

## JOHN LENNON'S 'IMAGINE' AND SECULAR HUMANISM : PART 1

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Last Updated : July 23, 2006

Modern Man's Idol Worship: Rock Stars, Sports And Olympics, Historical Idols, Hollywood Idols, Teachers, Satan Claus, Easter Bunny, Automobiles, Nimrod And The Tower Of Babel, Temple And Building Worship, Wide Gates And False Prophets The IRS And Filthy Lucre, Earthquakes, Cities and Skyscrapers King Nebuchadnezzar's Abasement, King Herod's Horrible Death

Idols. We are all familiar with the word. In our modern world, there are all kinds of idols, yet some of them are not so obvious. For some people, an idol might be a popular musical artist. The now-deceased Elvis Presley, known to his die-hard fans as 'the king', is one such example. Many years after his presumed death, Presley's music is still extremely popular. For other people, their idol might be a favorite sports player who has repeatedly scored a lot of points and thus led his team on to victory; or perhaps he has broken a certain world record, and won not only a place of worship in the sports Hall Of Fame, but he has also been given a little statuette to continually remind him of his accomplishment; yet another idol. The Olympics are the epitome of human idol worship. In this grandiose event, the flesh is placed upon a pedestal, as participants from around the world unite in order to demonstrate the power and form of their bodies; all without God. These people would do well to remember the words of the Holy Bible:

"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not."  
Romans 7:18, KJV

"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."  
1 Peter 1:24-25, KJV

The world of politics is very much the same. Every country has a long list of historical heroes who are used as role models for the upcoming generation. These men and women of the past are set up as shining examples; and used to teach children proper values, as well as to instill a strong sense of national patriotism, loyalty and self-sacrifice for the benefit of all. In the United States of America, these idols include figures like George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King Jr. In the nations' capitals of the world we find many idols, or statues and monuments, dedicated to such people. Often they contain certain profound words which were once spoken by these people.

The movie industry of Hollywood, California, U.S.A. also provides us with a plethora of cinematographic idols who rise

and fall like the waves of the sea. Just like famous sports personalities, musical artists and television actors and actresses, every year, Hollywood rewards its participants with a little statue, or idol, called Oscar, to serve as a constant reminder that they are the best in their area of performance. So from the Grammy Awards, to the Emmy Awards, to the Academy Awards, to the stars on Hollywood Boulevard, pride and human accomplishment are worshipped like idols. Of course, there are many other such rewards which are given in order to demonstrate recognition of one's accomplishments in this life, such as those offered for great scientific achievements, for diplomatic achievements such as the Nobel Peace Prize, for great literary works, etc. Contrary to the Holy Scriptures, all of these things glorify man and his accomplishments, and have very little or absolutely nothing to do with glorifying God:

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."  
1 Corinthians 10:31, KJV

"But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."  
2 Corinthians 10:17, KJV

Sadly, children do not escape this blatant idolatry in our modern society. One small example is a child in school who might idolize a favorite teacher he or she particularly admires. Perhaps the child may have a crush on that teacher, or desire to be just like them when he or she grows up. In most cases, this infatuation is a temporary phase in their lives which will eventually pass; yet still, the Apostle Paul offered some sound advice when he wrote that we should only seek to follow those who themselves follow the ways of Christ, and sadly, many modern teachers do not do this by any means whatsoever:

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."  
1 Corinthians 11:1, KJV

Of course, one of the worst kinds of idolatry found amongst the younger generation, is that of the widespread worship of Santa Claus; who many Christians prefer to refer to as Satan Claus, in order to expose the terrible deception which has been foisted upon the children of the world through this yearly tradition. Due to modern merchants and other ungodly forces, the miraculous birth of our Saviour so long ago has been overshadowed by the devil in the red suit! Popularizing the so-called 'Easter Bunny' during the Easter season is yet another form of idol worship in America which detracts from the true significance of the Easter event; that being the Resurrection of our blessed Saviour. Surely, Satan has done his best to try to replace our Christian values with pagan counterfeits, and many Americans have stood in line in order to receive their yearly dose of delusion.

Another kind of idolatry which comes to mind, is that of the worship of the creations of our own hands; such as machines, new scientific inventions, certain beautiful buildings, etc. We have all heard someone at one time or another worshipping their own automobile by proudly describing its many features for us; such as how powerful the engine is, how many miles per gallon it can obtain, the quadraphonic sound system, the

stylish hubcaps, the soft leather interior, etc. Some people enjoy 'cruising' around town just so they can show off their new idol amongst all of the other idols vying for attention. In the old days, before the advent of automatic washing and waxing facilities, people would spend hours bowed down to their idol as they worked feverishly to give it a new coat of wax like a man seeking to please a maiden.

Like the ancient Tower of Babel, modern towering structures of steel and glass pierce upward towards the heavens, as if to say in a subtle way like Nimrod of old, that man is still defying the Almighty, and trying to be his own god. Like the symbolic thorns in the Parable of the Sower, man bustles about in the artificial environment of his cities, totally occupied by the cares of this life, ignoring his God, and stabbing his Creator in the heart; just as the thorns were likewise placed upon our Lord's head. Consider the following verses:

"And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it...And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection."  
Luke 8:7, 14, KJV

Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."  
Matthew 6:34, KJV

"Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that. But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil."  
James 4:13-16, KJV

In the eleventh chapter of the Book of Genesis, we read of the first failed attempt by Nimrod to create a world without God. Like evil men today, he too wanted to make a name for himself, instead of praising and worshipping the Name of the Almighty; thus he began the construction of Babel:

"And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar"  
Genesis 10:8-10, KJV

"And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered

abroad upon the face of the whole earth. And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth."  
Genesis 11:1-9, KJV

From Babel, to the pyramids of ancient Egypt, to the pagan temples of Greece and Rome, to our modern skyscrapers today, we find the very same building worship occurring. These latter two cultures were also notorious for their adoration of the human body, and manifested their worship of the same through the multitudinous statues and monuments which lined their streets, decorated their plazas and filled their many temples. In fact, it is with the Greek culture that the Olympics find their origin. The proud Caesars of Rome took this a step further and were even revered as demigods, or gods in human form.

The Jews were not immune to the ungodly worship of human structures. Aside from their worship of the pagan gods of their heathen enemies, they too yielded to the temptation of idolizing their own buildings. In fact, in both the Gospels and the Book of Acts, we discover that even the Lord's own Disciples were apparently in awe of the glory of the Temple in Jerusalem, one gate of which was known as 'Beautiful', from the Greek word 'horaios'. According to Easton's Bible Dictionary, this gate is supposed to have been the door which led from the court of the Gentiles to the court of the women. It was quite massive, and was covered with plates of Corinthian brass. The Lord's Disciples must have been greatly surprised when Jesus prophesied of the Temple's destruction:

"And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down."  
Matthew 24:1-2, KJV

"And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said, As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down."  
Luke 21:5-6, KJV

"And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;...And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him."

Acts 3:2, 10, KJV

Why is it that Jesus Christ pronounced this prophecy against the Temple in Jerusalem; against the very complex which the self-righteous Jewish religious leaders claimed was the House of God? As I explain clearly in other articles, quite simply, it is because, instead of accepting the Salvation which could only be freely obtained through the Messiah, those proud, stubborn religionists chose to cling to their traditions, and to the physical rock of the Temple, instead of clinging to the True Spiritual Rock; that is, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. God never wanted a physical Temple to begin with; He only allowed it at King David's insistence; and even King Solomon, who built the Temple, realized that it was not really necessary or desired by the Lord. It was only a puny man who felt he needed something physical in order to properly honor the God of Heaven; just like the pagan nations around them who built temples to their false gods.

From the days of King Solomon until now, the first two Temples, both of which were destroyed by the enemies of the Israelites as a clear statement from the Lord; as well as the desire for a Third Temple, have actually stood in the way of the Salvation of the Jews. It became, and will again become, if a third one is built, an idol, a stumbling block, a rock of offense which caused, and will cause, the Jews to reject their true Messiah who has already come in the flesh, and who will soon return in the Power and Glory of His Father with the holy Angels! This powerful message is very clear from one end of the Bible to the other; yet sadly, the Jews have purposely chosen to ignore it! Here is the Scriptural proof of my words:

"Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these."

Jeremiah 7:4, KJV

"For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof."

Hosea 8:14, KJV

"Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?"

Isaiah 66:1, KJV

"And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying, Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in? Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle. In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar?"

2 Samuel 7:4-7, KJV

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven

and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?"

1 Kings 8:27, KJV

"Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet,"

Acts 7:48, KJV

"Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

John 4:21-24, KJV

"Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

Matthew 21:43-44, KJV

"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan."

Revelation 2:9, KJV

"Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee."

Revelation 3:9, KJV

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, KJV

Those final verses clearly reveal what will be the evil end result of believing in a lie, and building a temple to God when He never ever desired such a thing. If God is clearly opposed to any physical structures being built in His honour as the previous verses demonstrate, what then is the True Church? What is the True Temple of God? While I have amply provided an answer to this question in such articles as 'Is God A Racist?' and 'Where Are The First Century Churches?', allow me to once again share some of the key verses with you which point the way to Scriptural Truth, and not to what you hear from modern-day false prophets who stand in their pulpits and spout off their poisonous platitudes. As you will see, Jesus Christ Himself is the Spiritual Rock of His purely Spiritual Temple, made up of you and me:

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."

