

THE BATTLE FOR GOOD OR EVIL

By Pastor Max Solbrekken, D.D.

The battle for the hearts and minds of mankind continues. It began in the Garden of Eden a very long time ago, when Satan the enemy of God, channeled what he called wisdom through the serpent. Unsuspecting Eve was innocent, guileless and foolish and no match for the Devil, the Great Liar. She fell for his deceptive folly! You might think that she was a spin head to disobey the straight forward directive and warning that she and Adam had been given by their Creator, not to eat of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, lest they die. We must remember that Lucifer, the fallen archangel, had convinced one-third of Heaven's angels to follow him in outright rebellion against their creator and God! This was no amateur hour for the wicked, wily old Deceiver. When pride entered into his heart, he learned very quickly how to manipulate those he sought to control, and Eve was an easy target. Jesus stated that Satan was a murderer from the beginning and the truth was not in him. (Luke 8: 44).

SATAN PROMISED EVE WISDOM!

Stating that God didn't want her to be wise, he lied to her about the great wisdom she would receive if she disobeyed God's directive. She succumbed to his lies and partook of the forbidden fruit and encouraged her husband to follow her treacherous action. They had committed the sin of high treason against their Father and God! They had plunged the entire human race that would come from Adam's loins, into sin, fear and separation from God! Satan promised them everything and gave them fear, sickness, disease and death! JESUS said: "The enemy (Satan) has come but for to steal, kill and destroy. I am come that you may have life and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10). He called the former archangel by three names: Satan (enemy, adversary) and the Devil (liar, slanderer, false accuser), and Beelzebub, the god of flies!

Everything the Devil touches becomes tainted, perverted and unhealthy. The smell of hell permeates his projects of destruction as love turns to hate, peace turns to fear, joy turns to sadness and victory turns to defeat! And life becomes death!

He hooks young people on marijuana and lures them to try crystal methadone, fentanyl and finally death by overdose. The same is true with social drinking, gambling, infidelity, lying, corruption and criminality. Give the devil an inch and he will demand a mile! I blame the devil for marriage break ups, nervous breakdowns, homosexuality, rapes, suicides, murders, abortions, atheism, demon worship, murderous communism and Islamic terrorism!

The Genesis Record reveals how perverted the wisdom of Satan and this world is:
“And God saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.

“The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence And God looked upon the earth and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, the end of all flesh is come up before Me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.” (Gen.6: 5, 6,11,12)

The BIBLE says: "If any man lack wisdom let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything from the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways." (James 1:5-8)

"Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him show out of a good conscience his works with meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from Above, but is earthly, sensual devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is CONFUSION and every evil work.

"But the WISDOM that is from Above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." (James 3: 13-18)

Again, the Scriptures say: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the Holy is understanding." (Prov.1:7);

“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father by Him.” (Col. 3: 16, 17)

ST. PAUL states: “For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with the wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness: **but unto us which are saved** it is the power of God. For it is written, I will DESTROY the Wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

“Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the Wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

“But we preach CHRIST CRUCIFIED unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness: But unto them that are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the Wisdom of God. But God hath chosen the foolish thing of this world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of this world to confound the things which are mighty.” (1 Cor.1: 23, 24,27)

“According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertains unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that called us to glory and virtue. Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” (2 Peter 1:3,4)

“But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.” (1 Cor. 1: 30)

SMART PHONES DESTROYING LIVES!

Psychology Today recently carried an article, 'Why your Smart Phone is Destroying your Life'. It states, ***“New research has found that our memory capacity, ability to process data and general intelligence improves when our smart phone is completely out of***

sight, in a bag or in another room altogether. Think that turning it on silent, face down will remedy the problem? Nope!”

Have you ever wondered why **Steve Jobs** chose Apple as the name of his Corporation? And the logo: **'The bite of the apple!'** It had never entered my mind before last week. I awakened one morning at 6:00 am with the words literally coming out of my mouth, “A bite of the apple”. Then I saw it as clear as could be. The inspiration to name his corporation *Apple*, with the logo 'a bite of the apple' was satanic in origin! Why would I say that?

BACK TO EDEN: Almighty God had forbidden Adam and Eve to eat of the fruit from the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Speaking through a serpent, Satan said to Eve, ***“Yeah, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”*** She answered and said: “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden, But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.”

“And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day that ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good from evil.**

And when the woman saw that the tree as good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband wither; and he did eat.

