



The WORLD (and its values)

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

#2

The WORLD'S values prevent us from recognizing Killer Sins.*

LAST WEEK:



Do not conform any longer
to the pattern of this **world**,
but be transformed by the
renewing of your mind.

Romans 12:2a (NIV)

[= aion (αἰών) – the
"world system" as
viewed within the
context of time]

TODAY:



Do not love the **world** or
the things in the **world**.

1 John 2:15a (ESV)

[= kosmos (κόσμος) –
the sinful "world system"]

* ("Little" sins that seem too unimportant to worry about;
also good things that are given the wrong emphasis.)

"WORLD" = kosmos (κόσμος)

NORMALLY – It refers to the sinful world system that
stands against God.



Do not love the **world** or
the things in the **world**.

1 John 2:15a (ESV)

[= kosmos (κόσμος)]

BUT NOT ALWAYS!

- Sometimes, it refers to the earth and the things on it,
without any reference to sin.
- ALSO: In the beginning, it was 100% without sin!

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THIS WORD kosmos (κόσμος)

1

- It originally signified "ornament"
or "adornment" – something that
decorates or enhances beauty.



⇒ This original idea is seen in one New
Testament passage, where Peter is giving
instructions to wives who have unsaved
husbands (though the principle has a much
wider application).



WHERE SHOULD A WIFE'S BEAUTY COME FROM?

NO!

Your beauty should not come from
outward **adornment**, such as braided hair
and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine
clothes.

YES!

Instead, it should be that of your inner
self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and
quiet spirit, which is of great worth in
God's sight.

1 Peter 3:3-4 (NIV)

(The passage doesn't prohibit adornment,
but tells us that it must not be our focus.)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THIS WORD kosmos (κόσμος)

2

- Then the word expanded to the
general concept of beauty, order,
design.



⇒ It started being applied to the material
world (or universe), with all its beauty and
wonder.

⇒ This "world" reveals to us something about
God!



WHAT DO WE LEARN BY LOOKING AT THE PHYSICAL WORLD (KOSMOS) AROUND US?

HOW LONG HAS
THIS BEEN TRUE?

For since the creation of the **world**

WHAT DO WE
LEARN?

God's invisible attributes—his
eternal power and divine nature—

HOW DO WE
LEARN IT?

have been understood and
observed by what he made,

WHAT ARE THE
CONSEQUENCES?

so that people are without excuse.

Romans 1:20 (ISV)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THIS WORD kosmos (κόσμος)

3

- Eventually, the word developed to include the sum total of humanity and what it does – the whole "system" of human existence and activity.

⇒ This includes the ethical and moral aspects of what people do.

⇒ *(Only in Scripture) An emphasis on unsaved humanity's opposition and hostility toward God.*



4

SINFUL!

THE WORLD – ITS POWER; WHAT IT OFFERS

THE WORLD'S
POWER SOURCE

But Scripture states that the whole **world** is controlled by the power of sin.

Galatians 3:22a (GW)

THE WORLD'S
OFFER TO US

For everything in the **world**--the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does--comes not from the Father but from the **world**.

1 John 2:16 (NIV)

SUMMARY:

1. Adornment, the enhancing of beauty.
2. Creation and all its design and beauty.
3. The world of humanity and all it does.
4. The *sinful* world of humanity (= the main focus in the Bible).



SINFUL!

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 *before* the world was made – *before* sin entered the world – God was preparing for YOUR* salvation!

- In the New Testament, Jesus revealed some of the salvation-related facts that were planned ... *even before the world was created!* →

[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 *follow* Jesus.)



KEY ISSUE (IF YOU ARE FOLLOWING JESUS)

SIN did NOT catch God by surprise!

***Even before the world was created,
God was preparing for your salvation!***

BEFORE 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.")

GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR SALVATION ...

IT EXISTED BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN!

- Jesus planned 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; ...

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

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...

☀ BUT THINGS WILL NOT STAY THIS WAY! ☀

- At present, the there are two types of people.

⇒ 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 all 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 HOPE** 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 revealed 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 no excuse. You know the truth, and are suppressing 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 suppress the truth 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...

They are fully aware 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)

**I DIDN'T
KNOW!**

They demonstrate that God's law is written within them, 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 revealing his **wrath** to those who **suppress** truth.
- God has revealed his **salvation** to those who **accept** truth.



**SOMETHING TO
PONDER...**



**HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO GOD'S
REVELATION IN THE WORLD?**



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

Credits (1)

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- Earth [in reference to its beauty] - MajnCline / CC0; <https://openclipart.org/detail/29188/tj-cbe>

Credits (2)

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