1 Corinthians 10:4, KJV

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"  
1 Peter 2:5-9, KJV

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."  
1 Corinthians 6:19-20, KJV

"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."  
2 Corinthians 6:16-18, KJV

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."  
2 Corinthians 5:1, KJV

"Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name."  
Revelation 3:12, KJV

"And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it."  
Revelation 21:22, KJV

Sadly, today, in modern Christianity, or to be more precise, modern churchianity, we find the very same thing happening. Millions of dollars are spent every single year as proud religionists seek to build bigger and greater abominations which will impress the congregation down the street and draw them into their wide doors. How much that reminds me of the serious warning issued by the Lord so long ago:

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few

there be that find it."  
Matthew 7:13-14, KJV

What I find quite interesting, is the fact that right after this, in the very next verses, the Lord issues His warning regarding false prophets; as if to suggest that these false prophets, these false religionists who cry "Lord, lord" and "Come to our church", are the very keepers of the wide gates which lead to destruction!:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."  
Matthew 7:15-20, KJV

As I mention in other articles, today, organized religion, or organized division as I prefer to call it, is more interested in numbers, in quantity, and not so much in the spiritual quality of its members. The Truth of the Gospel is being sacrificed and compromised in many churches; all for the sake of gaining more filthy lucre from their members; after all, if one preaches the pure Truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, he won't be left with very many followers by the time he is done. Thus, many preachers soften the message in order to keep that money rolling in the doors. If only they would follow the sound advice found in the Epistles:

"Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;...Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;"  
1 Timothy 3:3, 8, KJV

"For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;...Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake."  
Titus 1:7, 11, KJV

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;"  
1 Peter 5:2, KJV

"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."  
1 Timothy 6:10, KJV

Because many of these men of God have gone a whoring after the almighty dollar, as Paul clearly warns in the previous verse, they are now being pierced through with many sorrows; particularly when the IRS, (Internal Revenue Service in the United States Of America), begins to audit their church finances, and encounters embarrassing discrepancies in their



bookkeeping.

Returning to the topic of building worship, despite man's best attempts, which are truly feeble in the sight of the Lord, all God has to do is to give one strong blast from His nostrils to shake the Earth, and their thorny pillars of glory which thrust into the sky will come falling down. In fact, God's Holy Word suggests that this is what the future may hold for all of man's monolithic structures which scrape the boundary between sky and Earth. Consider the following very revelatory verses:

"Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made: And the mean man boweth down, and the great man humbleth himself: therefore forgive them not. Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low: And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up, And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall, And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures. And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth."  
Isaiah 2:8-21, KJV

"And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground."  
Isaiah 21:9, KJV

"And there shall be upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers and streams of waters in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall."  
Isaiah 30:25, KJV

"And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves

in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"  
Revelation 6:12-17, KJV

"And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."  
Revelation 14:8, KJV

"And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found."  
Revelation 16:17-20, KJV

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."  
Revelation 18:2, KJV

"See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire."  
Hebrews 12:25-29, KJV

"And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."  
Luke 13:2-5, KJV

Despite these stiff warnings found in God's Word, foolish man continues in his idolatrous ways. From one end to the other, the Bible is one continuous story of man's worship of man and of the creations of his own hands. We find political leaders, who in their own pride, idolized themselves due to their great riches and power; and in other cases, we find leaders who were worshipped by their own people as gods. One clear example of the former, which I discuss in "The Kings

of the North and the South", as well as in the series "The Seven Heads", is that of Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar. This proud king's ego was so inflated, that he had a huge idol constructed in the plain of Dura; which he then forced his subjects to worship. In "The Seven Heads" series, I suggest that this great statue may actually have been a likeness of the king himself; designed after the image the king had seen in a night vision in Daniel chapter two. Not too long ago, I discovered that a great base has been discovered in Iraq; and that some people speculate that it may actually be a part of the Babylonian king's idol.

As we read in the Scriptures, the Lord was very patient with King Nebuchadnezzar. In fact, He even used this king as His rod of judgment and chastisement against the rebellious land of Judah; however, when Nebuchadnezzar uttered the following boastful statement, the Lord apparently felt that this proud monarch had passed the point of no return in his vanity; and thus, God drove the king from his kingdom for a period of seven years; until he learned the lesson of humility which the Lord was trying to teach him:

"The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty? While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws."

Daniel 4:30-33, KJV

Imagine the shock of suddenly hearing a voice from Heaven which tells you that you are about to feel the judgments of the Lord. In fulfillment of the prophecy, Nebuchadnezzar was indeed cast out of his kingdom. The king apparently suffered some form of temporary insanity, and acted like a wild beast for seven years until he had learned his lesson in humility. If you read Daniel chapter four in its entirety, you will discover that what is amazing about this story, is the fact that the Lord had warned the king through a dream, that this was going to happen to him if he didn't manifest a little more humility; yet despite this fact, the king still yielded to his pride; and thus he suffered a great fall, as per this verse from the Book of Proverbs:

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

Proverbs 16:18, KJV

While in Daniel chapter four, Nebuchadnezzar's abasement and subsequent return to his position of power and royalty was described as a tree which was cut off at the roots for a period of seven years, in the seventh chapter of the same book, it is revealed in another way. Consider the following

verse:

"The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it."

Daniel 7:4, KJV

After the Babylonian king had communed with the wild beasts for seven years, he realized that it would be much wiser of him to walk humbly before the Lord; and thus we find him later saying:

"And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou? At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase."

Daniel 4:34-37, KJV

In the New Testament, we find another excellent example of idolatry manifested in the form of extreme man worship. In this case, the crime was deemed so severe, that the Lord took swift action, and the person involved lost his life. I am of course referring to the murderous Jewish King Herod. In Acts chapter twelve we find the following account:

"And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them. And the people gave a shout, saying, It is the voice of a god, and not of a man. And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost."

Acts 12:21-23, KJV

As we continue this discussion in part two of this series, we will be taking a look at God's anger, chastisement in this current life, the snare of pagan gods and idolatry, iconoclasts, secular humanism, the wickedness of the human heart, worldliness and materialism, the power of words, the invisible battle and more. I hope that you will join me.

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JOHN LENNON'S 'IMAGINE' AND SECULAR HUMANISM : PART 2

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Last Updated : July 23, 2006

God Is Slow To Anger, Chastisement In This Life, Snare Of Pagan Gods And Idolatry, Iconoclasts Secular Humanism, Wicked Human Heart, Sin Of Worldliness And Materialism, One Of Two Masters, False Doctrine Of Abundant Life, Temporal Or Eternal Rewards?, God Of This World, No Other Gods, Satan The Deceiver, Don't Glory In Your Flesh, The Creative And Destructive Power of Words, The Invisible Spiritual War

The Scriptures clearly point out to us that under normal circumstances, the Lord is very patient, and very merciful, and slow to anger with His wayward children. Consider the following set of verses, all found within the Old Testament:

"And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not."  
Nehemiah 9:17, KJV

"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy."  
Psalms 103:8, KJV

"The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy."  
Psalms 145:8, KJV

"And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil."  
Joel 2:13, KJV

"And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil."  
Jonah 4:2, KJV

"The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet."  
Nahum 1:3, KJV

There are two things we can learn from these verses. While the Lord is slow to anger and full of mercy, if it does come time for Him to chastise His children, it must mean that we have really pushed Him to the limit with our rebelliousness. This is clearly evident by the story of vain King Herod. The time came when Herod's evil heart was so lifted up against the Lord, that God finally felt obligated to mete out His

swift judgments. Herod had more than filled up his cup of iniquity; and thus the righteous judgments of the Lord fell upon him. This also teaches us that Divine Punishment is not always reserved for the afterlife as many people have been led to believe; that is, at the Great White Throne Judgment. If certain people are evil enough, God will deal with them here and now; and sometimes quite severely. Please keep this point in mind, as I will be discussing it again towards the end of this series. I am reminded of the following verse found in Peter's first Epistle:

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"  
1 Peter 4:17, KJV

Of course, in most cases, when the Bible discusses idolatry, it isn't normally referring to actual people, but rather to wooden, stone or metal images created in the likeness of the false gods of the heathen. As I've explained in my in-depth series "The Fruits of Disobedience", it was this very same pagan idolatry which became a snare for the Israelites, and caused them to fall into deep sin against the Lord time and time again. The Lord specifically warned them of what would happen if they didn't obey His Voice and destroy the heathen in Canaan, but they stubbornly refused to obey; and this ultimately resulted in His fierce judgments falling upon them, either through plagues, or else through the hands of their heathen enemies. Consider the following verses:

"And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee. Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. They shall not dwell in thy land, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee."  
Exodus 23:31-33, KJV

"And thou shalt consume all the people which the LORD thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that will be a snare unto thee."  
Deuteronomy 7:16, KJV

"And an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I sware unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you. And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this? Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you."  
Judges 2:1-3, KJV

Rather than go into great detail concerning the idolatry of ancient Israel, I encourage you to read the aforementioned series, as it is quite a thorough treatise on the subject. In the New Testament, the word "idol" is transliterated from the Greek "eidolon". Similar to this word is the Greek word