“And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked: and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.” (Gen.3: 1-7)

When Steve Jobs was asked, **“Why Apple”**, he answered that it was a tribute to ‘Apple Records’ and he had happy memories of working on an Oregon Apple Farm one summer. That certainly may be the case, but I believe that behind the scenes, old Lucifer was pulling the strings.

WHY? He was one who tempted Eve and is consistently tempting people to resist God's warnings about doing their own thing!

WHY THE BITE OUT OF AN APPLE?

Satan is very clever. It was a slap in the face of God. Like Adam and Eve being

promised great knowledge by eating of the forbidden fruit, the Apple Corporation will be a means for people using their products to gain much knowledge.

It speaks of the moment that freedom for mankind was born and God was disobeyed. Eve succumbed to the Devil the great liar, and Adam listened to his wife. That speaks about communication, the Devil convincing Eve to try it. You will become intelligent and wise like God Himself.

The moment that Eve and Adam reached outside of God, their knowledge was greatly expanded. In the same way Apple I-Phone and I-Pad will put you into a new sphere of becoming wise. It is a put down of God's restriction and applauding Satan's liberty to do your own thing! When our first parents listened to the Tempter and disobeyed God, they plunged the entire world into rebellion, bondage, fear, sin and death!

Who was Steve Jobs? Evidently, an intelligent man who rose to the top in his profession. We know he died on October 5, 2011 at 56 years of age. He was involved with Zen Buddhism. He used marijuana and LSD while in College. He told reporters that

taking LSD was one of the two or three most important things he had done in his life. How sad!

A news report on April 12, 2019 states: ***Next generation cell network promises life-changing technological advancements.*** I am not against cell phones and other new technologies that can be used to keep people safe, save lives and even dispense the Gospel. The danger, however, is that families are being torn apart through to lack of person to person discussions and conversation. And by Satan getting in somehow with jealousy, pride, deception and fear!

MARX, DARWIN & STALIN!

Rev. Richard Wurmbrand was a Lutheran pastor in Romania when Russian Communism enslaved that nation. He was arrested for his faith on February 29, 1946. He was incarcerated and tortured for Christ for 14 ½ years. **The Pentecostal Church in Norway secured his release for \$10,000.** We had the privilege of having this great man of God minister in our Church in Edmonton in the 1970s. His book, 'Tortured for Christ' has been sold by the millions around the world.

Richard Wurmbrand's book, 'Was Karl Marx a Satanist?' is a real eye opener. He writes: "What was the specific contribution of Marx to Satan's plan for mankind? It was

great. The Bible had taught that God created man in His own image. (Genesis 1: 26) Up to the time of Marx, man continued to be considered as 'the crown of creation'.

“Marx was Satan's chosen tool to make man lose his self-esteem, his conviction that he comes from high places and is meant to return to them. Marxism is the first systematic and detailed philosophy which reduces abruptly the notion of man.

“According to Marx, a man is primarily a belly. This had to be filled and refilled constantly. The prevailing interests of man are of an economic nature. He produces for his needs.

“For this purpose, he enters into social relationships with other men. This is the basis of society, what Marx calls the infrastructure. Marriage, love, art, science, religion, philosophy, everything other than the needs of the belly, are super-structure, determined in the last analyses by the state of the belly.

“No wonder that Marx rejoiced greatly upon reading Darwin's book, another master-stroke to make men forget their divine origin and divine purpose. Darwin said that man comes from the APE and has no aim other than mere survival.

The king of nature was dethroned by these two. Satan could not dethrone God, so he devalued man. Man was shown to be the servants of intestines, the progenitors of animals.

Later, Freud would complete the work of these ***two Satanic giants***, reducing man basically to a sex urge, sublimated sometimes in politics, art or religion. It was the Swiss psychologist **Jung** who came back to the Biblical doctrine that the religious urge is the basic one in man.

“It seems that Darwinism is a scientific theory, which might be right or wrong, but which has no economic, political or religious implications. Many would be ready to accept that God has created the world which we know through a long process of evolution.

“How is it then that Stalin became a revolutionist after reading Darwin? (Millers, Roberts & Schulman, 'The Meaning of Communism.' Silver, Burdett & Co. Publ. House, 1963).

“As a student in the Orthodox Seminary he got from Darwin the impression that we are not creatures of God, but the result of an evolution in which ruthless competition reigns. It is the strongest and most cruel who survives. He learned that moral and

religious criteria play NO role in nature and that man is as much a part of nature as a fish and an ape. Then long live ruthlessness and cruelty.

