

Resisting the Spirit of the World

(1Jn 4:3) And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

We must be aware there is a spirit of the world working against Christ's purposes.

(1Jn 5:19) We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.

It exercises broad influence. (only way to explain some agendas)

(2Th 2:7) For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work;

It is working toward the goal of lawlessness.

(Ps 2:1-3) Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us."

It causes rulers to plot ways to get out from under restraint of God's rule. (lawlessness)

It is fueled by rage. (irrational anger)

power of anger (dark side)

after trumpets (Rev 9:20-21) "did not repent"

after bowls 4 & 5 (Rev 16:9, 11) "blasphemed God, did not repent"

~ they will understand it is God, and still rage

Mt 24:9-14 (before revealing of antichrist, great tribulation)

antichrist's agenda revealed (culture):

Christians hated, many offended, deception, lawlessness abounds, cold love

Christ's agenda revealed

Gospel of the Kingdom preached worldwide

antichrist's primary tools: **Anger** and **Fear** (news)

truth – feelings over facts, emotional over rational (easily manipulated)

The spirit of the world is trying to suck us into anger and fear.

The "Gospel of the Kingdom" church must resist the spirit of anger and fear!

Even if we're on the right side of an argument, we can have the wrong spirit.

8 Graces: poor in spirit (humble dependence), mourn over sin, meek (prefer others),

desire righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, endure persecution

~ no room for anger, fear reaction

Ex: Lance Wallnau coffee story (right spirit, anti-anger)

(Ro 12:17-21) Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Sometimes we have to go after their hearts before their heads. (emotional realm)

Serving is the appropriate biblical response.

We don't need to be afraid. There is provision for that in Him.

Psalms 27, Romans 8:31-39, 1 John 4:16-19