"eikon"; which is transliterated into English as "icon", or "ikon". An icon is any type of sacred image. It is from this word that we derive our word "iconoclast"; which is a person who destroys false idols, or icons, of any kind. Some good examples of iconoclasts would be the God-fearing kings of ancient Israel who removed the idol worship and the child sacrifices from the land; such as David, Hezekiah, Josiah, etc. Consider the following example:

"Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years. And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined neither to the right hand, nor to the left. For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images. And they brake down the altars of Baalim in his presence; and the images, that were on high above them, he cut down; and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images, he brake in pieces, and made dust of them, and strowed it upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them. And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem. And so did he in the cities of Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, even unto Naphtali, with their mattocks round about. And when he had broken down the altars and the groves, and had beaten the graven images into powder, and cut down all the idols throughout all the land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem."  
2 Chronicles 34:1-7, KJV

The common denominator between all of the various forms of idolatry that I have described for you, is that they all center around the worship of man and human achievement, with little, or absolutely no regard for, the God of the Bible. Regardless of whether we are discussing the idolatry of our modern day, or of idolatry from thousands of years ago, all of these things are the product of man's pride and vanity, which are born of the evilness of his own heart. They are all proud attempts by sinful man to elevate himself above his Creator. This worldly attitude in which evil men seek to become the center of their own existence, instead of living God-centered lives is today referred to as secular humanism. While some people proudly resist admitting their own evil condition, as I point out in many other articles, the Lord, through the Prophet Jeremiah, clearly exposed the wickedness of the human heart when He said the following:

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"  
Jeremiah 17:9, KJV

What the Lord is basically saying here, is that our heart is so evil, that we can't even begin to fathom the depth of its wickedness! Working in conjunction with our brain, our heart protects itself by feeding us all kinds of lies to keep us living in a state of delusion. Our heart will tell us how good we are, and how great we are, and that there is really nothing wrong with us; so why do we even need a God? This is the same old satanic lie disguised in the modern wrapper of "I'm okay; you're okay; everyone is okay; there is no such

thing as sin". Of course, as Christians, we know that is in direct contrast to the words spoken by our Lord in the New Testament where He also exposed our sinful nature:

"But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man."

Matthew 15:18-20, KJV

The main point I wish for you to consider here, is that all of these different forms of idolatry, whether they be the worship of man, or the worship of things created by man, are a manifestation of our own wicked hearts. As I have stated before, the physical world is simply a manifestation of the spiritual; and if we use that as a barometer to measure our spiritual condition, the vast majority of humankind is doing very poorly. The Bible clearly indicates that the artificial world in which we now live, is clearly inspired by Satan, and is most certainly not of God. In his first Epistle, the Apostle John wrote the following revealing lines:

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

1 John 2:15-16, KJV

The above verses should really shock any Christian who finds himself trapped in the world and enjoying it. John clearly tells us that if we love this present world, the love of the Father is not in us, because these desires are not of Him. In other words, we don't really love God; we love the world and all of the things that it has to offer. Jesus Himself told us that we cannot possibly love both. We must make a choice between our Heavenly Father, and the materialistic world of mammon around us. In the sixth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, our Lord said:

"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Matthew 6:24, KJV

It is so sad, because there are many people in the world today, including many Christians, who honestly think that they can serve both, in total contradiction to our Lord's own words. They preach this modern lie called the "abundant life". They have been deceived into believing that God, our Heavenly Father, has blessed them with their wealth and lavish material lifestyles; even though Jesus Christ and His own Apostles did not live this way; nor any of the Disciples who followed in their footsteps. This lie of materialistic worship was introduced to Christianity several hundred years later after the compromise had occurred between the rulers of Rome, and the Disciples who had never known Jesus Christ nor the First and Second Generation Christians. These were the formative years of what is today known as the Roman Catholic Church.



While John tells us that these things are of the world, and while Christ tells us that we cannot serve God and mammon, the Apostle Paul goes a step further by telling us exactly who has blinded us to the Truth of God's Word, and who we are serving, when we love this present world, and all of the things which pertain to it. As the following verses reveal, he tells us that we are serving the god of this world, the prince of the power of the air; that is, Satan himself:

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."  
2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:"  
Ephesians 2:2, KJV

When we walk "according to the course of this world", not only are we contradicting the words of Jesus Christ who told us that we His followers are not of this world; not only are we contradicting the words of the Apostle Paul who told us to not conform to this world, but we are in fact making ourselves the very enemies of God; because we have set up another god before Him! These ideas are clearly supported by verses such as the following:

"If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."  
John 15:19, KJV

"I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."  
John 17:14-16, KJV

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."  
Romans 12:2, KJV

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."  
James 4:4, KJV

You, my friend, are the enemy of God if you think that you can be a part of the world, and a part of God's Kingdom. Do you understand that? When you say that you can have one foot in the world, and one foot in the Kingdom of God, you are denying the Truth of every Scripture I have just presented to you. You are calling Jesus Christ, His Disciples, and God the Father liars. That is how serious it is; and this is why I detest all of those false preachers and teachers who push

the false doctrine of the abundant life. Instead of waiting patiently for their rewards in Heaven as Jesus instructed us to do, they want it all now in this world. They want worldly recognition; they want worldly wealth; they want a late model automobile; they want people to praise their name on radio and television. They want their picture plastered on book covers, or across the Internet, and wherever else they can get it. They want their name on everyone's lips. They want the praise, and they want the glory; and they want it now; but what did Jesus say?:

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Matthew 6:19-21, KJV

Well, do you now what? God will give them exactly what they want; He will give them their reward in this life; after all, He did the very same thing with the spiritual leaders of Israel several thousand years ago. While they too were convinced that their material abundance was a blessing from God, Jesus Himself told us quite plainly that they were bowing to another master. Consider the following verses:

"Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward."

Matthew 6:1-5, KJV

"Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly."

Matthew 6:16-18, KJV

"Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God."

John 12:42-43, KJV

The worldly reward that these people received, came not from the God of Heaven, but rather from the god of this world; from the father of lies; Satan himself; their true master; into whose hand this power has been given for a time. As I point out in other articles, Satan boasted of this very fact

when he tempted our Lord just before the commencement of His Earthly Ministry. Consider the following verses:

"And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it."

Luke 4:6, KJV

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

John 8:44, KJV

Not only did Jesus clearly expose those materialistic and pharisaical Jews as being of their father the devil, but He also informs us that Satan has been a liar since Day One. As most of us know, since the beginning of Creation, Satan, disguised in one form or another, has sought to cause man to fall into sin; that is, to transgress the Laws of God; for as John tells us, sin is the transgression of the Law. In the Book of Exodus, we discover that one of God's primary laws is that we will have no other gods before Him. Consider the following verses:

"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

1 John 3:4, KJV

"And God spake all these words, saying, I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;"

Exodus 20:1-5, KJV

Despite this very explicit commandment from the Lord, for literally thousands of years now, mankind has done the exact opposite. Not only has he worshipped many false gods, but as we have clearly seen, man has worshipped himself; he has worshipped the works of his own hands; instead of the one true Creator; who alone deserves all of the praise, and all of the glory. Since the days of Adam and Eve, that vile serpent Satan has convinced man that he can be his own god; and that he doesn't need a far away invisible God in Heaven. Allow me to remind you again of that subtle deceiver's first words to foolish Eve:

"For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

Genesis 3:5, KJV

"You can be your own gods Eve! Just eat the fruit, Eve! You can be the master of your own fate! You don't need the Big Guy in the sky! Here; give some to Adam so he can share in

your glory!"; and thus began the awful downward spiral of humankind, which has continued to this very day. It began with the murder of righteous Abel; and it will end with a One World Government under the Beast and the False Prophet, who will likewise persecute the Saints of the Most High God. From the Tower of Babel where man tried to make a name for himself, only to be brought down by Divine Confusion, to the final confusion of worldwide Babylon the Great found in the Book of Revelation, the whole story has already been written since thousands of years ago. This then is the ultimate form of idolatry; man worshipping man, and the creations of his own hands; trying to create his own utopian world without any room for, and without any help from, the one true God of the Heavens; El Shaddai.

While King David was dearly loved by the Lord, as we all know, he was only human, and had problems with yielding himself to the desires of his flesh. We are all familiar with the story of David and Bathsheba. While the Lord viewed this as a great sin, it upsets Him even more when we strive to glory in our own strength and wisdom; instead of giving Him the credit for everything. Our God is indeed a jealous God, and whenever we place anything before Him, including worshipping our own power and achievements, He becomes very angry. In the article "Nephilim: The Giants of Genesis", I mention how, against the better judgment of his peers, King David decided to take a census of Israel. In his vanity, he wanted to measure the size and power of Israel. He wanted to feel a little glory in the flesh. As a result of this grave sin, the Lord sent a plague into the land; and we are told that seventy thousand people died because of it. You can read the whole story in 2 Samuel chapter twenty-four, and in the first Book of the Chronicles chapter twenty-one.