“Darwin had written a scientific book. Its last result has been the killing of tens of millions of innocents. He had become the spiritual father of the greatest mass-murderer of history.

“The time of Marx was the time of Satanist outburst in many spheres of life. Satanic forces prepared Russia for the victory of Marxism...Darwinism in schools and generalized immorality paved the way for the rule of Satanic Marxism in Russia.”

IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED!

The Bible states: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.” (Gen.1: 1-3)

Herbert Spencer, a recognized scientist and highly acclaimed philosopher and sociologist writes about, five factors as the most general forms into which the manifestation of the Unknowable (God) is re-divisible: time, space, matter, energy and

force!

He explains that to define the Unknowable or GOD, these five factors must be in place: 1. Time, 2. Space, 3. Matter, 4. Energy, 5. Force. In His great wisdom, Almighty God gives us the ANSWER in the first three verses of His holy, infallible and inspired Word.

Time: beginning; Space: heaven; Matter: earth; Energy: Spirit; Force: moved! The Evolutionary Theory has been proven untenable among genuine scientists for quite some time. The 'Ape Doctrine' took a big hit in Israel in 1983: Evolution Theory found wanting at Local Trial!

The Jerusalem Post on April 2, 1983 carried the following report: "Evolution was on trial in Jerusalem last week and found GUILTY of failing to meet the standards of a scientific theory by the First Congress of Inquiries into the Origin of Life and Evolution....But most, after rejecting the theory of evolution on scientific grounds, failed to offer an alternative theory to account for the origin and development of life.

“Instead, they affirmed their belief in Divine Creation...The aims of the Conference were to explain that it is INCORRECT to present the theory of evolution as unchallengeable, and to show much of it as having been refuted. The Education Ministry circularized all schools, principals and supervisors to attend. The Congress was organized by the Ben Gurion University of the Negev sponsored by Israeli’s Minister of Education. It was held on Mount Scopus Campus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.”

CHARACTER KNOWN BY BELIEF IN GOD!

Many of the great breakthroughs in Science have been made by Jewish scientists so it is good to see that they have mostly kept their brains free from the devil’s evolutionary lies; that nothing added to nothing, multiplied by nothing and divided by nothing, created everything!

What is Science: Encyclopedia Britannica states: In its ‘broadest sense science is learning and knowledge’. Oxford Dictionary says: “Science is systematic and formulated learning.” Another dictionary says: “Science is knowledge gained and verified.” In short, science is knowledge that rests on proof. It is demonstrated

knowledge! Where do you suppose knowledge comes from? Naturally, all knowledge and wisdom comes to us from our Creator, Almighty God. God is Omniscient, with all Knowledge, Wisdom and Understanding!

NAZI GERMANY'S Scientists stated: "Science has demonstrated that the Nazis are the Master Race." The Soviet Union's School teachers taught for seventy long years that: "Science has proven that there is no God."

In 1972, Soviet Union's Prime Minister Leonid Brezhnev stated: "We are no longer homo sapiens – modern man. We are homo – sovieticus: A Super Race."

From 1989 to 1995, I was privileged to minister a lot in the former Soviet Union and since we drove thousands of miles, especially in the Ukraine, we experienced what Communism had done to that country. Hitting the pot holes and smelling public washrooms at a distance, I once remarked, ***"The Russians sent their space craft to the moon, but they can't build a toilet."***

INFIDEL SCIENCE: REVOLUTIONARY PHILOSOPHY!

Infidel Science in Canada, USA and world-wide teach that the theory of evolution is the only viable, rational approach to the origin of all things! How incredibly our pin-

head evolutionary scientists have become! Infidel science a revolutionary philosophy better known as '***Foolosophy!***'

No wonder the Bible states: "The fool (idiot, insane person) has said in his heart, there is no God." (Ps.14:1). The simple truth is that an idiot could say there is no God, because he is an idiot and doesn't know any better. A person with a normal functioning brain wouldn't make such a foolish statement!

MALCOLM MUGGRIDGE, former BBC Radio and TV Commentator and world famous journalist, atheist and evolutionist was soundly converted to Jesus Christ and turned the Academic and Journalistic World on its head. Regarding the Evolutionary Theory, he stated:

"I myself am convinced that the theory of evolution, especially the extent to which it's been applied will be one of the GREAT JOKES in the history books in the future. Posterity will marvel that so very flimsy and dubious an could be accepted with the incredible credulity that it has. I think I spoke to you before about this age as one of the most credulous in history, and I would include evolution as an example.

