

We Are To Live In Spiritual Wisdom

Colossians 4:2-4 concerns The Silent Warfare of Prayer. People, you silently enter into the spiritual warfare going on today, in your prayers. Never forget what we learned from the first book given to mankind by God, the book of Job. In the opening chapter, we learn that we can actually influence God to act in a manner He may not have acted had we not prayed. Please be in prayer for Spring Valley Bible Church, every day. Also remember that you will value the things you pray for! Pray for your marriage, your church, those you love.

4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; (not once a year but every day)

4:3 praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, (here is where I ask you to be in prayer for Spring Valley Bible Church) so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned;

4:4 that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak. (Now Paul moves to the urgency of your daily life)

4:5 walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time (you will note that I

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prefer the King James translation of verse 4 over the NASV) **Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity**

First of all, the original Greek reads:

in wisdom, walk towards the ones outside, the time redeeming

We will start with the *Present Active Imperative* of the Greek word ‘to walk.’ We noted in our last lesson ‘walking in wisdom,’ that this Greek verb is used to refer to our daily lives. The *Present tense* denotes every minute of every day; and the *Active Imperative* means you have to make this decision. Some believers are conscious of their spiritual life all the time, while many do not think about it on a regular basis.

Paul uses the verb ‘to walk’ four times, once in each chapter of Colossians:

Colossians 3:7 we walked as unbelievers

Colossians 1:9 we are to walk a new way now that we are in Christ

Colossians 2:6 we are to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit by faith

Colossians 4:5 we are to walk in wisdom toward those who are without

This is where we are in history today. This is the crisis of history that we live in. There are so many evil things that are happening as we move towards the end times of the Church Age. Why do you think there is a movement toward a One World Government? And a One World Religion? Yes, this is prophesied in Scripture in the book of Revelation,

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namely chapter 13. But, think about this: they (those used by Satan) have convinced most of the world that there are three main causes of war and we have to humanly move in and stop wars:

1. Conflicts between nations,
2. Conflicts between religions and
3. Economic needs

So, to end wars, we must have a One World Government and a One World Religion and Socialism or Communism to settle the economic needs of people in this world.

Satan has been pushing for a One World Government and a One World Religion since the Tower of Babel in Genesis chapter 11. But in modern times, there has been a momentum from the late 1800s. We went through a survey of the movement of a One World Religion from the survey of Popes starting with Pope Pius XII, the Pope from 1939-1958. In American history it really took off under President Wilson who wanted the League of Nations which was the foundation of One World Government. It did not come about until after World War II with the formation of the United Nations (U.N.). Please note how Satan works. He uses human catastrophes like WW I and WW II to usher in his evil plan of One World Government and One World Religion. 'We must prevent another war.' We thought WW I would be the war to end wars. Then came WW II. We cannot endure another catastrophic War that could destroy all mankind. So, let's form a One World Government. You see, then there would be no nation fighting against another nation.' Then, you have religious movements that desire to control the world like Islam. So, we must have a One World Religion so that there would be no

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religions fighting against each other. They must get rid of all nations and all religions and have just One World Nation and One World Religion.

Look back at the original thinking of One World religion and One World government in Genesis chapter 11.

For those of you who are students of the Bible, Genesis chapter 11 historically occurs before chapter 10, explaining why the nations were scattered in chapter 10.

Genesis 11:1 Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words.

One language does not solve man's problems. Just look at all the problems between those who speak English or between the Muslims who all speak Arabic.

Genesis 11:2 It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. (Babylon)

Now in verses 3-4 we have the sound reasoning of Globalization.

Genesis 11:3 They said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and burn *them* thoroughly." And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar.

They did not see that the plan of God was the spreading out throughout the world:

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Genesis 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.”

Or

Genesis 9:7 “As for you, be fruitful and multiply; Populate the earth abundantly and multiply in it.”

Do you see it? God commands lots of sex. While in America it is ‘kill the babies in the womb or as they come out of the womb.’

But man always rejects the Word of God, rejects the Plan of God, rejects the Wisdom of God.

Note in Genesis 11:3, through the ‘let us’ ideal of ecumenical togetherness we can counter what God says and we can solve our own problems. The problem as they see it, is the same problem they see today: destruction of the human race. We have got to save the human race!! Save it from war, save it from climate, save it from God.

Genesis 11:4 They said, “Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

They said, “Come, Everyone must work together.