This is one of the key lessons that the Lord has been trying to teach humankind since the beginning of Creation; to trust only in Him; to look only to Him; and to not dare take any credit to ourselves; to not glory in our flesh, for we most certainly are not any kind of gods as Satan would have us to believe. Perhaps it was after the previous bitter experience that King David wrote the following wise line found in the Book of Psalms:

"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God."  
Psalms 20:7, KJV

As I have shared many times before, we must never look to ourselves for the answers; we must never look to our own strength or wisdom for the answers; we must only look to the Lord. This is precisely the message that the Angel gave to the Prophet Zechariah to deliver to Zerubbabel, who was responsible for building the Second Temple following the return from Babylon. Consider the following verses:

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."  
Proverbs 3:5-6, KJV

"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor

by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."  
Zechariah 4:6, KJV

Exactly what was the weapon that Satan used to bring about the original downfall of humankind? As I have pointed out before, it was three simple words which he stated in the form of a doubt; "hath God said". Those three words were enough to "upset the applecart" so-to-speak. Remember, the devil is a copycat; he is a usurper. He doesn't have an original "bone" in his body as we say in American slang. All Satan knows how to do is to take God's Word, and to twist it and to pervert. We know for a fact that God was the first one to use the power of the spoken word, for as we are told in the Scriptures:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."  
John 1:1-3, KJV

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."  
Hebrews 11:3, KJV

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."  
2 Peter 3:3-7, KJV

Thus we can see that while God normally uses His word, or Word, meaning Jesus, to create, Satan also uses words to try to destroy the very same work of God. This is also why he is sometimes referred to as the destroyer in the Bible. I have mentioned in some of my Endtime articles that the two Hebrew and Greek names Abaddon and Apollyon mentioned in the Book of Revelation, both mean "destroyer" or "destruction". This is the name of the angel of the Bottomless Pit; and this is also where we are told that Satan will be cast during the Millennium:

"And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon."  
Revelation 9:11, KJV

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he

must be loosed a little season."  
Revelation 20:1-3, KJV

Just as God's Word creates, and Satan's words destroy, in like manner, God's written Word gives faith, while Satan's words produce doubts. They are two forces as opposite as night and day. I'll be sharing a very clear example of this with you in just a moment. Sadly, through the inspiration of Satan, ungodly men have also learned to harness the awesome power of words. The right words can be world shakers and psychological manipulators. He who controls the flow of words in the world, controls the world; and the invisible behind-the-scenes powers who control the mass media of the world know this full well. Through the crafty manipulation of words, public opinion is shaped; and one is praised as a hero, while another is condemned as a villain. Bombs leave an ugly mess to clean up afterwards, but words are an invisible clean killer. History is not necessarily what is true, but rather what is written by the victor, whether he be good or evil.

The reason our words are so powerful, is because they are spiritual things. The thoughts we think, and the words we speak are influenced by spiritual forces. Our words either reflect how yielded we are to God, or else our submission to Satan. These ideas should not seem foreign to you; after all, in the New Testament, we find verses such as the following:

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."  
John 6:63, KJV

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."  
Hebrews 4:12, KJV

". . . he [the devil] was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."  
John 8:44b, KJV

"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."  
2 Peter 2:19, KJV

It should be clear then that there is a great war currently in progress; and the invisible weapons being used are words. On one side of this great Endtime Battle are the emissaries of God who are submitted to His Will and who speak the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, while on the other are the political and religious false prophets of the world who speak the deceitful lies of Satan and promise peace, peace when there shall be no peace; just as occurred during the days of the Prophet Jeremiah:

"For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people

slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace."  
Jeremiah 8:11, KJV

To find out what will be the final outcome of this great warfare of words, I encourage you to continue reading this series. In part three, we will be taking a look at some of the subtle tactics which are currently being used to prepare the world for the arrival of the master of dark sayings, and his deceptive propaganda agent. Foremost in our discussion will be an expose on the music from hell, which will include a look at the philosophy of John Lennon, as expressed in his world renown song "Imagine". I trust that you will join me.

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JOHN LENNON'S 'Imagine' AND SECULAR HUMANISM : PART 3

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Last Updated : July 23, 2006

Preparations For The Beast, Music From Hell, The Beatles And Sixties Music, Battle Of The Spirit And The Coming Kingdom, John Lennon The Pacifistic Revolutionary, More Popular Than Jesus, Lennon's Apology, Analysis Of "Imagine", No Spiritual Realm, Life Without Hope, Man As God, John Lennon A New Ager

While the events I described in part two are reserved for what many Christians believe is our near future, it is important that you realize that Satan is even now craftily preparing the world for the arrival of the Beast through his various propaganda machines. From anti-God education in our schools which seeks to rob our children of their faith by teaching them EVILution, New Age thought, heathen paganism and unquestionable obedience to authority; to political slogans which tell lies by speaking of peace and economic prosperity; to commercial jingles on radio and television which tempt and entice us with the delicacies of Babylon the Great Whore; to false prophets in the pulpits who seek to pervert our faith in Jesus Christ; to abortionists who slay the Lord's unborn children; to gays and lesbians who daily mock God's laws; Satan is using every means available to him to draw the world into his net of deception and servitude; and it is all through the written and the spoken word!

As we have already seen, one effective way in which Satan is using words to psychologically manipulate the masses of the world, particularly the younger generation, is through the music industry. As a parent myself, I can personally testify to the fact that from the minute my child boards the school bus in the morning, she is exposed to the music from hell. There should be no doubt that song lyrics affect people in a spiritual way; and in the case of worldly music, most of it is in a very negative way. Just as God's Word pierces like a

sword to our subconscious level, Satan's word, through his musical false prophets, does the very same thing; and it is bearing very bad fruit. If you doubt that this is true, I encourage you to read my article "Plight of the Children" in order to witness the demonic influence which has gripped the lives of some of our children. In his Epistle to the church at Philippi, the Apostle Paul wrote the following words:

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."  
Philippians 4:8, KJV

The previous verse perfectly describes the exact opposite of what most of today's children are listening to on the radio, on their CD players, and on television channels dedicated to music videos. There is very little that is true about that kind of music; there is very little that is honest about it; there is nothing just about it; there is certainly nothing pure about it; it is ugly and not lovely; there is nothing good about it; and it most assuredly does not teach positive virtues.

As far as I am concerned, from the names of some of these modern bands, such as the female group "Lilith", which is named after a deceptive female demon of Jewish origin, to the lewd videos which accompany some of the music, to the satanic symbols incorporated into some of the cover designs, to the actual lyrics of the songs, which offer no hope, and which encourage unbridled sex, rebellion against authority, and satanic worship, it is nothing short of disgusting! Just recently, I read a commentary concerning the group "Oasis". In boasting of their popularity, one of the band members sarcastically stated, "Has God ever played New York?". Maybe not; but will they be playing in Heaven? Not unless they stop elevating themselves above God and repent of their wickedness!

This demonic wave of music started as far back as the mid fifties; and it has only grown progressively worse since then. The reason I can say this, is because as a young teen before I came to Christ, I also used to listen to that kind of music. During my youth, there was only one "underground" station in my hometown. My older brother and I got into the "black light" and psychedelic poster scene. We spent our money from our paper route, and designed his bedroom with the stuff. As kids say nowadays, we that thought it was "way kewl". We would turn off the regular lights in the bedroom; and then turn on the "black light", in order to make the posters glow; (and expose ourselves to dangerous ultraviolet rays of course); and then leave on just one little red light by the radio dials so we could change the station. I still recall "grooving" to groups such as Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, Iron Butterfly, The Who, Steppenwolf, and other "heavies" of that era.

Thank the Lord that I was eventually delivered from that negative influence in my life. In July of 1971, while in California, I prayed an "official" prayer, and accepted the Lord into my life. I use the word "official" with quotation



marks, because I have always believed in the Lord as long as I can remember. I don't ever remember not believing in Him. As I mention in other articles, even as a young teenager, I read my "Good News For Modern Man" New Testament; and often wondered what the connection was between what I read in the Bible, and what I was being taught in high school regarding cavemen, EVILution, the Big Bang, etc. In my youthful ignorance, I also mistakenly interpreted a few things very literally, which I shouldn't have done. Thank the Lord for the leading of His Holy Spirit which is always guiding us into a clearer and more perfect understanding of Biblical Truth:

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

John 14:26, KJV

As you have probably deduced, I am part of the generation which witnessed the arrival in America of the British Wave; spearheaded of course by the Beatles in early 1964 on the Ed Sullivan Show in New York City. I can still vaguely recall watching the variety show on our black and white television; and seeing all of the young girls screaming hysterically as they worshipped their new idols. The mop-headed Beatles were followed by the Rolling Stones, and many other British rock groups which sought to overpower America's control of the Rock 'n Roll industry. Because of the fact that I grew up in this environment, I can speak with authority when I say that, even though our parents found some of the music rather objectionable, if we compare it to what is being broadcast across the airways today, in my view, it was for the most part "clean" music; at least at first.

From one perspective, the music of that era was rather idealistic in nature. The sixties were a time of spiritual, political, social and ideological change in America. Young people were beginning to say "No!" to some of the beliefs espoused by their parents, to some of the corrupt policies practiced by the American government, and to the destruction of the environment by selfish entrepreneurs. It was some of the methods which were being espoused in the music in order to achieve the desired utopian world that were wrong; such as using drugs, condoning free sex, and encouraging physical violence against the Establishment. As I amply explain in several of my political articles, while I too am clearly opposed to the corruption of modern governments and big business, I believe that ours is a war of the Spirit; not to physically change the current governments of man, but rather to prepare the way for the coming Millennial Government which will rule the Earth after Jesus Christ the Rock crushes the governments of this world. Consider these verses:

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."  
Isaiah 9:6, KJV

"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the

kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."

Daniel 2:44, KJV

"Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

Matthew 21:43-44, KJV

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."

