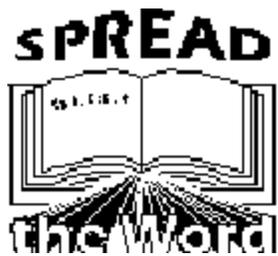


# WHAT DOES EVIL DO?

Rationalizes  
It Assassinate  
Is Self-Destructive  
Tries to Solve the World's Problems  
What Attitudes Sustain the U.S.A.?

taken from  
1 Timothy 1:18

**Third in a Four Part Series**



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Divine Viewpoint

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## WHAT DOES EVIL DO?

**W**e're in 1 Timothy 1:18. In our study of Timothy, Timothy has received a letter from the apostle Paul, 1 Timothy, exhorting him to charge the people in Ephesus that they are in a spiritual warfare. It seems that Timothy is knowledgeable as far as the Word is concerned, but one of his problems is that he has problems making application. Many people have difficulty in making application of the Word of God to their experience. They either misapply the principle, or they don't apply. One of the misapplications that you run across is that people may be out of work and so they say that they are trusting the Lord to provide a job for them, so they just sit and don't do anything. That is a misapplication of that principle. The idea is that while you look for employment the Lord will supply the employment. There are people who misapply principles and people who don't apply. Timothy seems to be one of them. He's a student of Paul's and he was knowledgeable in the Word, but he had a problem with misapplication.

In 1 Timothy 1:18 we have taken up the principle of what the Bible speaks about evil. We brought out several principles so far and we'll continue this evening with it, to make a capsule out of what the Bible calls evil. Paul has told Timothy, he has charged him, he has commanded him, to let those people and pastors in Ephesus know that they are in a spiritual warfare. **We Are in a Spiritual Warfare.**

The word "evil" appears many, many times in Scripture. A lot of times when people read about evil, they think it is something that is really gross and overt. But usually **it is not!** It's something that isn't even sin, at times. And sometimes sin and evil do cross. So, if you have been studying with us the last couple of weeks, we'll pick it up where we left off. Up to this point we've stated in principle form: 1) For definition of the word "evil"—Evil is the method of operation of Satan as the ruler of this world. That's his method. He has a policy. He has a plan. And for a one word title for his plan, it would be "evil." 2) Evil includes many things besides sin. Occasionally sin is included, but evil would include something like

**human good.** Evil would include something like **man by man's efforts trying to solve man's problem is apart from God.** Evil would include, for example, *socialism*. So, there are many, many things that evil includes. 3) The believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, who is GRACE oriented, is **protected** from evil. Obviously a believer who is interested in the Word of God, takes in the Word of God, builds up storage of the Word in his soul, and this is the believer's insulation against evil. In other words, these are the doctrinal thoughts. 4) When you're negative towards the Word, then this causes the believer to be changed by evil. When you reject the Word of God then you reject your only protection against evil. Naturally, the solution to that is **don't be negative to the Word of God.** 5) The issue to the believer is this: Are you influenced by the Word of God, or are you influenced by evil? You have to decide. You have to know what to do about it and we brought out passages on that also, 6) The Word of God neutralizes evil. This point is absolutely necessary because this is a basic concept of recovering from the influence of evil.

7) Evil distorts GRACE. In this particular distortion we have the concept that one little evil thought, one satanic viewpoint, can cause the infiltration of evil in the soul. We brought out Verses on that? Psalm 38.

8) Evil also distorts establishment. We brought out Psalm 50:16-21.

9) Negative believers are influenced by evil. We brought out Psalm 36: 1-4. We spoke about that quite a bit.

This evening we start out and continue with principle 10 on evil. Again, the background is that Paul is writing to Timothy and Timothy has not been doing his job, verse 18 of the first chapter. Paul is telling him about the warfare that he is in. And he's in a spiritual warfare. Now, the 10th principle on what the Bible has to say about evil. See, you have to change your thinking when it comes to a term like "evil." You have to change your thinking when it comes to the word "sin," for

example. When you mention “sin” to someone they think about some overt thing that is repulsive. Yet we find out from the Bible that sin is a **mental attitude**. We find out from the Bible that sin is, for example, gossip, or maligning. We find out that out of the seven worst sins God says only one of them is overt, and three are mental and three are sins of the tongue. So, when you begin to study the Bible, you have to change your viewpoint as to what sin is, just as you do to what evil is.