"I'm very happy to say that I live near a place called **Piltdown**. I like to drive there because it gives me a special glow. You probably know that a SKULL was discovered there and no less than **500 doctoral theses** were written on the subject and then it was discovered that the SKULL was a **practical joke** by a worthy dentist in Hastings who'd hurriedly put a few bones together, not even from the same animal, and buried them and stirred up all this business. ***So I'm not a great man for bones.***"

The Bible says: "For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

Martin Luther called that verse, '*A Miniature Bible*'. It has been called, 'The Gospel in a Nutshell' and 'The Central Verse of the Bible.' Multitudes have found eternal life through reading the Holy Scriptures and John 3: 16 is the Gospel of Christ packed in a very concise and powerful lifegiving statement.

The Devil constantly tries to pervert everything he can and he often does so by infiltrating the theological field and especially the area of Bible Translators. They have subtly done so with this verse through translators who have taken it upon themselves to modernize the text thereby undercutting the strength of God's Word.

GOD'S LOVE IS APODICTIC!

Apodictic is from the Greek word apodikticos, meaning 'evident beyond contradictions! I discovered it many years ago while studying the dictionary. Instantly I thought, that word belongs only to God and the Bible; not to humans! The Majesty, Power, Wisdom, Grace and Righteousness of God are evident beyond contradictions. No-one could dare to contradict God's Love; Calvary proved that!

God's love is so amazing and beyond comprehension and yet so personal, accessible and real. Here are several more Scriptures that reveal the love of Jesus Christ toward us: "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on Him." (John 3: 17, 36)

Here is a Scripture that has blessed multitudes of people across the world through radio, television and in our large crusades, and has brought healing and deliverance to many: "He that spared not His Son, but DELIVERED Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also, freely give us all things?" (Rom.8: 32)

This reveals the length to which our Heavenly Father went to redeem a lost, sinful and perishing world. He did not spare His own Son but turned Him over to wicked men who blasphemed Him, spit in His face, pulled out His beard, lashed Him with the razor-sharp Roman cat-of-nine tails until His back looked like a plowed field, and pounded spikes through His hands and feet to a cross at Jerusalem's garbage dump on Golgotha's Hill.

The hymn writer penned these most appropriate words:

He came to earth the promise to fulfill
A rugged cross He bore up Calvary's Hill
And for my sins He cried, Father forgive
Born to die, that I might live.

Born to die, a cruel cross to bear
Born to die, that I His love may share
Between two thieves, He bowed His head and cried
Tis finished, I came to die

ALL SINNERS GUILTY BEFORE GOD!

The Bible says: 'All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ my Lord.' (Rom.3: 23; 6:23). "For when we were yet without strength (hopeless) in due time Christ died for the ungodly. But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us

The greatest message anyone could hear is that Jesus Christ died for their sins so that they could be forgiven, liberated from bondage and servitude to the world, flesh and the Devil, Hallelujah! The Bible states: "But if we walk in the Light as He is in the Light, we have fellowship with another, and the Blood of Jesus Christ, His Son cleanseth us from all sins." (1 John 1: 7)

The blood of Christ is mankind's only hope! For many years, the Christian church has presented the claims of Jesus Christ to be able to save lost souls, heal the sick and liberate the suffering and wounded, granting eternal life on the basis of His shed blood, vicarious death and glorious resurrection from the dead! St. Paul wrote: "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with the wisdom of words, lest

the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; BUT UNTO US which are saved it is the power of God.” (1 Cor.1: 17, 18)

“We know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but One. For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth (as there be gods many, and lords many.) BUT TO US (believers)there us BUT ONE GOD, the Father, of Whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom are all things, and we by Him.” (1 Cor. 8: 4-6)

“Now it was not written for His sake alone, that it was imputed to him; BUT FOR US ALSO, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on Him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences (sins) and raised again for our justification.” (Rom.4: 23-25)

St. Paul didn't pull any punches. He cleared the decks and told it like it was and still is! He stressed the fact that there are many false prophets worshipping gods of no value for they are only 'make believe gods', and if the pagan want to believe in them that is their own business and to their folly, however, we are Christians, believers in

Jesus Christ our Lord, Saviour, Master and God!

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST OUR ONLY HOPE!

We do not mix pagan faiths with the Pure Gospel of Christ! We do not compromise the Word of God to please anybody. There is only ONE GOD: God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Amen