1 Corinthians 10:4, KJV

"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,"

1 Peter 2:6-7, KJV

Oh what a wonderful day it will be when these wonderful prophesies are finally fulfilled before our very eyes! But returning to the topic of modern music, based upon my own personal observations, I can only conclude that the crass, blatantly defiant, sexually-oriented, anti-God music of today is definitely much worse, and even more spiritually destructive, than the music I listened to decades ago. I honestly do not understand how concerned, responsible parents can even allow their children to listen to that spirit-polluting garbage, or watch the wicked videos which accompany a lot of it.

Most people will probably agree that between the four lads from Liverpool, that is, the Beatles, the most politically active and outspoken of the four, was John Lennon. Some of my older readers can probably still recall the controversy which surrounded this man's life. In fact, he was considered to be such a threat to American interests at the time due to his very vocal opposition to the Viet Nam War, that he even had an FBI record. Then American president, Richard Nixon, spent several years seeking for a way to have Lennon legally ousted from the United States of America. By means of the powerful political message contained in the lyrics of his songs, Lennon became an even greater idol than he would have been, had he continued singing only harmless commercial jingles like many other artists of his day. In the words of Lennon, "All we are saying, is give peace a chance". John Lennon the musical artist, became John Lennon the pacifistic revolutionary; and millions of people worldwide quickly embraced his ideology.

But let's move back in time to March 4, 1966. During that time, at the height of Beatlemania, and just prior to a major Beatle tour which had been scheduled in the United States of America, Lennon made some statements which sent shockwaves through the Christian community of America; particularly through the Southern Baptist sector. In Great

Britain, a columnist for the London Evening Standard by the name of Maureen Cleave, published an interview she had held with twenty-five year old Lennon. During that interview, the discussion turned to religion, being as Lennon was heavily involved in reading different religious books at the time. While explaining his views concerning Christianity, Lennon made the following startling comments:

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"Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue with that; I'm right, and I will be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now; I don't know which will go first - Rock 'n Roll, or Christianity. Jesus was all right, but His disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me."

----- End Quote -----

While Britons didn't become alarmed by Lennon's candid statements, such was not the case in the United States of America. On July 29th of that same year, an American "teeny bopper" magazine by the name of "Datebook" published a front cover story entitled "The Ten Adults You Dig/Hate The Most". Included on the cover of the magazine were the previous comments by Lennon. For those of you who are familiar with the attitudes of the Southern Baptists of the United States of America, the powerful backlash which soon rose up to castigate Lennon for his words, will come as no surprise. From southern radio stations which banned music by the Beatles, to rallies where Christian youth stomped upon and burned Beatle records and other memorabilia in bonfires, it seemed like the Southern Christians had gone crazy. What had been a complete infatuation for the "Fab Four" only months before, had now soured and turned into a literal "hate-fest".

This sudden uproar over Lennon's remarks couldn't have come at a worst time; particularly for the British entrepreneurs who had a lot of money invested in the success of the Beatles. With the upcoming American tour fast approaching, some quick damage control had to be implemented. Two of the figures which came to Lennon's defense were Maureen Cleave, the woman who had actually interviewed Lennon, and Brian Epstein, the Beatles' friend and manager. Cleave made the following statement in order to try to neutralize the situation in America:

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"John was certainly not comparing the Beatles with Christ. He was simply observing that so weak was the state of Christianity, that the Beatles were, to many people, better known. He was deploring, rather than approving, this."

----- End of Quote -----

For his part, Brian Epstein issued the following statement at a press conference given in New York City, U.S.A.:

----- Begin Quote -----

"The quote which John Lennon made to a London columnist has been quoted and misrepresented entirely out of context of the article, which was in fact highly complimentary to Lennon as a person."

----- End of Quote -----

Despite these futile attempts by Cleave and Epstein to diffuse the situation, the anger towards John Lennon did not subside; and it appeared as if the upcoming tour would be cancelled. As if this weren't enough, according to what I have read, there were also reports of death threats against the Beatles. Whether these threats were real or just trumped up for psychological manipulation, I honestly do not know. Regardless, everyone realized that there was only one person who might possibly be able to silence the opposition and salvage the situation; and that was John Lennon himself. Under a lot of pressure, and totally contrary to his stubborn nature, on August 11, 1996, Lennon held a news conference in Chicago, U.S.A. During that conference, the following exchange occurred:

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"If I had said television is more popular than Jesus, I might have got away with it; but I just happened to be talking to a friend, and I used the words "Beatles" as a remote thing, not as what I think - as Beatles, as those other Beatles like other people see us. I just said "they" are having more influence on kids and things than anything else, including Jesus. But I said it in that way which is the wrong way."

A reporter then asked him:

"Some teenagers have repeated your statements - "I like the Beatles more than Jesus Christ." What do you think about that?"

Lennon then replied:

"Well, originally I pointed out that fact in reference to England. That we meant more to kids than Jesus did, or religion at that time. I wasn't knocking it or putting it down. I was just saying it as a fact, and it's true more for England than here. I'm not saying that we're better or greater, or comparing us with Jesus Christ as a person or God as a thing or whatever it is. I just said what I said and it was wrong. Or it was taken wrong. And now it's all this."

A reporter then asked him:

"But are you prepared to apologize?"

Lennon then replied:

"I wasn't saying whatever they're saying I was saying. I'm sorry I said it really. I never meant it to be a lousy anti-religious thing. I apologize if that will make you happy. I still don't know quite what I've done. I've tried to tell you what I did do, but if you want me to apologize,

if that will make you happy, then OK, I'm sorry."

----- End of Quotes -----

While the upcoming tour went on as scheduled, this event in the life of the Beatles was to leave a lasting impression on the American public, particularly on American Christians; and this would be the last time that the Beatles would ever tour the United States of America. While some people have claimed that the Beatles, and Lennon in particular, were mistreated and misrepresented by the American mass media, is this really the case? We all know that some members of the mass media will stoop to any level in order to obtain a good story; even if it involves distorting the facts in order to enhance a story and make it more news-worthy; and thus earn more profits. Is this what happened with Lennon? In like manner, was Lennon the victim of extreme self-righteous condemnation by the Christians of the American South?

Personally, I am willing to consider that there may have been some wrong-doing on the part of the American mass media. Being familiar with the attitudes of Christians who live in the South, I am also willing to admit that there may have been some overreaction on their part as well. We must also consider the fact that, being as we personally were not there to witness the actual interview by Maureen Cleave, we may not fully understand the tone of Lennon's words at the time he spoke them. All we can really do is take Lennon's words at face value and evaluate them. Upon doing that, I can only conclude that Lennon's words were not a heart-felt apology; in fact, he didn't even understand what he had done wrong. He only offered an apology under extreme pressure, in an attempt to salvage the upcoming tour. In short, it appears that his apology amounted to nothing more than a public relations move to appease the American Christians.

Even if we accept that Lennon's words were in some way taken out of context as he and others claimed, for me personally, it is still very difficult to accept that in discussing the strength or popularity of Christianity in Great Britain, any person, whether it be John Lennon or anyone else, could possibly have the audacity to make any kind of a comparison between the popularity of Jesus Christ and the Beatles, even if it was in a lamentable tone. I can only wonder with what authority Lennon made the claim. Did he possess some kind of statistics to prove this? I seriously doubt it. While Lennon claimed that it was an abstract comparison, I find this difficult to accept. It seems to me that a bit of pride and vanity was involved in his statement. Jesus Christ Himself taught us that a person speaks out of the abundance of his heart:

"Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

Matthew 12:33-34, KJV

In other words, what one thinks in his brain, and feels in his heart, eventually comes out of his mouth; whether it be good or evil. I am also very bothered by the fact that

Lennon confidently stated that Christianity will someday meet its end; perhaps even before Rock 'n Roll music. While I can agree that the so-called Christianity of the physical church system may someday disappear, either through total compromise with the materialistic worldly system of man, or through persecution by the same, I do not think for a moment that true Christianity will ever die; for as I pointed out earlier in this series, the true Church is not a physical building; it is the worldwide body of believers who have the faith of Jesus Christ burning in their hearts; and that will never be destroyed completely. However, I don't think that this is what Lennon had in mind when he made his statements. Additionally, I find his comparison between Christianity and Rock 'n Roll music as reproachful as his comparison between the Beatles and Christianity.

