

The Church of the Servant King

Review of the Spiritual Life of the Believer (Lesson SLR – 8F – Continued)

A Review of the Two Cosmic Systems As Related To Component 7 (Momentum Testing) in the Spiritual Power Sphere

Scripture Verses – Proverbs 1:20-2:22; 24:12; Romans 1:18 – 2:6; Ephesians 4:17-24

Why Are These Two Systems Called Cosmic Systems?

I have adopted the phrase Cosmic Systems because it is a good phrase or title for Satan's counterfeit system of thinking that we have previously identified as the *world*. When man fell, Satan expanded the realm of his rulership subject only to the sovereign control of God. Satan as the most intelligent being ever created at the hand of God is not without organization and a system of governance. Satan's system is described in the Bible by the Greek word *cosmos*. This word is found in the New Testament 187 times and is translated *world*. The word *cosmos* means order, regularity, disposition, and arrangement. In every instance where moral values are involved, the sphere of satanic influence and authority is indicated and in the great portion of instances, an anti-god character is implied. In these instances, *cosmos* is not merely an abode or place of residence.

The *cosmos* is a vast order or system that Satan has promoted, which conforms to his ideals, aims, and methods. It is civilization now functioning apart from God – a civilization in which none of its promoters really expect God to share, who assign to God no consideration in respect to their projects; nor do they ascribe any causitivity to Him. This system embraces its godless governments, conflicts, armaments, jealousies, its education, culture, religions of morality, and pride. It is that sphere in which man lives. It is what he sees, what he employs. To the uncounted multitude it is all they ever know so long as they live on this earth. It is properly styled the satanic system, which phrase is in many instances a justified interpretation of the so-meaningful word, *cosmos*. It is literally a *cosmos diabolicus*. (Lewis S. Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 2, p. 78)

Satan has created nothing. The order and system of God's material creation are involved in the *cosmos* only as Satan has been permitted to assume authority and is misdirecting it. The *cosmos* manifestations are almost wholly those which arise from misguided, Satan-govern humanity in their blind subscription to principles of life and action which are outworkings of the original lie. (Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 2, p. 79)

Some relevant introductory points follow:

- The *cosmos* is what man sees, and what he employs or uses (the things that keeps us busy or that occupy our time and attention).
- Believers are in the *cosmos*, but believers don't have to be a part of the *cosmos*.
- Believers must learn to relate to the *cosmos* properly in order to successfully execute their spiritual life. This is essential if believers are not to be distracted by the cosmic system of thought as described by the phrases *Cosmic One* and *Cosmic Two*. (Believers can use the *cosmos* in the sense that they can be employed in order to serve God, not self. Believers can use the attractions of the *cosmos* in order to minister to the unsaved. Believers can use the needs of the *cosmos*, e.g. food, shelter, clothing, etc., in order to minister to saved and unsaved people).
- The root evil of the *cosmos* is that in it there is an all comprehensive order or system which is methodized on a basis of complete independence of God (Satan's original sin).

- The arrogance that motivates one to desire independence from any “perceived” constraints that might be imposed by God is at the root of cosmic thinking.
- The constraints are “perceived” to be such because religion (as opposed to spiritual Christianity) does in fact impose restraints.
- The non-spiritual believer and the unbeliever make no distinction between religion and spiritual Christianity. In their minds, they are one and the same. Of course, this fits perfectly into Satan’s desire to blind men to the liberating Truth of Scripture and Satan uses religion to allow men to men to know God, but not glorify Him as God (Ro 1:21).

Distinguishing Between Cosmic One and Cosmic Two

The arrogance of Satan’s cosmic system of thought can be categorized into two separate systems based upon the degree of spiritual blindness.

- Cosmic One – that category of spiritual blindness associated with cosmic thought that is characterized by self-centeredness and the desire for personal gratification, approbation, and comfort that ignores and is blind to the spiritual dimension of life. Cosmic One blindness is more passive in nature, i.e. one is so focused upon self that spiritual things are just ignored.
- Cosmic Two – that category of spiritual blindness associated with cosmic thought that is characterized by hatred toward anything associated with the God of Scripture. Cosmic Two blindness is more aggressive in nature, i.e. one is so spiritually blind that spiritual things are hated and action is taken against spiritual things.

