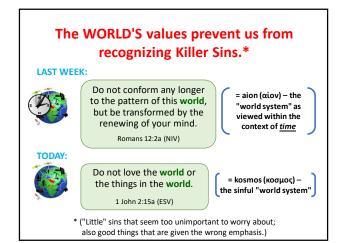
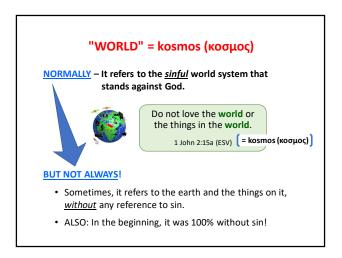


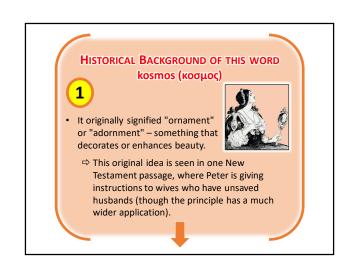
The WORLD (and its values)

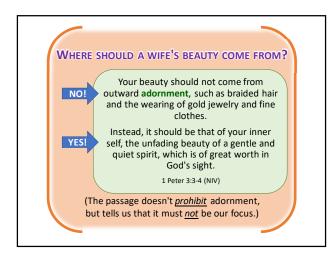
The word "world" (kosmos), when describing something good (no sin implied)

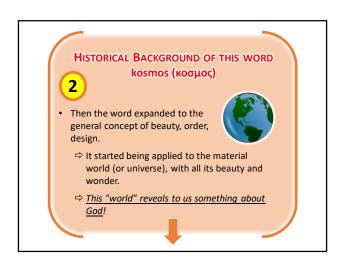
#2

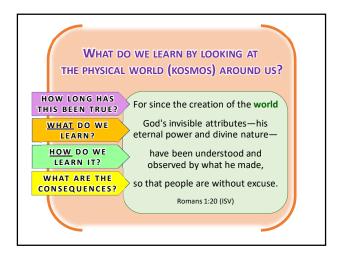




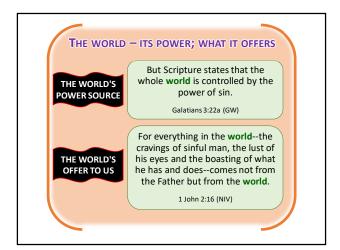


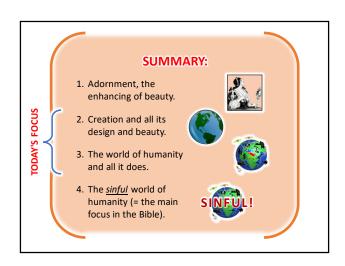












A PERFECT WORLD... before sin arrived on the scene. > God made it! "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth ..." Acts 17:24a (NIV) > He made it in such a way that it revealed his glory!* From the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly observed in what he made. Romans 1:20a (GW) * (And it still does.)

WHEN SIN ARRIVED... it did NOT catch God by surprise! Even <u>before</u> the world was made – <u>before</u> sin entered the word – God was preparing for YOUR* salvation! In the New Testament, Jesus revealed some of the salvation-related facts that were planned ... <u>even before the world was created!</u> [Jesus] fulfilled the prophecy that said, "I will speak to you in parables. I will explain mysteries hidden since the creation of the world." Matthew 13:35 (NLT), quoting Psalm 78:2 * (If you have chosen to <u>follow</u> Jesus.)



<u>BEFORE</u> THE CREATION OF THE WORLD... JESUS WAS THERE!

> Sharing the Father's glory.

And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

John 17:5 (ESV) (PART OF JESUS' PRAYER)

> Sharing the Father's love.

... you loved me before the foundation of the world.

John 17:24b (ESV) (PART OF JESUS' PRAYER)

In the OLD Testament, God reveals himself by his name "Yahweh."*
In the NEW Testament, he reveals himself as "Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

* (In some translations: "LORD" [usually with capital letters], or "Jehovah.")

<u>GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR SALVATION</u> ... IT EXISTED BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN!

Jesus <u>planned</u> to die, so that we could pursue holiness (instead of the worthless ways we used to follow).

But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ...

 \dots you were redeemed from the empty way of life \dots with the precious blood of Christ, \dots

He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

1 Peter 1:15, 18b, 19a, 20 (NIV)

YOUR GLORIOUS FUTURE ...

IT EXISTED BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN!

➤ God *chose* you to become holy and faultless.

Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

Ephesians 1:4 (NLT)

➤ God has *prepared* a kingdom for you.

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

Matthew 25:34b (NLT)

YES, SIN HAS ENTERED THE WORLD...



- > At present, the there are two types of people.
 - \Rightarrow Illustrated here as "good seeds" and "weeds."

The field is the world.
The good seeds are those who belong to the kingdom.
The weeds are those who belong to the evil one.

Matthew 13:38 (GW)

> This situation will someday change. God will remove <u>all</u> that is sin and sinful from the world.

- JESUS HAS PROMISED to cleanse the world from everything sinful.
 - ⇒ If you are unwilling to turn away from your sins, Jesus describes you as a "weed."

Just as weeds are gathered and burned, so it will be at the end of time.

The Son of Man will send his angels. They will gather everything in his kingdom that causes people to sin and everyone who does evil. The angels will throw them into a blazing furnace.

People will cry and be in extreme pain there.

Matthew 13:40-42 (GW)

THERE IS <u>HOPE</u> for those who are willing to receive the salvation that God offers.

Then the people who have God's approval will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom.

Matthew 13:43a (GW)

ONLY ONE QUESTION REMAINS. Are you going to pay attention to Jesus' warning?

Let the person who has ears listen!

Matthew 13:43b (GW)

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO NOT FOLLOW JESUS...

Remember Romans 1:20 – the verse about God's revelation in creation?

YOUR SUPPRESSION OF IT WILL TESTIFY AGAINST YOU!

Just as God has <u>revealed</u> his **SALVATION** for those willing to accept the truth,

HE IS REVEALING HIS WRATH FOR THOSE WHO SUPPRESS THE TRUTH.

BEWARE OF SUPPRESSING THE TRUTH!

- If you reject all this revelation, you have <u>no excuse</u>. You <u>know</u> the truth, and are <u>suppressing</u> it.
- You have nothing to look forward to, except for God's righteous wrath.

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who <u>suppress the truth</u> by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.

For since the creation of the **world** God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are *without excuse*.

Romans 1:18-20 (NIV)

EXCUSES WILL BE PUT TO SILENCE.

You won't be able to say...

say...

KNOW!

They are <u>fully aware</u> of God's death penalty for those who do these things, yet they go right ahead and do them anyway. And, worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

Romans 1:32 (NLT)

They demonstrate that God's law is <u>written within them</u>, for their own consciences either accuse them or tell them they are doing what is right.

Romans 2:15 (NLT)

YOUR ONLY HOPE IS TO ACCEPT THE SALVATION GOD HAS REVEALED IN JESUS CHRIST.

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

Romans 1:16-17 (NIV)

YOUR ETERNAL DESTINY HANGS ON YOUR RESPONSE TO TRUTH:

- ➤ God is <u>revealing</u> his wrath to those who suppress truth.
- ➤ God has revealed his salvation to those who accept truth.

SOMETHING TO PONDER...



HOW DO <u>YOU</u> RESPOND TO GOD'S REVELATION IN THE WORLD?



ARE GOD'S ETERNAL PLANS BEING FULFILLED IN YOUR LIFE?

Credits (1)

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