As if this wasn't enough, Lennon's deep lack of respect for our Saviour is quite apparent in his remark "Jesus was all right. . ." Exactly what did he mean by this; that Jesus Christ passed Lennon's personal test of approval with just a satisfactory grade; that He was just "all right"? That certainly isn't what my Bible teaches by any means! My Bible states:

"For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."  
Romans 14:11, KJV

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."  
Philippians 2:9-11, KJV

Those verses alone certainly seem to be saying more about Jesus Christ than Lennon was willing to admit. Right after that remark, Lennon then took a critical swipe at the Apostles when he stated ". . . but His disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me." Yes, it is true that some of the Lord's Disciples were indeed unlearned and ignorant men; but as I point out in some of my articles as "The Only Credentials You Need!" and "The Wisdom of God vs The Philosophy of Men", once they received the Holy Spirit, they became spiritual powerhouses for the Lord. Not only that, but those "thick and ordinary" men will someday be ruling the world with Jesus Christ:

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus."  
Acts 4:13, KJV

"Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."  
Luke 22:28-30, KJV

In the original interview, Lennon also said, possibly in reference to the Apostles, "It's them twisting it that ruins it for me." Exactly what did he mean by this? That the Disciples had twisted the Truth taught by Jesus Christ? If this is what Lennon meant, and I don't know that he did, then he is clearly in error. Not only is he in error, but he is doing the very thing of which he accuses others; and the Scriptures plainly tell us that they that do such things bring about their own destruction; which is precisely what happened to Lennon, as we will see shortly:

"As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."  
2 Peter 3:16, KJV

In his so-called "apology" which he made about five months later, Lennon also revealed his lack of understanding of the Holy Scriptures when he stated "I'm not saying that we're better or greater, or comparing us with Jesus Christ as a person or God as a thing or whatever it is." For anyone to describe God our Heavenly Father as "a thing or whatever it is" certainly reflects their total lack of respect for the same. As you will see shortly, while Lennon accepted Jesus Christ as a great teacher, or "ascended master", it does not appear that he accepted Him as the Son of God. Furthermore, Lennon's whole plan was to wipe out God! Someday, Lennon is going to meet "a thing or whatever it is" and have some very serious explaining to do! Now, even if we choose to accept Lennon's explanations, and ascribe all of his remarks to the pride and foolishness of youth, which were greatly augmented by unprecedented fame, that still doesn't let Lennon "off the hook". Let's leave the sixties now and move up to the late eighties.

In early October of 1988, eight years after Lennon's death, and twenty-two years after his statements in the London newspaper, Capitol/EMI Records posthumously marketed in compact disc and cassette form, "Imagine". In my view, "Imagine", may be one of the most influential songs which has ever swept the world. This song has been heard, sung and hummed by literally millions of people over the past decade. As a sincere Bible-believing Christian, I find the lyrics of "Imagine" to be demonic in nature. What Lennon didn't say openly twenty-two years ago about his personal philosophy, is clearly revealed in the "Imagine" CD. This song promotes rebellion against God. It also heralds Satan's soon-coming, secular, humanistic, anti-God, One World Government in every way. It seems as if John Lennon was intentionally trying to brainwash people, and to mesmerize them into accepting his personal philosophy of a futuristic utopian world created by man, without any room for God. Judge for yourself:

----- Begin Quote -----

IMAGINE THERE'S NO HEAVEN  
IT'S EASY IF YOU TRY  
NO HELL BELOW US  
ABOVE US ONLY SKY  
IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE  
LIVING FOR TODAY. . .

IMAGINE THERE'S NO COUNTRIES  
IT ISN'T HARD TO DO  
NOTHING TO KILL OR DIE FOR  
AND NO RELIGION TOO  
IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE  
LIVING LIFE IN PEACE . . .

IMAGINE NO POSSESSIONS  
I WONDER IF YOU CAN  
NO NEED FOR GREED OR HUNGER  
A BROTHER OF MAN  
IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE  
SHARING ALL THE WORLD . . .

YOU MAY SAY I'M A DREAMER  
BUT I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE  
I HOPE SOME DAY YOU'LL JOIN US  
AND THE WORLD TO BE AS ONE . . .

----- End of Quote -----

In their attempts to defend the anti-God philosophy of John Lennon, some of his loyal followers, or perhaps "disciples" would be a better word for them; might claim that in this song, being an idealist, Lennon was simply searching for the truth, as well as expressing his personal frustrations with organized religion; thus he states in the second stanza "and no religion too". If you are one who has read a lot of my articles, then you will know that I can truly sympathize with this thought; for I too gave up on organized religion many years ago; however, unlike Lennon, I did not just give up on God, or Jesus Christ, or the Bible entirely; I simply chose to practice my own faith outside of the physical church system. This is by no means what Lennon is advocating in this song "Imagine". Being as he obviously rejected Jesus Christ as the one and only solution to the world's problems, John Lennon had to offer a solution of his own; and what was that?

Through this song, Lennon is claiming that all we have to do is to get rid of all concepts of religion, because religion is the main problem; at least so John Lennon would have us to believe. When he states "Imagine there's no heaven", what Lennon is really saying indirectly is "Imagine there's no God"! Of course, if there is no God, then obviously, there can be no devil either; thus he adds "No hell below us". In other words, it is as if John Lennon is saying "There is no spiritual realm. It's a myth. This is all there is to life, folks. When you die, that's it. It's the end of the road, buddy!" This is also what the Sadducees believed as well; and that is why they were sad, you see? The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection of the dead, or in angels; and that is why they hated Jesus so much; because He taught the exact opposite. What a terrible philosophy to have! What a hopeless ideology to embrace! The Apostle Paul apparently considered these same thoughts at one time, for he wrote:

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept."  
1 Corinthians 15:19-20, KJV



"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie,  
promised before the world began;"  
Titus 1:2, KJV

In short, Christianity offers Eternal Hope, while Lennon did not. While the world's false religions have indeed been the catalyst for many wars, which have resulted in a lot of bloodshed, and the loss of many innocent lives, what Lennon failed to recognize, is that this was not true Christianity in action. Furthermore, the solution is not to "throw out the baby with the bath water" as we say in American slang. As we saw earlier in part two, God is not the problem; it is the evil heart of man which has caused so much strife upon the Earth. In his confusion, John Lennon has totally turned everything around. Through this song "Imagine", he is saying that religion, and thus God, is the problem; and man is the solution.

There is no doubt in my mind that John Lennon was heavily influenced by secular humanism. This song wreaks of it from beginning to end. What he has told the whole world through this song, is that we don't need God in the picture anymore. We can do it on our own. Like Nimrod of old and his foolish followers at Babel, Lennon is basically saying that we too can make a name for ourselves. We can create a wonderful utopian world of peace through our own strength and wisdom. We can come together and live as one without the One in whom we have been taught to believe. In other words, John Lennon is saying that man can be his own god. He can be his own saviour. Isn't this is the basic premise of secular humanism as well; to glorify man and his achievements without any honor given to our Creator? On one occasion, Lennon said the following:

----- Begin Quote -----

"You make your own dream. That's the Beatles' story, isn't it? That's Yoko's story. That's what I'm saying now. Produce your own dream. If you want to save Peru, go save Peru. It's quite possible to do anything, but not to put it on the leaders and the parking meters. Don't expect Jimmy Carter or Ronald Reagan or John Lennon or Yoko Ono or Bob Dylan or Jesus Christ to come and do it for you. You have to do it yourself. That's what the great masters and mistresses have been saying ever since time began. They can point the way, leave signposts and little instructions in various books that are now called holy and worshipped for the cover of the book and not for what it says, but the instructions are all there for all to see, have always been and always will be. There's nothing new under the sun. All the roads lead to Rome. And people cannot provide it for you. I can't wake you up. You can wake you up. I can't cure you. You can cure you."

----- End of Quote -----

Notice the very apparent New Age tone in Lennon's remarks. It is all there. When I read his comments, what I see is "You can do it on your own; nobody can do it for you; not even Jesus Christ! Jesus and all of the other great masters left us with their holy books. You can follow any of them;

Moses, Jesus, Buddha, Muhammad, Krishna, Ghandi; they all were on the right path. They all lead to the salvation of man on this Earth." Do you see how subtle that is? I have seen this very same mentality expressed many times by different New Age teachers and promoters. Totally contrary to the Truth found in the Holy Scriptures, Jesus Christ is no longer the only way to Salvation; that is, true Salvation in Heaven. He is simply an equal, and on par with all of the other great teachers of the ages; but what did Jesus Christ Himself and His immediate followers teach us?:

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."  
John 14:6, KJV

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."  
Acts 4:12, KJV

It should be clear then that in this song "Imagine", as well as in the previously-quoted material, John Lennon is only referring to a physical, temporal Earthly salvation, and to nothing more. He is referring to an Earthly paradise brought about by man's own hand. But is this really what the Bible predicts? This is something which we will be discussing in the final part of this series as we continue to analyze John Lennon's song "Imagine". There is still a lot of very interesting information to come, so I hope that you will join me.

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JOHN LENNON'S 'IMAGINE' AND SECULAR HUMANISM : PART 4

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Last Updated : July 23, 2006

An Antichristian Bias?, One World Government, Same Tactics Down Through Time, Leanness To Their Souls, Flatteries Of The Beast, A Destroyer Through Peace, Sharing The Wealth To Gain Popularity, The World Will Marvel, Mark Of The Beast, Image Of The Beast, The Ungodly Blasphemer, The Battle Of Armageddon, English - Language Of The NWO?, Positive Role Models, Accountability To God, Sin Of Rebellion, Stumbling God's Sheep, Fall Of A False Prophet And Idol, God's Swift Judgment, John Lennon's Rotten Fruit, Final Conclusions

As I concluded in part three of this series, unlike we Christians who earnestly wait for our full redemption at the glorious Return of Jesus Christ, at which time the Lord will set up His Heavenly Kingdom upon Earth, and rule the world with a rod of iron, what ex-Beatle John Lennon offers us in

his posthumous hit song "Imagine", is an Earthly paradise in which all international borders will be broken down, in which peace will reign upon the Earth, and in which people will apparently be of such pure hearts, that they will be willing to denounce personal ownership of property and share all things. John Lennon's utopian world will supposedly come about purely through human endeavors; that is, by following the various "road signs" left by all of the "great masters" of the ages in their holy books. Based upon the lyrics of the song, I can only conclude that there is absolutely no room for God or religion in Lennon's vision of Earthly paradise; after all, he does use the phrase "and no religion too".