10) Evil rationalizes. People often rationalize their decisions. One of the things that evil must do to avoid any guilt reaction, and to do evil therefore, it has its own system of rationalization. In order to rationalize you have to distort the conscious.

Well, here’s what you’re really like. Here’s your soul:

You have self-consciousness—which means that you’re aware of yourself and things around you. You have mentality—which is where you think. I know some men do not think that their wives think, but they do. But they may not think the way you want them to think. But they do think.

You have volition—which means you have free will and you make decisions. Some of you made decisions to come here this evening, and I personally appreciate it.

You have emotions—and in your emotions you appreciate things.

I don’t know if you watched any of the news today. They were celebrating the 40th anniversary of VE Day. I don’t know if that did anything for your emotions or not. I was ridiculed yesterday because someone asked me if I was in the service and I said yes. Then they said “How could you? That’s so brutal and ghastly.” And I said “How old are you?” “22.” I said “Did you know you wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for some of the ghastly things that we did?” That blew him right away. But, when I watched some of the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of VE Day I had some emotional responses. And also some chills, because at any given moment I would not have been here either. I could appreciate that. I saw those markers and I could recall some of the people who I had forgotten who were friends

of mine and who are no longer here. I wasn’t a Christian in those days and I really don’t know where they are. I thought to myself, “If I’d only been a Christian then, maybe I would have been able to give them some information.” See, you can do all sorts of mental gymnastics. But, if I had died then, I would have gone straight to hell because I was out of it completely. But, that’s appreciation. That’s your emotions.

You have a conscious—which is your ruler, because that’s your norm and standard. We all have norms and standards. But, you see, evil rationalizes. One of the things that evil must do to avoid any guilt reaction is to have its own system of rationalization. In order to rationalize you must distort the conscious. And so the conscious ignores the norms and standards of the Word of God. The Word of God says that you should not do certain things.

I’m dealing with one tonight. After class there’s a couple coming. They are violating their norms and standards. I have to tell them. They’ll be mad at me and I will no longer perform their marriage ceremony.

The conscious ignores the norms and standards set up by the Word of God. It sets up your own norms and standards. With these human viewpoint norms and standards you can go out and do anything that you want to do. The Scripture says that a believer should not marry an unbeliever. So, in order to violate that norm and standard, you say, “Well, I’ll lead this person to the Lord.” And you rationalize and you’ve just taken an evil concept and disregarded this norm and standard. The Bible says “No, do not marry them, no matter what you say.” Then you say “No, I’ll change him.” But he’ll change her. If God does not change the individual, then you can’t or I can’t, and no one else can.

That’s just a practical example of how evil changes a Divine norm or standard into a human norm or standard. Do you know why it happens? (I feel like I’m a psychologist, here tonight. Why am I doing this? I don’t know why I’m into this.) But, here’s your emotions and they dictate policy to your norms and standards. And you say that you want to

marry this person, and forget about the norms and standards. See, your **mind** is supposed to **dictate**. Your mind says "No, Charlie Brown. The Bible says no." But the emotions say "forget it, Charlie, because this is really the one. I can tell it. I can feel it all through my body." The mind says "forget it." Your emotions say "No. You're out of your mind." And they call that marriage. And then they say "what God has joined together, let no man put asunder." Well, there's a false premise. God **did not** join them together. Some idiot preacher did.

So, with human norms or standards you can go out and do anything that you want to do. Because the reality of what you are doing is lined up with the reality of those human norms or standards in your soul. Therefore, the Word of God says "Woe to them who call evil good." Now, again, evil is not something grotesque. It's not talking about murder. It's not talking about wife beating. It's not talking about abusing children. It is talking about a thought pattern. Once you set up a series of norms or standards in your soul, you call those good. And the conscious says, in effect, which is made up of norms or standards, that what you have accepted is good.

For example, there has been legislation for awhile, and you all differ on this principle, and I'm not asking for a vote, or trying to get your vote. You may be anti-gun. And you may think that it is a good thing to be anti-gun. You may be anti-war. And you may think that it is good. And that's your norm or standard. Well, I don't know if you know it or not, but both of the anti-gun and anti-war thinking the Bible says is evil.