COSMIC ONE	COSMIC TWO
Arrogance of pre-occupation with self.	Arrogance manifested in animosity, hatred and antagonism toward God and His plan.
The target of Cosmic One arrogance: the self-consciousness and the conscience of one’s soul.	The target of Cosmic Two arrogance: Truth.
Result: preoccupation and obsession with self to the exclusion of God and the spiritual needs of others.	Result: antagonism toward Christ, the Christian, and Scripture as the infallible Word of God.
Primarily human viewpoint that is self-centered.	Promotes a human viewpoint as a solution to man’s problems in direct defiance of any divine viewpoint solution.
Most likely represents Satan’s attitude at the time of his prehistoric fall. Satan was obsessed with self in the greatest manifestation of arrogance.	Most likely represents Satan’s attitude at the time of man’s historic fall. Satan’s philosophy as the usurping ruler of this world to destroy God’s plan to give man dominion over this planet as an object lesson in the appeal phase of the Angelic Conflict.
Man is a slave to self.	Man is a slave to Satan.
Characterized by practical agnosticism.	Characterized by practicing agnosticism or atheism.

How Are Cosmic One and Cosmic Two Related to Component #7 (Momentum Testing) of the Spiritual Power Sphere?

Both of these systems of thought originate from arrogance. Both of these systems of thought are based upon an arrogant attitude of independence from the Creator and His desire for man, i.e. that man trust in His provision and become conformed to the image of His Son Who manifested complete dependence upon the Father in His earthly existence. Both of these systems of thought pose a momentum test to the believer when either of these systems of thought are present in others **OR** when the believer removes himself from the insulating influence of the Spiritual Power Sphere.

The believer who fails to maintain momentum (Component #4 of the Spiritual Power Sphere) in the spiritual life will inevitably retrogress in his thinking so that he becomes a part of Satan's cosmos either through practical agnosticism (Cosmic One) or practicing a way of life and thinking that is in direct defiance of Truth in favor of human viewpoint (Cosmic Two). Ephesians 4:17 and 2 Peter 2:20-22 illustrate the principle that the believer can return in his/her thinking to the spiritually void thinking of the unbeliever. When the believer is not properly grounded in Truth in his soul, the believer faces the distinct possibility that his life will be governed by emotions (e.g. Ro 16:17-18; 2 Co 6:11-12). We call this **emotional revolt of the soul** since the emotions have usurped the authority of the mentality in the soul. The latter days of the Church Age will be characterized by the thought patterns of Cosmic One and Two (2 Tim 3:1-9).

The Cosmic System of thought represents a serious momentum challenge to the mature believer through thought testing, people testing, and/or system testing. This principle was recognized in such passages as Proverbs 4 among others. The contrast between wisdom found in God's Truth and evil thinking that is contained in this passage is the basis for the contrast between the believer operating in the Spiritual Power sphere and Satan's cosmic system of thinking (i.e. Cosmic One and Two). This study is designed to help you accurately identify the source of the testing from Satan's cosmic system of thought. Paul provides instruction to the believer in how to deal with the evil of Cosmic One and Two in Romans 12:9-21 (cf. Is 13:11; 40:10-11). The writer of Hebrews instructs the believer that only through the meat of the Word can the believer discern between good and evil (He 5:12-14).

Cosmic One Developed (Characterized by Subjectivity and Self-Centeredness)

There are several attributes or components that describe and detail the arrogance of self-centeredness of Cosmic One. They were discussed briefly in our study of Momentum testing and they will be developed in more detail below.

- Attribute 1 – mental arrogance, e.g. jealousy, bitterness, hatred, etc. Derived from self-centeredness (Prov 11:2; 16:18; Eph 4:31)
- Attribute 2 – negative volition arrogance that results from preoccupation with self. The result is wrong priorities in life. The "constraints" of the Christian life are rejected in favor of the free function of the old sin nature.
- Attribute 3 – authority arrogance – a self-centered approach to life that is selective in deciding to which authority to submit based upon norms and standards that are relative. The criteria is subjective and many times depends upon whether the one in authority has a certain charisma or personality.
- Attribute 4 – self-righteous arrogance – relativity and subjectivity places greater importance upon one's own norms and standards. Humility adopts divine norms and standards and arrogance adopts religious taboos.
- Attribute 5 – sexual arrogance – this is just another manifestation of relativity and subjectivity.
- Attribute 6 – criminal arrogance – this is just another manifestation of relativity and subjectivity. This is the attitude that the end justifies the means.
- Attribute 7 – psychopathic arrogance e.g., the psychopathic behavior of the manic-depressive, the schizophrenic, the sociopath and the psychopath that results from mental sins (soul induced) rather than a chemical imbalance (physically related or derived). The ranks of Christianity are filled with people who have become psychopathic in their thought patterns as a result of nothing more than the mental sin patterns to which they have succumbed.
- Attribute 8 – arrogance of unhappiness – subjective, preoccupation with self resulting in boredom, disillusionment, the demand syndrome, and no spiritual sense of destiny. The frantic search for happiness is the result.
- Attribute 9 – iconoclastic arrogance: subjective preoccupation with others verses an objective view of people based upon an occupation with Christ in one's life, i.e. a personal love for God/Christ that results in an objective impersonal love for mankind. The person is looking for purpose, happiness, and fulfillment through others.
- Attribute 10 – intellectual and emotional arrogance or rational and irrational arrogance – this is a lack of humility in one's life to acknowledge the primacy of God's Word and the ruling principles