Because Lennon does use this phrase, I am somewhat confused regarding how he reconciles these apparent contradictions in his personal philosophy. In other words, first he states that we need to follow the teachings of the "great masters"; and then he turns around and says that there will be no room for religion in his world of the future. Could it be that he is only referring to Christian religion in "Imagine", since he also mentions Heaven and Hell which are clearly Christian concepts? In other words, by using the term "great masters", is Lennon only referring to teachers of other non-Christian faiths? If we consider his candid remarks concerning the disappearance of Christianity, it may very well be that this is what Lennon is implying; and it is indeed alarming, being as he is clearly expressing a personal bias against our Christian faith!

The deeper we look into John Lennon's vision of a future world, the more alarming it becomes. For example, exactly what does he mean by such phrases as "Imagine there's no countries" and "Imagine no possessions"? As far as I can tell, if there are no countries, that can only mean that the Earth is united under a One World Government! How else could such a system possibly work? If there is no government of any kind, total chaos and anarchy would surely result. Every unit, be it a single family, or be it a unified world, must have a head in order to keep it united; and John Lennon's world of "Imagine" can be no different; but he doesn't tell us that in the song, does he? He allows us to erroneously assume that it will be a byproduct of the goodness of man's own heart; which, as we have already seen, is a complete lie!

Personally, I really don't see how Lennon could have meant anything other than a One World Government, a New World Order! I don't believe that he was so idealistic, or so naive as to think that everyone would just suddenly have a change of heart, tear down all borders between countries, and the rich would voluntarily start sharing their hoarded wealth with the poor. If he did, then he must have taken one too many of those Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds trips! Of course, if no one has any possessions, this can only mean that the One World Government owns everything; and you can't possibly enjoy any of it unless you go along with their program! Exactly what will their program entail; and who will be in charge of it? To understand this, we need to go back in time; I mean some six thousand years back in time.

As I re-read the lyrics to "Imagine", the Lord opened my

spiritual eyes even further; and showed me how this song contains the very same deceptive tactics that Satan has used since the beginning of Creation. For me personally, it isn't difficult to picture sly Satan in the Garden of Eden, as he tempts the beautiful Eve by saying something similar to the following: "Eve dear, imagine; all you have to do is to eat of the fruit of the forbidden tree, and you will become as a goddess knowing good and evil. Imagine it, Eve! Think how wonderful that would be! Imagine, Eve; it's easy if you try! Imagine yourself a goddess, Eve! Just take a little bite of the fruit, Eve. Come on; you can do it, Eve! It's not really that difficult; it's easy if you try. And while you are at it, give some to Adam too, so he can also enjoy his new status as a god." Isn't this precisely what John Lennon is asking us to do when he says to "Imagine there's no Heaven; it's easy if you try"?

Some four thousand years later, that sly old serpent used the very same tactics with our Lord as he showed Him all of the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. Can't you too imagine Satan saying to Jesus: "Imagine, Jesus; this can all be yours! I have the power to give it to you. Imagine, you can be the king of this world, Jesus! All you have to do is to bow down and worship me. Come on, Jesus; it's easy if you try! Just bow down to me! Imagine; the world will be yours!."

Isn't that amazing? About six thousand years have passed since Eden, and Satan continues to use the very same bag of tricks with the people of the world. He has been singing the very same song, "Imagine", all of these years; and the rulers of this world continue to be deceived by the god of this world. They still think that they can achieve worldwide peace without accepting the real Prince of Peace; but they are terribly mistaken. Well, as we know from the Scriptures, God may grant them their desire for a short time, in order that they might fill their cup of iniquity; but at the same time, He will send leanness to their souls. In other words, He will make them awfully sorry that they ever desired such things:

"And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul."  
Psalms 106:15, KJV

It should be clear then, that just as I pointed out in part two of this series, this unseen spiritual battle has been primarily fought with thoughts and with words; and it will soon come to its dramatic conclusion when the ultimate blasphemer against God finally arrives on the world stage; that is, the Beast of the Book of Revelation; also known in the Book of Daniel by such names as "the little horn" and the "vile person". This man will be an extremely subtle political leader who will be totally yielded to Satan. He will be a master of deception, and his flattering words will be the downfall of many. Consider the following verses:

"And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries . . . And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits . . . Now when they shall fall, they

shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries."

Daniel 11:21, 32, 34, KJV

Years ago, John Lennon sang "All we are saying, is give peace a chance". While this thought is not evil of itself, and is in fact a very worthy objective to strive for, it is in how we each seek to obtain this peace in our lives that makes the big difference. As I have stated before on various occasions, there can be no real lasting peace in this world, unless the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ Himself, is the central pillar of our lives. This is a major doctrine of the New Testament. Consider the following verses:

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

John 14:6, KJV

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Isaiah 26:3, KJV

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7, KJV

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

John 14:27, KJV

"Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."

Psalms 119:165, KJV

Any other road to peace, and any other kind of peace, is in reality a false peace, a deceptive peace; and it will not last. This worldly peace through worldly human solutions, without God in the picture, is exactly the kind of peace which is currently being sought for in the Middle East. Not only that, but we are also told by the Prophet Daniel, that the coming demonic leader known as the little horn, the vile person, the Beast, will destroy many nations through his talk of peace. The following verse makes this very clear:

"And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand."

Daniel 8:25, KJV

"And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries . . . He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time."

Daniel 11:21, 24, KJV

Thus far we see that this Beast will use great flattering words, and will talk of peace in order to achieve his evil agenda. In his song "Imagine", John Lennon also speaks of people "sharing all the world". Again, the prophecies of Daniel clearly indicate that this will be another tactic which will be used by the Beast, in order to extend his control of the nations. In other words, he will share the wealth with the poor in order to increase his popularity. Consider the following verse again:

"He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time."

Daniel 11:24, KJV

Thus we see that through deceptive talk of peace, as well as through sharing the wealth with the poor, exactly as Lennon envisioned in his song, the Beast of the Book of Revelation will come to full power; and no Earthly force will be able to stand against him! In fact, the Apostle John informs us that the world will be shocked, and will stand in awe and wonder at the power of the Beast; but that will be because they will not realize at first that he is actually empowered by Satan. Please note that in the following verses, the word "wonder" is derived from the Greek word "thaumazo", which means to marvel at something, or to hold something in admiration:

"And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"

Revelation 13:3-4, KJV

"The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

Revelation 17:8, KJV

While the Christ-rejecting nations of the world will at first naively swallow the Beast's talk of peace; and believe that he can give them a united world like that envisioned by John Lennon; eventually they will wake up; and discover the gravity of their error; but by then it will be too late! The net will already have been drawn up; and they will be in it! Unlike them, those of us who have heard the voice of warning of the Lord, and who have obeyed His Word, will be able to say like King David of old:

"The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts."

Psalms 119:110, KJV

Right now, the children of the world may be happy with their

international banking system of cash, checks, credit cards and the like; and they may be happy when the entire system is simplified for them even further with the worldwide introduction of Smart Cards; but soon they will realize that they are trapped with no way out! If they wish to continue enjoying the delicacies of Babylon the Great Whore, they will be forced to accept the damnable Mark of the Beast!:

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six."  
Revelation 13:16-18, KJV

In his pride, not being satisfied with just having economic control over the lives of his subjects, idolatry will also play a major role in the final government of the Beast. Like Nebuchadnezzar of old, we are told that the Beast will also have a great image of some kind made in his honor under the direction of the lying False Prophet. Just as two thousand years ago, Satan told our Lord "Bow down and worship me, and all of this will be yours", the evil Beast will not be happy until the world literally bows before his feet. In the thirteenth chapter of the Book of Revelation we find the following verses:

"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."  
Revelation 13:11-15, KJV

Thus we see, that by the time these events occur, the one true God of Heaven and Earth will have been totally removed from the minds and hearts of many people of the world, and they will bow down in total submission to the demonic forces of darkness. Those who offer any form of resistance will simply be killed. If you are interested in reading more about the Image of the Beast, and what it might possibly mean, I encourage you to read the thought-provoking series "The Seven Heads".

This then will be the ultimate result of man's endeavors to create his own secular, humanistic world. While these fools will believe that they have finally eliminated God from the picture, through their own pride and foolishness, they will have opened the way for a new god; who will challenge the Most High with his sharp serpentine tongue. Both the books

of Daniel and Revelation tell us that this demonic dictator will not spare his words, but will defy the Most High God as he sits upon his Earthly throne ruling over his Kingdom of Darkness. This smooth-talking deceiver's lack of reverence for the true Lord of Heaven and Earth is clearly revealed in verses such as the following:

"And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."  
Daniel 7:25, KJV

"And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done."  
Daniel 11:36, KJV

"And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven."  
Revelation 13:5-6, KJV

As I explain in some of my other Endtime articles, through his deceitful words, this political schemer will eventually lead the armies of the nations of the world to the Hill of Megiddo in the northern part of the tiny State of Israel; where they will foolishly challenge the very Word of God Himself. It will be word against Word; the lie against the Truth; Satan against Jesus Christ; the Living Word of God:

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty . . . And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."  
Revelation 16:13-14, 16, KJV

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."  
Revelation 19:11-15, KJV

Of course, the Holy Scriptures already make clear to us the outcome of this colossal battle between Good and Evil, and between the Truth and the lie. The Beast, the False Prophet



and their followers will be utterly defeated as the Lord Himself speaks the Word and sends these satanic leaders to the lake burning with fire and brimstone:

"I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time . . . But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end."