You may be in for rock music. A lot of people are in for rock music. And you may really like to rock. And you set up a norm or standard and you call that good. Then you say "Hey, man, you're old fashioned, You like that 40's music, the big band sound. It lulls me to sleep. Why don't you just pep it up a little bit? You're out of it. Archaic. See, that's in and that's good." So you set up this norm or standard and say that rock music is good and the other is not. You may be for pot. A lot of people are. 99.9% are for marijuana. You may think that it's perfectly all right. I never talked

to anyone yet who didn't think that it was perfectly alright who was involved with it. Because of the fact that they're doing it, they have to say it is right. All of these kids in school smoke it, so you think it is alright and you set up that norm or standard in your soul and it lines up with what you're doing and you call evil good. So, again, the Scripture says "Woe to them who call evil good and good evil."

Universal military training is great. I'll explain it to you sometime. It's good. Laws of establishment are good. Voluntary education is good and compulsory education is bad. I don't know whether you know that or not. "Woe to them who call evil good, and good evil, who substitute light for darkness and darkness for light, who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter." That's the verse.

Principle 11). Conspiracy and revolution are also evil. Psalm 64:4, 5. I want you to know that the Bible is against revolutions. To clarify your thinking pertaining to the history books, we were not involved in an American revolution. That was not a revolution. Psalm 64:4, 5 says "to shoot from concealment at the blameless." That's merely the Biblical concept of assassination. "To shoot from concealment at the blameless." Psalm 64:4.

People, well-meaning people, want to assassinate some terrible leader in our country. That's the worst thing in the world to do. **Nothing is ever solved by assassination.** Nothing has ever been solved by assassinating, for example, any of the Kennedy's. Nothing has been solved by the assassination of Martin Luther King. Those men may have been evil, but the man who shot them was more evil. And it wasn't good. Whoever shot the Kennedy's was evil. Whoever shot at George Wallace was evil. Whoever took a shot at Theodore Roosevelt was evil. Whoever killed McKinnley was evil. Whoever shot Reagan was evil. When you knock someone like that out, the Kennedy's, they may not be particularly great for our country, **when you knock out an evil person you don't knock out evil.** All you do is have 10 people taking his place. The devil has people in training all of the time. **There always will be evil people in history.** I'll tell you what. Until the rapture of the

church, we will always have evil people in our country.

Scripture says "the days are continually evil." In order for the days to be continually evil there will be evil people. One of the titles for Satan is the Evil One. Again, it's not something grotesque.

There will always be evil people in history. Assassination doesn't solve anything. The sooner that people get it into their minds that it is the Word of God that solves problems, and not violence, the better off we'll be. What came out of the assassination of President Kennedy? Do you remember what happened? The worst anti-gun legislation that this country has ever seen. Nothing good ever came out of it, that was good. No matter how bad a person may be, assassination is **not** the answer. Execution, yes. But execution after a fair trial.

Assassination is just as evil, no matter how nice the person is who does the assassination, or how rotten or evil the person is who is assassinated. Assassination has **never solved anything and never will solve anything.** Assassination is not only a sin, it's called murder, but behind it is something worse called evil.

So, now you have the two crossing. Evil, the principle of assassination solving a problem, and then the principle of murder intertwining. When you add evil to first degree murder you have a terrible thing.

Revolution does the same thing. Revolution assassinates. And conspiracy assassinates. We have had assassinations in this country and no good ever came out of assassination or even an attempted assassination. Now, I'll tell you publicly, and you can throw stones and assassinate me if you want to, F.D.R. was an evil person. And someone tried to kill him and they didn't. It is good that they didn't. But that's not the solution. You don't wipe out evil by killing an evil person. Evil is going to be a system that will be here until the Second Advent of Christ. **You defeat evil in any generation with the Word of God.** That's the only way you defeat it. You never defeat evil by assassination. Evil cannot wipe out evil. Psalm 45 says "to shoot from concealment at the blameless. Suddenly they shoot at him and do not

fear. They hold fast to themselves an evil purpose." Once more. Psalm 45:4, 5, "to shoot from concealment at the blameless. Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear. They hold fast to themselves and evil purpose." Verse 4 describes assassination as murder. Verse 5 describes it as evil. The Bible interprets the Bible.

So, when you have sin plus evil you have the worst possible combination. They hold fast to themselves an evil purpose. They conspire to lay snares secretly. They say "who can see us?" Just remember once again, we do not ever advocate any violent overthrow of our government. That's predominantly the philosophy of South America. No matter how critical we may be of our government, taken from the standards set up by the Word of God, we do never advocate the violent overthrow, nor do we go along with any organization that does advocate the violent overthrow of our government.