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let us If we stick together we can solve our problems.

build for ourselves We don't need God.

a city, and a tower whose top *will reach* into heaven, Salvation by works.

and let us make for ourselves a name, They use fear to get all the people to agree. Their argument sounds so good as long as there is fear! Let me just pause here. Why do we need the U.N. or One World Government? As long as we had the most powerful military on earth, Americans did not live in fear! So, one thing Obama needed to do was to make us weak like other nations, then appeal to fear!

otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth. That which God sees as a blessing, they see as a detriment. In verses 5-8 we have a summary of God's attitude towards Globalization and One World Religion.

Genesis 11:5 The LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.

Anthromorphism to express God's knowing what man was thinking and doing.

Genesis 11:6 The LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do,

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**and now nothing which they purpose to do
will be impossible for them.**

This is what we often do with God's blessings! Then we think we can do anything we want. Because we teach that man evolved and was not created, well, that makes it so. If we form One World Government and One World Religion this will solve man's problems because we say so.

Genesis 11:7 "Come, let Us (the Trinity) go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech."

Genesis 11:8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city.

Genesis 11:9 Therefore its name was called Babel, (confusion; later Babylon will be built here) because there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth.

Now remember why we are looking at Genesis chapter 11. We are studying how we are to walk in Wisdom toward those who do not have the truth.

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Yes, people, we are to walk in Love toward all people, but love does not mean we set aside wisdom.

The world can make One World Government and One World Religion sound so good, like it will solve man's problems.

Man cannot solve man's problems.

Only God can solve man's problems. He has solved them through the cross work of His Son, Jesus the Christ.

Wars cannot be eliminated until Satan and the Inherited Sin Nature (ISN) are removed. Cultural change does not solve man's problem nor one language. Perfect weather does not solve man's problems. It is a divorcement from reality to think that weather or climate is going to destroy the world or that perfect climate is going to somehow solve man's problems.

But man can make his solutions sound so reasonable. Socialism, Communism sounds so reasonable, except they do not work because of the nature of man. We were warned of this in:

Colossians 2:4 I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument

And let's not forget all the various ways this warning was translated.

A brief understanding of Colossians 2:3-4 reads:

Colossians 2:3-4 I teach you that all Wisdom and Knowledge are found only in JESUS CHRIST, and I teach you this in order that no

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**one deceives you by twisting the truth with
persuasive argument**

King James > beguile you with enticing words

NIV > deceive you with fine-sounding arguments

New Living Translation > deceive you with fine-sounding arguments

English Standard Version > delude you with plausible arguments

Berean Study Bible > deceive you by smooth rhetoric

Berean Literal Bible > delude you by persuasive speech

International Standard Version > mislead you with nice-sounding rhetoric

Net Bible > deceive you through arguments that sound reasonable

Wuest Expanded Translation > lead you astray by false reasoning in the sphere of specious discourse

People we must be wise to live in the world we live. They can make One World Government and One World Religion and doing away with Christianity sound so appealing.

Listen to the words of Barack Obama just five days before he was elected President of the USA. He warned us with his words on ‘Fundamentally Transform the United States’. But Americans were not listening! They did not walk (vote) in Wisdom from God’s Word.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKxDdxzX0kI>

For an excellent summation of this speech, as to what Obama meant by these words and whether he succeeded in a short 8 years to bring about a ‘fundamental transformation’ of America please read Paul Kengor’s article on this speech.

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Link: <https://patriotpost.us/opinion/46910-barack-obamas-fundamental-transformation>

He writes that Americans should have been alarmed by these words. But instead they applauded and voted him President twice. Obama also warned us in his book how he did not like the Constitution of the USA. But Americans did not listen.

Kengor also wrote: “The true Obama legacy has occurred not in economics, government, or foreign policy but in culture.” Obama’s statement of transforming America “was a bold statement, revolutionary even, surpassed only by the response of those in attendance, who rather than pausing to reflect upon such an audacious assertion, wildly applauded.” And I think it reasonable to assume there were born again Christians in that crowd. Christians who did not consider ‘wisdom of God’.