Daniel 7:11-12, 26, KJV

"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh."

Revelation 19:20-21, KJV

Thus we see that from the beginning of Creation, when Satan defeated man through the spoken word, to the last chapters of the Bible where Jesus Christ Himself speaks the Word and destroys His enemies; words play a very important role in the spiritual battle between the forces of Good and Evil. I also find it very interesting that just as the world was of one language in the days of Nimrod, during the past several decades, English has likewise been promoted more and more as the language of politicians, scientists and economists the world over. Many foreign countries now offer English courses via private tutors, in small private schools, in the public school system, and in many colleges and universities. It is engrained in every student that if he expects to excel in the modern world, it is imperative that he becomes fluent in the English language. In short; all of the different pieces of the puzzle are slowly coming together; and it is my guess that the current universalization of the English language may be by the intentional design of the behind-the-scenes planners of the coming New World Order.

Returning to John Lennon and the music industry, while many musical artists may not realize this, when they are idolized by their fans on such a grand scale as were the Beatles and many other super groups, they become instant role models for the same; whether they like it or not. They can have either a positive effect, or a negative effect on their followers. It all depends upon to whom they yield themselves in their private lives; that is, to God or else to Satan. It is my opinion, that as a role model for two generations of youth, John Lennon failed God miserably. Instead of steadfastly pointing to Jesus Christ as the only Saviour of the world, through his proud comments, and his music, John Lennon trod underfoot the same. As we saw towards the beginning of this series, God simply will not put up with such foolishness. King Nebuchadnezzar was humbled like a beast of the field for seven years; and King Herod was smitten of worms; when they failed to give God all of the glory that He rightfully deserves. This is a very serious matter, for as the Apostle

Paul wrote:

"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"  
Hebrews 10:26-29, KJV

It is obvious that Lennon was aware of the Truth contained in the Scriptures. He knew the only true way to Salvation. As we saw earlier, during the sixties, he devoted a lot of time to reading books which were of a religious nature; and that included the Bible. How did he sum up his feelings towards Christianity? Let me again remind you of some of his statements:

----- Begin Quote -----

"Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue with that; I'm right, and I will be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now; I don't know which will go first - Rock 'n Roll, or Christianity. Jesus was all right, but His disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me."

----- End Quote -----

If there is one thing of which I am certain, it is that one of these days, John Lennon is going to have to stand before God and answer for his crimes against humanity; for to say the things that he did, and to sing a song like "Imagine", which robs people of Eternal Life through promoting a world without faith and without God, is truly a crime. the Holy Scriptures plainly tell us that we will all have to give an account before our Creator. Consider these verses:

"But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."  
Matthew 12:36, KJV

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."  
Romans 14:12, KJV

"Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead."  
1 Peter 4:5, KJV

Personally, I am glad that I won't be standing in Lennon's shoes on the Day of Judgment. His sins of personal pride and rebellion against the Lord are indeed a serious matter. As I point out in a number of my other articles, when King Saul leaned to his own understanding and tried to do things his own way, instead of God's way, he was rejected as being king over Israel; because God could simply no longer trust him.

In the first Book of Samuel, we find the following verses:

"And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king."  
1 Samuel 15:22-23, KJV

Please notice that the Lord equates rebellion against Him to witchcraft; in other words, it is equivalent to satanic worship. As we saw earlier, there can only be one master in our lives; and it is either the Lord, or else it is Satan. Jesus Himself tells us that those who are not for Him, like John Lennon, are against Him; and not only are they against Him, but they are scattering His true sheep abroad; they are scattering them and leading them astray from the true Gospel of Jesus Christ:

"He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."  
Matthew 12:30, KJV

"But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."  
Matthew 18:6, KJV

As I have pointed out on a number of other occasions, that word "offend" in Old English does not mean the same thing that it means today. It is derived from the Greek word "skandalizo" which means to place an obstacle in one's way so that they stumble and fall. In this case, as is born out by others verses in the Bible, what Jesus is really saying is that anyone who places an obstacle in the way of His little lambs so that it cause them to fall and lose their faith in Him, is in very serious trouble with His Father; and this is precisely what John Lennon has done with his song "Imagine".

While on the surface "Imagine" has appeared to many people as a wonderfully idealistic song full of hope, peace and togetherness for the future, it is actually a song of open rebellion against God. It inspires people to do away with God, and with any form of religious belief in their lives. It paints religious people as part of the problem, and not as part of the solution; at least John Lennon's solution. The words of "Imagine" have reached literally millions of people worldwide, in live concerts, on tapes and records, on television and radio, on compact discs, and in all forms of printed matter. Millions of minds have been drugged by the idea of a utopian world full of peace where God plays no part; and where man, through his secular humanistic ideas and innovative technology, has finally become his own god.

In short, John Lennon was a false musical shepherd who played his devilish tune and mesmerized millions of youth away from their faith in God and His Holy Word. Is it any wonder then that God could simply not ignore such a great

sin, and had to shut up the mouth of this New Age false prophet? While millions of people around the world were shocked by the startling news which was reported one night in 1980, as Christians who know and believe that our God is all powerful; that He intervenes in the affairs of men whenever He so desires; and that nothing happens in this world unless it is according to His Divine Will and Purpose; we should not doubt for a moment that God's Hand finally wrought justice against one who defied Him in such a public way before the world. As we all know, John Lennon met a sudden and unexpected death at the hands of an assassin in 1980 as he left his Manhattan apartment:

----- Begin Quote -----

#### GOVERNMENT BEHIND MURDER OF LENNON, SON SAYS

Was the U.S. government behind the murder of former Beatle John Lennon? That's what Lennon's son, Sean, says in the latest issue of the New Yorker. Sean Lennon, 22, says his father was "a countercultural revolutionary" who was "dangerous to the government" because of his popularity with fans. "These pacifist revolutionaries are historically killed by the government," Sean Lennon said. Mark Chapman is in prison after pleading guilty to shooting Lennon in Manhattan in 1980. Chapman says voices told him to do it.

----- End Of Quote -----

While some people, particular John Lennon fans, may be offended by my words, we cannot ignore the Truth found in the Holy Scriptures. In his Epistle to the Hebrews, the Apostle Paul wrote the following startling words:

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Hebrews 10:31, KJV

For most antichrist people, this kind of sudden judgment probably won't happen until Christ's return. For many, it might not even occur until the Great White Throne Judgment following the Millennium, which the Apostle John describes for us in the twentieth chapter of the Book of Revelation. However, for some people who have sinned against the Lord in a great way, by leading many others astray from the Truth found in His Holy Word, perhaps swift judgment is the only recourse to stop their foul mouths from committing further blasphemy against the Lord. Perhaps this is precisely what happened with John Lennon. Maybe the Lord had to stop him from further poisoning the minds of the young people with his antichrist beliefs. Please think about this. It was in John Lennon's power to do a lot of good for the Lord's cause; but instead, he chose to do evil.

Exactly how far-reaching has been the evil influence of John Lennon? To begin with, notice again the words of Lennon's own son, Sean, in the previous news clip. As you can clearly see, Sean claimed that his father should be praised as a countercultural revolutionary. In other words, the young man obviously idolizes his father. He probably wants to be just like him, in spite of the fact that John Lennon was openly opposed to the Lord in both his words and his songs. These

statements by Sean Lennon clearly reveal the great influence that his father's antichrist ideology continues to have on the youth of our current day. If you still doubt this, I would like you to consider the following.

While in the course of doing research for this series, I did some web browsing to make sure that I had my facts straight. You can't imagine my surprise when I came across some sites which asked questions like "What three people would you most like to meet?", or "Who are your most popular historical figures?" Believe it or not, some people answered Jesus Christ, immediately followed by John Lennon; or else they answered John Lennon immediately followed by Jesus Christ! That should be enough to shock any sincere Christian. It certainly seems to confirm John Lennon's own words which I shared earlier! Some of those people put Lennon on par with Christ, or even above Christ! Another site I came across claimed that John Lennon's role in life was to fulfill what Jesus Christ never accomplished! What satanic lies and absolute garbage! Jesus Christ fulfilled His Mission to the letter; exactly as His Father had ordained. If He hadn't, you and I, dear reader, would be in a lot of hot water right now; or we might soon be visiting a place called the Lake of Fire! This then is some of the rotten fruit of John Lennon.

In conclusion, it is truly ironic that eighteen years after his death, just like the Beast in the Book of Revelation who will have an image built in his honour, the image and evil philosophy of John Lennon continues to live on through "Imagine". Perhaps this fallen idol is even more dangerous in death, than he was in life. What do you think?

With these thoughts I will bring this series to a close. I pray that you have found it informative, and that it has been a blessing in your life. If you have been inspired by it, I encourage you to share its URL link with all of your online friends. Also, if you have an account with Facebook, Twitter or Google+, I would very much appreciate if you would take the time to click on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you!

For additional information, you may want to refer to the list of resources below, which are also located on the Endtime Prophecy Net web server:

Nephilim: The Giants of Genesis  
Plight of the Children  
The Fruits of Disobedience  
The Kings of the North and the South  
The Seven Heads

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