That's one of the reasons why this church does not belong to any organization. We're autonomous. We don't belong to the National Council of Churches or the World Council of Churches, which teach that particular principle.

No matter how bad, no matter how corrupt the government may be, the answer is not to meet evil with evil. For evil plus evil doesn't fight evil. **It intensifies evil!**

Here's an illustration from history: The French Revolution. Another illustration from history: The Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. You fight evil with evil and you only intensify evil. France has never ever recovered from the French Revolution and never ever will, because of that principle. The French people are not today what they were a few hundred years ago. And they never will be again. France will never recover, even though there was a genius who rose out of the French Revolution and changed all of Europe.

And he was not a Frenchman, by the way. You know, there are a lot of people who do not understand that the English are not English, and the French are not French, and the Germans are not Germans. Do you know that Napoleon was not French? He was more Italian than French. He was a Corsican. But Corsicans

don't like the Italians and Corsicans don't like the French, but they tolerate both of them. But, Napoleon was a Corsican. And he wasn't a Frenchman. He became the ruler of France. And he brought them out of the French Revolution. But, even his genius could not change the evil accomplished.

Now, the Bourbon Dynasty had its roots in evil. There were true evils in the country. The government was evil. But, the evil that tried to corrupt the evil of the Bourbon Dynasty was twice as bad, and France has never recovered from the French Revolution. They never teach you that in history.

Russia. Pardon me for using the term. A six letter word. The dirtiest six letter word in the language is Russia! Russia and the world has not recovered from the Bolshevik Revolution. We're so dumb in our country. We're so unrealistic that we somehow think that these people want to be our friends! **They merely use friendship to gain breathing room.** But, their objectives, the Bolshevik Revolution, is going right on from 1917. And it continues at this present moment. **Its objective is to destroy the United States of America! and to make us a Bolshevik satellite!**

So, if you live long enough and you go along with this détente, then start drinking vodka and put some jam in your tea, because they're going to make a Bolshevik satellite out of you, just like Hungary and all the rest. But, remember the last angry man told you that. After you live awhile you begin to get honest and you don't care any more about popularity. And you begin to tell the truth. **That is their objective and it has never changed! They have made great strides because so many evils exist in our country.**

Compulsory education has been taken over by Communist thinking. This is not saying that the teachers are Communists, but they are so dumb that they propagate Communist propaganda without even knowing it. Some of them do, and some do not. We're so ignorant in this country about education, and compulsory education becomes a means of rearing a whole generation of monsters into the field of evil. Our whole system of education has

sponsored this type of thing. And education is not a good thing anymore. Education has become an evil thing and it's anti-Biblical.

I was talking today to a teacher in one of the best high schools in this city. And they're not allowed to use any text books because of some ridiculous principal. Some of the kids lost them and they didn't want to replace them so no one has any text books to study and a final is coming up tomorrow.

Wouldn't it be fine to get a bill through Congress to abolish compulsory education and bring in universal military training? Do you think I'd be killed for that one? And then to remove all federal funds from the support of education so we'd have to go back to private schools. Those in the teaching profession would have a shot at really doing something great in the field. Private schools are the answer, conservative private schools. And private schools should teach American principles and teach the principles of Christianity and not deny them. We're a long way from anything like that. This is now called "dreaming."

So, conspiracy and revolution are a part of evil. Now, remember this, when you think that you can solve the world's problems by assassination. No one's problems have every been solved by assassination and never will be. You can assassinate one evil man and Satan has many replacements, sometimes far worse. So, don't get the idea that assassination solves any problems. Proverbs 17:11 says, "A rebellious man seeks only evil continually." So, revolution and evil are synonymous terms.

Principle 12). Evil is, then, obviously self-destructive. If you're involved with evil in your thinking, it's self-destructive. It's like pulling the grenade. Psalm 34:21 says, "Who shall slay the wicked? Evil shall slay the wicked. And those who hate the righteous shall be condemned." So, evil, then, slays the wicked and this adds another point:

Principle 13). Evil people are always trying to solve the world's problems. They are trying to solve them by violence. One of the subjects and principles that they come up with is anti-Semitism. Anti-Semitism always thinks in these terms. Many times in anti-Semitism

you have people say this: "If we would kill all of the Jews in the world, we would have no problem." That's wrong. That's evil. That's vicious. Not only is it evil and vicious and God knew that you would say it in the 20th century. And so He warns you. Never ever touch a Jew. Leave him in God's hands completely. Anti-Semitism is the compounding of three different evils and two sins to come up with the magic number of five. A concentration of evil that is so bad, that has almost destroyed in this country the conservative movement. Because people who are conservatives frequently are anti-Semitic. Anti-Semitism is a greater curse than liberalism could ever be. Liberalism is idiotic. Anti-Semitism is the most concentrated form of evil in the world today. You don't ever fool around with Anti-Semitism.