Our children are not taught the all importance of our American Culture. Which is a Judeo-Christian Culture. This is what Obama meant by a fundamental transformation. That is to change our Judeo-Christian culture to ‘postmodernism’ which teaches that such things as truth, morality, values, and even ‘self’ are not absolutes. Therefore, where we are today with those who seek to do away with such concepts as ‘he’ and ‘she’ and promote same sex marriage. All this fits and is an outcome of Obama’s ‘fundamental transformation.’ With Obama’s transformation came ‘*cultural relativism*,’ which is doing away with absolutes as taught in the Bible—which is why they must get rid of the Bible. Cultural relativism is the belief (taught in our schools as fact) that truth and

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morals are relative to one's culture. So, if they can transform our culture—they change our thinking on truth and morals.

Did Obama accomplish what he declared: a Fundamental Transformation of the US? Absolutely!

Before Obama, same sex marriage would not have been tolerated. Men in ladies' restrooms would have been a crime. Shari'ah law replacing our constitution would not have been tolerated. People, our culture has changed.

And it is up to every individual Christian to decide if you are going to be politically correct or Biblically correct.

Here is 'walking in wisdom' that we are studying in Colossians.

But when the seeds of this 'cultural transformation' were planted Americans were ill-prepared. Satan did a masterful job, starting primarily with Darwinism. ("the theory proposed by Charles Darwin that species gradually evolve into new species over time due to natural selection") Darwinism's fundamental transformation of America began in America's judicial system, then it's educational system then, I am sorry to say, in Christian churches. Darwinism was the first spike into the predominant Judeo-Christian ethics and culture of America.

As society changes, so does the fundamental thinking of society, especially in areas of truth and morality. The rise in abortions, the advent of same sex marriage, the doing away with separation of male and female. There are large companies right here in America who now forbid the use of pronouns 'he' and 'she.'

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Again, desiring to be politically correct instead of Biblically correct.

**Colossians 4:5 walk in wisdom toward those
without ...**

Love is so important to the Christian as per the New Commandment by our Lord in

**John 13:34-35 ...a new commandment I give to
you that you love one another even as I have
loved you.**

But Oh, people, to love without wisdom is destructive of both love and wisdom and of the Christian walk.

Paul speaks of wisdom in all four chapters of Colossians:

In Colossians 1:9 he speaks of *spiritual wisdom*.

In Colossians 1:28 he admonishes and teaches in all wisdom.

In Colossians 2:3 Paul defines all understanding of wisdom when he declares that wisdom is in Christ or in Jesus Christ is all wisdom.

In Colossians 2:23 Paul gives a severe warning that the arguments of man, the philosophies of man have the *appearance of wisdom* but in fact are not wisdom at all.

In Colossians 3:16 Paul teaches that we should allow the Word of Christ to richly dwell in us in all wisdom.

And then in our current passage of Colossians 4:5 we are to walk in wisdom toward those without.

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Why? Why should we be so concerned about walking in spiritual wisdom in the sight of those who are without God, without Christ, without His Wisdom?

Deuteronomy 4:6 answers this question:

Deuteronomy 4:6 “So keep and do *them*, (the doctrine and the judgments given by the Lord) for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples (those who are without) who will hear all these statutes and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’

We should desire to be divinely correct, not politically correct, for in God is wisdom! We should desire unbelievers and even ignorant believers to come to us and say something like *‘you are so wise where did you get such wisdom?’* Right here we are forced to witness for Jesus Christ and for the study of the Word of God, for growing in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Part of our Christian witness is how we vote. Oh, you don’t believe this? Wisdom from God will guide in all our decisions like voting.

Ezra 7:25 “You, Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God...”

Let me show you the Wisdom of Ezra, he was both priest and scribe of the Jews. He led a large number of Jews back to Israel from Babylonian

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captivity. He did much to establish the Truth among the people and he helped in rebuilding the Temple and the walls of Jerusalem.

Ezra 7:25 You, Ezra according to the wisdom of your God which is in your hand, (at your disposal and under your control) appoint magistrates (this is what we do in voting and we should vote according to the wisdom from God) and judges that they may judge all the people who are in *the province* beyond the River, even all those who know the laws of your God; (and what happens if there are none who know the Word of God, know the Wisdom of God?) and you may teach anyone who is ignorant of *them*.

And what happens if they refuse to learn the Wisdom of God? They receive the wrath of God.

And this being Mother's Day, let's not omit that it is the parents' responsibility to teach their children wisdom from the Word of God.

2 Timothy 3:15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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James deals with the two sources of wisdom in James 3:15 and 3:17, wisdom from man and Wisdom from God.

James 3:15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic.

James 3:17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

This is the Wisdom we learn from Word of God.

Walk in wisdom