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A Sin-Wrecked World and the Coming of Christ



By Steven J. Hogan

A Saturday Morning Post #111 ~

Our real problem, our #1 problem, is sin, and it severely sickens every single person in this world. Like a spiritual cancer, it is a global plague that is spiritually and physically deadly. The only answer is Jesus Christ, for He has dealt with it, and will deal with it, *"one way"* or the other, and that's the good news, the best news there is. *"The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord."* Romans 6:23

When I think about the spiritual condition of our world, I think of Ephesians 4:17-19, which says unbelievers are *"being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God... and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness."* Similarly, Psalm 82:4 says, *"They do not know nor do they understand; they walk about*

in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are being shaken." Since the sin of Adam and Eve, the world has continually been hating God and trampling on His truth. At this time, in the beginning years of the 21st century, it's obvious that the majority of the people living on this planet are sinners who don't love God, don't know God and don't understand His truth. Our spiritual foundations are crumbling around us, resulting in damaged and destroyed lives, morals, families, schools, cultures, businesses, governments, and yes, churches too.

For close to 50 years now, I've been watching our sinful world get worse and worse. I am spiritually sickened as I see this world flooded with sin. There's love of self, love of money, and love of pleasure. There's an increased lack of respect for those in authority, whether it's parents, teachers, policemen, or government leaders. There's a growing disregard for the young, the old, and the unborn. There's a sharp increase in sexual sin, in unmarried people living together, and in divorce. All kinds of people are liars, in big ways and little ways. Personal and public speech is more crude, filthy, obscene and hateful. All over the world, there are lawbreakers, many who have no conscience, and many who receive no consequences. Much of our music, movies and video games is unholy. People say things are good when they are evil, and say things are evil when they are good. People do what is right in their own eyes, but not in the eyes of God. There's crime, theft, corruption, murder and all kinds of devilish deeds. There are many people whose thinking is depraved, who are out of their minds, don't make sense, and aren't rational. The bottom line is that people don't fear God, don't love God, and therefore, reject His truth. Mark 7:20-21; John 8:31-47; Romans 1:18-32; Galatians 5:19-21; 2 Timothy 3:1-5

And it's going to get a lot worse. That's what Matthew 24, the end-times prophecy chapter tells us: *"Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold*." God is saying that lawlessness will increase in the years leading up to Christ's return. Paul substantiates this sad truth when he talks about the Antichrist, this *"man of*

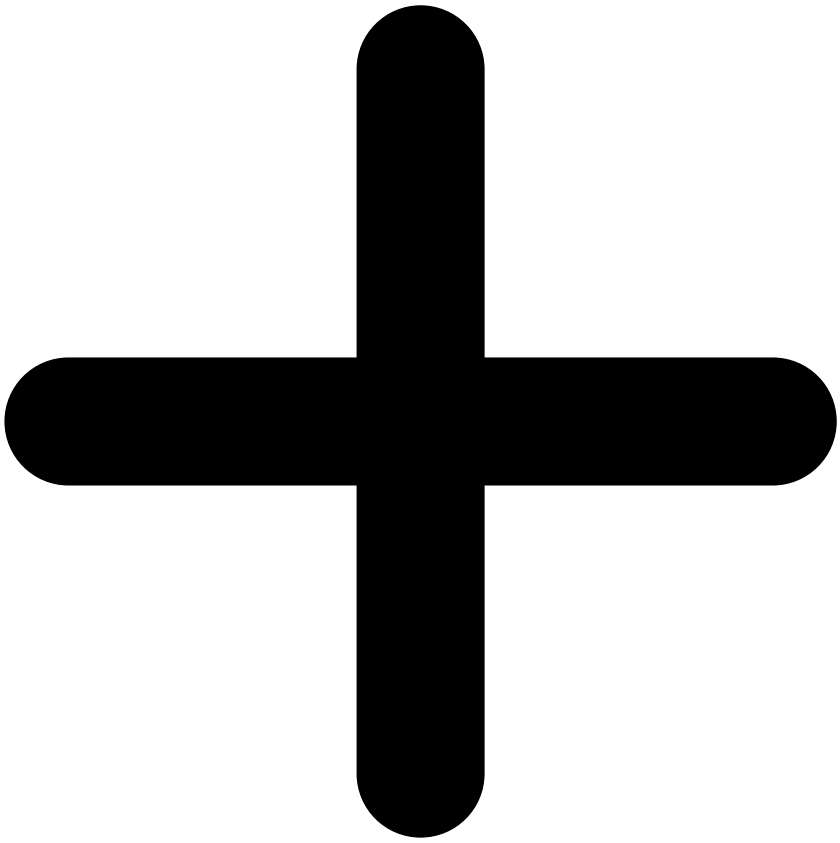
lawlessness… the son of destruction… the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan" (2 Thessalonians 2:3-8). The unrestrained sinful flesh of man, along with Satan and his devilish Antichrist inciting them to sin against God, will result in this world becoming more lawless and corrupt the closer we get to the end of this age. Now that we live in the end-times, it's clear that our sinful world is on an irreversible collision course with the Day of the Lord, the dreadful wrath of God. Nothing can stop God from carrying out His predetermined plan to judge sinful people and this sinful world. Psalm 98:9

It's sobering and somewhat depressing talking about all this sin in the world, but always remember that God is sovereign (Daniel 4:35), God is merciful, and God is holy.
* God is merciful, for Jesus Christ, at His 1st coming, died to pay for the sins of people, and then rose again. If you aren't saved, if you don't know Christ, then now's the time to repent of your sins, and ask God for mercy, for forgiveness, for eternal life. Then expect to be perfected, to be glorified at Christ's 2nd coming, during the rapture. Hebrews 9:28
* God is holy, which is seen in 3 ways. 1) Individual sinners who reject Christ's offer of mercy, will perish, will be cast into hell and punished forever. 2) Jesus Christ will defeat the Antichrist: *"that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearing of His coming"* (2 Thessalonians 2:8). 3) This sinful world will be judged by Christ after the end of this age, during the Day of the Lord, but not before He raptures the church, rescuing the Christians who live on this earth from the wrath He will pour out upon this wicked world. Revelation 8-9, 16

Let's go back to Matthew 24, which instructs us how we are to live in the end-times.
* Verse 12 warns us, *"Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold."* It's important for you to know that this world will spiritually and morally get worse and worse.
– Verse 13 says, *"The one who endures to the end will get saved."*

There will be increasing lawlessness, but Christians need to endure. Some will die and go to heaven, and others will persevere to the end of the age and be saved, that is, be raptured and go to heaven.
– Verse 14 tells us to preach the gospel *“to all the nations, and then the end will come.”* No matter how difficult it gets, remember to tell people about Christ and how they can be forgiven of their sins and escape God’s wrath. What a great privilege to be alive for Christ in these last years before His return to rapture the church. *“You are the salt of the earth… You are the light of the world”* (Matthew 5:13-14). *“Go make disciples of all the nations… surely I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* Matthew 28:19-20

P.S. The increasing sin of the world is such an important subject to understand. I encourage you to read two other posts related to this one: “It’s Going To Get Worse Before It Gets Better,” and “How Then Should We Live in the End-Times?”



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