But, if you do, just stay away from us. We don't want to be even numbered among those who think that way. Anti-Semitism is the most vicious form of evil that has ever existed. So, there's no simple, one-shot solution to every problem. Because history tells us, as it relates to the Word of God, that evil will continue to exist.

You know, it's really funny. Let me show you how ridiculous people are and how clever Satan is. He gets people on bandwagons. Food. Poor. War. You know, I could run on a platform and combines these three things and win every time. When I run for office I'm going to make sure that there's a chicken in every pot. Not only that, I'm going to rid this country of the poor. And thirdly, in my administration I'm going to abolish war. You'd buy that in a minute.

Now that's really funny, because here is the genius of Satan and the stupidity of people. Christ says "The poor you have with you always." And the politician, or some so-called mental genius, says "No. I'm going to rid the world of the poor." Christ says no, they're always going to be here until I return, the Millennial reign of Christ. "No, no way. I'm going to solve it, God." No. God says He's going to solve it. He said (this was so emphatic), "The poor you have with you always. Me you will not have with you always." They said "Forget about you. We want to solve the prob-

lems of the poor." That's what they've been doing ever since. He said "There'll be wars and rumors of wars until I come." They say "No, no, no. We're going to stop wars." No. "The United Nations." "No. Wars and rumors of wars until I come." Watch this one: He said "If you don't work, you don't eat." But the government says "You don't have to work. We'll feed you." But He says "If you don't work, you don't eat."

Now, what do you do with principles like that? Here are your norms and standards. Here's your conscience. That's what the Word says. Now, what do you do? You violate the Word and you add your own human norms and standards and away you go. That's evil!

History tells us, as it relates to the Word of God, that evil will continue to exist. The only answer to evil in any generation is concentration on the Word of God. The Word of God is the solution. **Get positive!** Get away from the idea that you can knock someone out and solve the world's problems, that you can assassinate someone and solve the world's problems, that you can get rid of the Jews and solve the world's problems. He says the Jews will be here forever. And war will be until I come. And the poor. And hunger also. So, you can't get rid of the Jews and solve the world's problems. "All days are continually evil." Poor and war until I come. The Jews will be here also. You can't get rid of all of the so-called minorities and solve the world's problems either. It can't be done. **You can't get rid of anything and solve problems.** The answer is a **positive answer. The Word of God.** So, evil, therefore, is very self-destructive. "Evil will slay the wicked: and those who hate the righteous shall be condemned."

Proverbs 24:19, 20, "Do not fret yourselves because of evil doers, or be jealous of the ones who are evil. For there will be no future for the evil: the lamp of the wicked shall be put out." "The lamp of the wicked shall be put out" is the Second Advent of Jesus Christ. In the meantime, the "lamp of the wicked" is dimmed, is put out in any generation, by the declaration of the Word of God. That's the answer. You know, it's really funny. No one wants to take the easy answer, which is the intake and

application of the Word of God That's the easiest of all.

Principle 14). This principle can be carried right home to your kitchen, or your office, or your car, or your family. You know, everyone has a norm and standard and this one really gets me. It may not get you. **Evil seeks to build happiness on someone else's unhappiness.** Think about it for awhile. You cannot build your happiness on someone else's unhappiness. Psalm 35:12 says, "They repay me evil for good through the bereavement of my soul." So, when evil is repaid for good, it always hurts the soul of the one who did the good. This is building happiness on someone else's unhappiness. You can never do that. People who are related always knock the person they are related to and try to build their happiness on that person's unhappiness. It won't work.

Principle 15). The law of Divine Establishment protects the human race from evil. By "the human race" I mean the born again believer and the unbeliever. The entire world is made up, first, we're all born physically into this world as unbelievers. You know at one time I talked to someone and they said they were a Christian. I asked them "What made them a Christian?" And they said that they were born one.

You know, we forget that we were born unbelievers. Most people think that because they were born in this country that makes them a Christian automatically. As opposed to being born in some third world country. But, you see, we're born into this world and we're lost, without Christ, without hope, without eternal life. That baby that you see, that you hold, is lost and without Christ. That baby has to accept Christ as Saviour.