contained therein in lieu of anthropocentric, subjective, and human viewpoint oriented thinking (Philippians 3:18-19).

- Attribute 11 – achievement arrogance – in the believer, this is the arrogance of Christian service and the view that personal wealth, status, and approbation from others is tantamount to approval from God. (See 1 Tim 6:6-10). In the unbeliever, it is the attitude that focuses upon the good in man and believes that eternal reward is based upon one's works of righteousness (Re 20:12b, 13b).
- Attribute 12 – the arrogance of Christian activism and civil disobedience – this is the attitude possessed by the believer that the end justifies the means. This attitude is characterized by the person who believes that all wrong should be excused in one's life based upon the greater good that one is trying to accomplish. Examples of this type of thinking in the believer and unbeliever abound in recent actions and statements by prominent people in our country.

Cosmic Two Developed (Characterized by Hatred or Animosity Toward Divine Truth and a Paradigm of Thought That Has Accepted Satan's Counterfeit Lie)

In like manner, there are several attributes or components that describe and detail the arrogance of Cosmic Two. Cosmic Two represents a progression from Cosmic One in the thinking of the believer or the unbeliever who has emptiness, a void, a vacuum (mataiotes -  of the soul (Eph 4:17). This emptiness or **blackout of the soul** results from a void of Truth in the soul. Blackout of the soul (i.e. the "depraved mind" of Ro 1:28) in the thinking of the believer results in the emotions superceding the authority of a mentality oriented to Truth (Phil 3:18-19). This category of Satan's counterfeit will be developed in more detail below.

- Attribute 1 – an extreme influence of the old sin nature in one's thought and direction of life and characterized by an extreme emphasis upon personal freedoms in direct defiance of God's Word (see Ro 1:24, 26, 27, 29).
 - This attribute is manifest by those who have thought processes dominated by Cosmic One thought for an extended period of time and/or who have experienced greater pressure over a shorter period of time so as to accelerate the downward spiral in thought and lifestyle.
 - The result is immoral and moral degeneracy (or radical individualism and radical egalitarianism described in Robert Bork's book *Slouching Towards Gomorrah*).
 - Immoral degeneracy and radical individualism are two synonymous phrases that refer to the lascivious trend of the sin nature having gained maximum influence in an individual's thinking and life.
 - Moral degeneracy and radical egalitarianism are two synonymous phrases that refer to the ascetic trend of the sin nature having gained maximum influence in an individual's thinking and life.
- Attribute 2 – negative volition manifest in an antagonism toward Truth (see Ps 2:1-3). Examples of this abound in current events, e.g. the Hollywood stereotype of Christianity, the radical elements (black and white) that distort facts for the advancement of their own personal or group agenda and incite others to join their cause, the lies perpetrated by Communist governments, etc.
- Attribute 3 – an anti-establishment attitude – the institutions of divine establishment (i.e. freedom of volition, marriage, family, and nation) become a hindrance in the accomplishment of one's purposes.
 - This degeneration usually starts in the home (Ro 1:30 – "disobedient to parents") and spirals downward with increasing intensity as additional authorities are rejected in life.
 - In the case of the immoral degenerate with a sin nature trend toward lasciviousness, the lack of a sense of personal responsibility leads to a disrespect toward the freedom of others and an animosity toward the divine establishments of marriage, family, and nationalism.
 - In the case of the moral degenerate with a sin nature trend toward ascetic human good, the problems of others that are rightly attributable to personal bad decisions have solutions that are destructive to divine institutions. The person in Cosmic Two moral degeneracy has unwittingly succumbed to the Satanic lie that an alternative millennial environment with Satan as its ruler can exist.

