

Our Lord Jesus Christ gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father. Galatians 1:1-5

Sermon to the saints called out and assembled at Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas, on July 19, 2026.

*“Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;) And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia: Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from **our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:** To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.” Galatians 1:1-5*

This letter from Paul was written to the churches in the region of Galatia. “[T]he members of these churches seem to be chiefly, if not altogether Jews, since the apostle includes them with himself; as having been under the law, under tutors and governors, and in bondage under the elements of the world, and to whom the law had been a schoolmaster, though now they were no longer under it as such, #Ga 3:23-25 4:1-3 or however, though some of them might have been originally Gentiles, yet, previous to their conversion, had become proselytes to the Jews, and now were returning to Judaism again, as appears from #Ga 4:8-10.” (Gill). See map of Galatia on page 3. This map shows the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea and countries north. Paul had been used by God as an instrument for their establishment and settling in as true New Testament churches. Gill: “But after [Paul’s] departure from them, the false teachers got among them, and insinuated, that he was no apostle, at least that he was inferior to Peter, James, and John, the ministers of the circumcision; and these seduced many of the members of the churches in this place, drawing them off from the evangelical doctrine of justification by the

righteousness of Christ, persuading them that the observation of the ceremonial law, particularly circumcision, was necessary to their acceptance with God, and justification in his sight: wherefore the occasion and design of this epistle were to vindicate the character of the apostle as such [a instrument of the God to establish his church in the earth]; to establish the true doctrine of justification by faith, in opposition to the works of the law; to recover those who were carried away with the other doctrines; to exhort the saints to stand fast in the liberty of Christ, and to various other duties of religion; and to give a true description of the false teachers, and their views, that so they might beware of them, and of their principles.”

This present evil world.

“WHAT an amount of sorrow and misery beyond all calculation, and indeed beyond all conception, there is in this wretched world, this vale of tears, in which our present earthly lot is cast. Not a house, not a family, not a heart is there which does not sooner or later taste, more or less deeply, of this most bitter cup. How many, for instance, this morning have risen from their lowly beds, or rather their miserable floors, sunk into such poverty that they scarcely know where to get a morsel of bread to eat, or the poorest, meanest raiment to put on! How many, if not sunk into the same depths of absolute want, yet, like a drowning man in a deep and rapid stream, can scarcely keep their head above water in their daily struggle for the means of existence! How many are now mourning over family bereavements, the delight of their eyes being taken from them at a stroke, or by lingering illness! How many youthful hearts, just in the first opening dawn of life, are bleeding under the deepest wounds inflicted upon their tenderest and warmest affections! How many are lying upon their beds of pain and languishing, and some at this very moment struggling and gasping in the agonies of death and leaving this world

without hope!” (JC Philpot’s sermon on this subject dated 10/1/1861)
Brother Philpot, you had not seen anything yet.

I’m suggesting this is a world view but also is the view of this country. 8.2 billion people in the world; 342 million people in the USA; the same with some variety different.



Using Bible verses to frame the true picture of the sorrows heaped upon the sons of men, I call upon these examples: It is like Egypt when the angel passed through the land and smote the first-born. *"There was a great cry in the land, for there was not a house in which there was not one dead."* **Exodus 12:30**. Or like the inhabitants of Ekron, when God smote them for

their sins, and *"the cry of the city went up to heaven"* **1 Samuel 5:12**. Or like Ezekiel's roll, which was *"written within and without; and there was written therein lamentations, and mournings, and woe."* **Ezekiel 2:10**.

What is the cause of all this suffering, sorrow and misery?

Proverbs 26:2: *"As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come."*

But there is something still worse behind. Does God afflict willingly the sons of men? (**Lamentations 3:33**). Would there be such an amount of human wretchedness, unless there had been some provocation on the part of man, to bring down all these chastisements upon his guilty head? There is something then in this world, and something too in the heart of man worse than sorrow. There is sin. When we look at the stream of misery which runs down this wretched world and examine it a little more closely, we see that it is not a stream of pure un-mingled sorrow. It is rather a sewer of corruption than a flowing river of unmixed grief, forever out of this sewer of corruption, there surge to the top such sad exhibitions of human wickedness and crime, as must appall the mind which is not altogether deadened.