- This Satanic lie as a philosophical system can be termed – the **Cosmic Panacea**. Another term for the Cosmic Panacea is **secular humanism**. The five basic tenets of secular humanism are atheism, evolution, amorality, autonomous man, and a socialist world.
- Attribute 4 – **cosmic panaceas**: the various efforts of believers and unbelievers to create an equivalent of the millennial environment under the guise the greater good and characterized by a hatred for anyone who questions their means and objectives. Cosmic panaceas include the redistribution of wealth through a progressive income tax and other government sponsored schemes. These cosmic panaceas represent the evil system of a “good” apart from God that embodies the principle and policy of Satan.
- Attribute 5 – demonism and demon influenced thinking – examples abound in history of this type of antagonism toward God and his plan, e.g. the Judaizer’s hatred of the apostle Paul, the targeted murders of Christians by the Roman Empire, Hitler, etc. Even believers can succumb to demon influenced thought (1 Tim 4:1). Demons are considered Satan’s ministers (Lu 4:35; 9:1, 42; Jn 10:21). The believer is exhorted to be spiritually armed to repel the attack of demon influenced thinking (Eph 6:10-12 cf. 1 Co 10:20-21).
- Attribute 6 – Religion – (2 Co 4:3-4; 11:13-15; 2 Pe 2:1-3; Jas 1:26) Satan’s most blinding mechanism and when the believer or unbeliever is involved in the counterfeit of Cosmic Two, the opposition to true Christianity in the name of religion is to the point of the sword. A very clear example in history is the action of those empowered by religion during the Reformation to murder the Reformers who preached justification by faith, the inerrancy of the Scriptures, and the universal priesthood of the believer. Another example of this attribute of Cosmic Two would be the eastern mystical religions that offer a form of godliness and good, but reject to the point of persecution those of a Christian faith. The worship and practice of the occult powers would represent this attribute and is being popularized today in the media as helpful forces, e.g. ESP.
- Attribute 7 – anthropocentric academic speculation (Prov 2:10-15; Ro 1:22 cf. Prov 3:5-6; 1 Co 1:18, 25; 3:19) – when the absolute truths contained in God’s Word are rejected, man develops whole philosophical systems to address man’s need for a sense of purpose and destiny. Examples include evolution, the philosophical rationale underlying environmentalism, communism, and socialism not to mention systems of psychology and sociology that deny or disregard a Scripturally based solution. These philosophical systems have arisen in the minds of men who have been either demonically possessed or under the influence of demonic inspired thinking.

Both of these cosmic spheres of thinking contain elements of the “radical individualism” and “radical egalitarianism” that Robert Bork mentions in his book, *Slouching Towards Gomorrah*. The extent to which either is present is relative to the extent to which one is merely apathetic towards Divine Truth (Cosmic One) or antagonistic towards Divine Truth (Cosmic Two). The extent to which an individual has succumbed to the sin nature’s influence upon one’s thinking is the extent to which they will proceed from Cosmic One to Cosmic Two in their involvement in Satan’s cosmic system of thinking. The ramifications are serious for the believer. The believer risks loss of inheritance after death (1 Co 6:9; Gal 6:6-10). This is why the believer is warned to not be deceived and be alert to cosmic thinking (1 Co 3:18-21a; 15:33; 2 Tim 3:12-14; 2 Jn 7-8). The believer maintains an alert status in his soul by meditation on the Word (Ps 63:6; 119:15, 48, 78, 148; 1 Tim 4:15).

Consequences of Arrogance and Involvement in the Cosmic System

The consequences of the believer becoming involved in the cosmic system of thinking are detrimental in time also. Here are a few ways in which the arrogance of the cosmic system is detrimental to the believer’s life:

- Destroys capacity for true love (both personal and impersonal)
- Destroys humility (teachability)
- Destroys objectivity and produces pettiness, jealousy, vindictiveness, and implacability
- Arrogance causes the believer to resent the ability of others because the issue in the arrogant person’s life has become himself and his own status and position
- Arrogance destroys capacity for true leadership

- Arrogance plus pressure in life = self-pity
- Arrogance plus prosperity in life = self-righteousness
- Arrogance scars the soul and makes it insensitive to the work of the Holy Spirit (1 Tim 4:2)
 - The conscience (norms and standards) are aligned with the cosmos and worldly norms and standards of behavior are substituted for divine norms and standards
 - The individual's self-conscience has an exalted sense of self-importance. The glorification of Christ is given little thought in one's life
 - The emotions of the soul are responding to cosmic thought and are in revolt against spiritual priorities
 - The mentality is void (Eph 4:17) of the Truth and thinks cosmic thought