"Look, for instance, at the crimes of the present day. What murders, suicides, deeds of violence, robberies, and hideous acts of uncleanness continually come to light; and how these in some instances, almost accidental discoveries, show what depth of corruption is really working and festering in the heart of man. As the leprosy which broke forth upon the forehead of King Uzziah only revealed the disease itself that had taken possession of his body #2Ch 26:19 so these open crimes that come from time to time to light, are merely marks and tokens of the deep-seated leprosy, that works underneath in the fabric of society as well as in the corrupt nature of man." (J.C. Philpot; same sermon from 1861). Again, Brother, if you only knew the tithe of what we see today. (There is a

phenomenon where people associated with the criminal justice system in this country, including lawyers and judges, suffer a form of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, which is diagnosable and treatable. These are simply witnesses to these crimes after the fact which facts are still wreaking havoc).

What a desperate and deplorable state should we be in if there were no remedy for this misery and wretchedness; remedy for this disjointed earth, as, like a mighty earthquake passing over it, made all its foundations out of course. **Psalm 82:5.** (*"They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course."*) What a present hell would it be if there were nothing in this world but sin and sorrow; if we had just for a few short weeks, or months, or years, to drink deep the cup of affliction, to be immersed in the floods of sin, to go down mourning to our grave, and then to open our eyes in endless misery! But O look up, ye mourning saints, who are often bowed down with worldly grief and sorrow, and much more frequently and much more heavily by the deep corruptions of your heart, look up and see that ray of heavenly light shining across this black gloom, this dense darkness, as a beam of sun sometimes in a moment lights up the face of the earth. *"Through the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."* **Luke 1:78-79.**

"Can you not hear, as it were a voice from God that speaks to the guilty sons of men, even such a voice as the shepherds heard when the heavenly choir sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men?" Can you not see how mercy appears coming forth, as from the bosom of God, with angel form? How she speaks as with an angel voice to the sons of men, and tells them that there is a balm for all their woes, a cure for all their diseases'? Can you not see a hand which, points

to the atoning blood and the justifying obedience of the Son of God, and says, "This is the remedy, the only remedy, which God has provided for all the sin and sorrow which are in the world." Were it not so why need I preach? Why need you hear? If there were no mercy for the sinner; if there were no cure for the sick; if there were no salvation for the lost; if there were no door of hope for the despairing, why need I this morning stand before you, and why need you sit to hear what I may speak in the Lord's name?" (Philpot's same sermon from 1861).

Our text opens up very sweetly and blessedly the remedy which God has provided for all this misery, the healing balm which he has brought to light in the sufferings, blood-shedding, and death of his dear Son as the way of pardon and peace to all who deeply and spiritually feel themselves to be poor, sinful, guilty transgressors. This had to be a great measure of joy and gladness for these foolish Galatians. **Galatians 3:1**: "*O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?*" Are we less foolish? Maybe not on that matter; but others.

This is my outline, then: With help from the Father of Lights, with whom there is no variableness nor shadow of turning (James 1:17), I hope from the Bible to show you how and why this is an evil world, how our blessed Lord gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from it, that this was in accordance with the will of God and our Father, and how this will produce an eternal and plenteous resource of praise: "To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

You can certainly see one of the foundations of all our hope is: the doctrine of the Total Depravity of Man. Many sermons directly and most sermons obliquely delivered from this pulpit have expounded that doctrine.

The present is an "evil world": that is God's testimony about it. You may say, "It is a beautiful and glorious world; if I live to enjoy all the happiness

which I can possibly get out of it, it is nonsense to talk about it being such a miserable world. It is true there may be some unhappiness in it; but that is man's own fault. Did not God make it a beautiful world, and can we think that he meant it to be an unhappy one, or that we should be poor unhappy creatures in it?" Such is the language of many a heart, the utterance of many a lip; let God be true but every man a liar (**Romans 3:4**).

If God has pronounced this to be an "evil world," not all man's vain reasonings, not all man's plausible speeches will alter God's testimony. Man may call evil good, and good evil; man may put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter; man may call darkness light, and light darkness. (**Isaiah 5:20**). But man's testimony does not alter God's reality. If the mouth of God has declared the present world to be "evil," not all the lies of Satan nor all the plausibility of man put together can ever make it to be good.

But what is the world? What does the Holy Spirit mean by the expression, which so often occurs in the New Testament? Does he mean the material world, that wide and spacious earth which we see with our bodily eyes, and upon which our feet tread? It is true that God cursed the earth for man's sake, but there is nothing inherently evil about the material earth. **Genesis 3:17,18**. "The world" here does not mean the material, literal world daily spread before our eyes, but the men and women who dwell in it; for the material world, though it does partake of the curse of the Fall, is not in itself evil, that is, not sinful as the heart of man is who dwells upon it. It is perfectly true that the sin of man has corrupted every spot where it has fallen and carried misery in its train, so that in a sense "*the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together*" (**Romans 8:22**) under the burdens which the sin of man has laid upon it. But the term "world," as used by the Holy Spirit in the word of truth, signifies not so much material creation, as the men and women who are inhabitants of it, and especially as distinguished in the mind of God from his own chosen family.

But was man always evil? Did not God create him in his own image, after his own likeness and pronounced it “*very good*”? (**Genesis 1:31**) Evil, then, though man may be, he did not become evil from the hands of his Maker. It was not possible that a good God could create an evil man, and that a pure Jehovah could create an impure being. Job asks the pregnant question, “*Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?*” (**Job 14:4**). But may we not reverse the inquiry, and say, “Who can bring an unclean thing out of a clean?” No; an enemy hath done this. It was with the Fall, as we read in the parable of the tares in the field. The sower sowed wheat; but whence came the tares? Not from him who sowed the wheat; but “*while men slept an enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.*” **Matthew 13:25**. Satan was the enemy who sowed tares in the wheat field; and Satan it was that sowed sin in the heart of man; for he was permitted, in God’s wise, unerring providence, to deceive the woman; she was permitted to entangle the man and draw him into her transgression; and thus “*by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that, or in whom [margin] all have sinned.*” **Romans 5:12**. That is the source of all the evil which, is now, or ever has been in the world, for that one sin introduced every other sin with it. It brought in its train every iniquity that ever has been conceived by the imagination, uttered by the lips, or perpetrated by the hands of man. **Genesis 6:5**: “*And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*” Thus, as the acorn contains in its tiny shell the whole oak with all its branching foliage; so that one sin conceived in the mind of our first parent contained in itself all those branches of sin which have covered the world. [The way the flesh-eating plant spread in “Little Shop of Horrors” captures this picture for me; and the music is not bad, either]. Every faculty of man fell in the fall from its primitive purity and strength. “It was as though in the midst of a bright day the sun had in a moment gone

down and darkness fell upon the scene; it was as if an earthquake had rent the solid foundations of the earth; or as if a mighty volcano had suddenly opened its mouth in the soil to pour forth clouds of sulphurous smoke and streams of boiling lava. In a moment, as if by a sudden shock, man's whole nature underwent a change, stricken down by sin as by palsy or leprosy. His understanding became darkened, his judgment corrupted, his conscience deadened, his affections alienated, and all that warm current of purity and innocence which once flowed in a clear stream towards God, became thickened and fouled with the sin that was poured into it from the mouth of Satan, and was thus diverted from its course of light, love, and life to run into a channel of darkness, enmity, and death." {Philpot's 1861 sermon} Thus the fountain was corrupted at its very source, and from this springhead have all the streams of evil flowed which have made the world a field of blood.

This is the fountain whence have issued all that misery and wretchedness which in all ages and in all climates have pursued man from the cradle to the grave; which have squeezed millions of tears from human eyes; which have broken thousands of human hearts; which have desolated home after home and struck grief and sadness into countless breasts. But. Oh! this fountain of sin in the heart of man has done worse than this; it has populated hell; it has swept and is still sweeping thousands and tens of thousands into eternal perdition. Let us, then, not be juggled into a vain persuasion by the prince and god of this world that it is either a good or a happy world. This is a part of his witching wiles whereby he deceives the hearts of men by vain shows. He must not speak ill of his own principality or of his own dominion, though, like himself, it is full of darkness and despair. Let us not believe Satan's lies but God's truth; and this we certainly shall do if we have the teaching and testimony of God himself in our consciences.

Let this, then, be firmly settled in your heart and mind by the testimony of God in the word, and by the corresponding witness of the Spirit in our breast, that is an "evil world." The world, however large, is but an aggregate of human hearts, for as in water face answers to face so the heart of man to man; and as my heart is but a copy of your heart, and your heart but a copy of every other man's heart, we carry in our own bosom, if our eyes are enlightened to see what really and truly takes place there, a conviction that it is an evil world, because we find the evil of the world alive and rife in our own breast.

Now we are in a posture to talk about how our Lord Jesus Christ has provided a full deliverance by giving himself for our sins. You see that without the foundation of the Total Depravity of Man, what is there to deliver from and how can one truly appreciate this giving of himself for that deliverance? Which, hopefully we can get to next time. The Lord willing.

Hebrews 13:20-21: *"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."*