So, we're born unbelievers. How can we be protected as unbelievers until we reach the point where we can be evangelized? You know, you take a baby that is born today, and say for five or six years they may not reach the age of accountability. Now, how can that child be protected so that child can be evangelized? How can that child be free to hear the Word of God? How can the Gospel come to us under

conditions of freedom? There must be freedom for evangelization and the answer is found in the laws of Divine Establishment. That's why Bible Christianity is always pro-establishment. That's why we're for universal military training. This is the basis for our freedom. All of the evangelism that has ever occurred in this country was accomplished on the battle fields. And then, unbelievers died on battle fields so that evangelism might continue in this country, so that from this country there might go out those who are missionaries to evangelize other parts of the world.

No matter how corrupt our country becomes, there are two principles in the Word of God that will sustain us and give God a reason to keep us here. One: Do not become anti-Semitic as a nation. Two: Send out missionaries. As long as we're breathing that way, taking the Word of God and exhaling it that way, soul breathing, communicating the Word, evangelizing, we have a purpose and a function. As long as we don't get involved with "I will curse them who curses him" and so on in Genesis 12, anti-Semitism.

This concept is a very strong one. The laws of Divine Establishment protect the human race from evil. You say, where did you get that one? Romans 13:3-4 says "For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior." "Good behavior" here is used for establishment.

"You'll have praise of the same," and that is staying with establishment. "For it, the laws of Divine Establishment, is a minister of God, to you for good. But if you do that which is evil, then be afraid, for it does not bear the sword for nothing: for it is the minister of God and a revenger who brings judgment on the one who practices evil." Now, in this passage, Romans 13:3-4, you'll notice that this is a place where sin and evil cross again. And we've seen it before.

We have seen the sin of pride crossing evil at certain points. We saw it at the fall. We'll see it again and again. Here's another one. This time crime produces certain types of sin. Crime is not only sin, but it is also evil. The evil in crime is anti-establishment. The sin in crime plus the evil in crime mean that

you must have capital punishment to control crime, because those who are involved in crime, and also are involved in evil? They must be extracted and removed from the human race. Capital punishment is the basic system for controlling crime says the Bible. Genesis 9 and Romans 13. The reason why capital punishment is important, is because it eliminates from society those who are influenced both by sin and evil at the same time. There is no incarceration, there is no rehabilitation that can solve the problem of the combination of sin and evil. It's impossible. So the combination demands that they be removed from society.

You see, we have lost freedom in this country because crime is not controlled. For example, you ladies cannot walk down some of the streets in Houston. You should be able to walk down the worst streets in Houston, but you can't simply because criminals are no longer executed. You can go into our prisons today and execute criminals who are serving any time for murder or rape or dope peddling, execute most of them and then from then on, if necessary, you'll be able to have ladies walking down the streets of Houston anywhere and be absolutely safe. Why? Because you must eliminate from society those who are involved with the combination of both sin and evil, and crime does that. Again, the principle is the laws of Divine Establishment are designed to protect the human race from evil.

Principle 16). There is no good in evil. We now move to another segment of this concept. Psalm 5:4, "Thou are not a God that takes pleasure in wickedness; no evil dwells in You." This is talking about God. "No evil dwells in You." What is God like? In other words, God is sovereign and there's no evil in God's sovereignty. God makes a sovereign decision to save the human race by sending the Lord Jesus Christ to the cross. That's His sovereign decision. He decides to save you and keep you that way. There's no evil in that sovereignty.

God is absolute righteousness. That means that He is absolutely right and there is no evil in His righteousness. God is perfect justice, which means that God is fair. And because God is justice and fair, there is no evil in per-

fect justice. God is love, also. There's no evil in perfect love. God's love has no evil.

God is eternal life. Eternal life pre-existed evil. It cannot possibly have evil in it and still be eternal life. Remember that God existed billions of years ago, without evil and without sin. So, there can be no evil or sin in eternal life which belongs to God.

God is omniscient. For example, it is impossible for an omniscient God to think evil. A passage says "He is of purer eyes, than to behold iniquity." He can appreciate evil and have provision for it, but the laws of Divine Establishment were supplied in eternity past. But God, in His omniscience, cannot think evil.

God, for example, is omnipresent. That's another characteristic. He can be around where evil is, but never be influenced by it. He is eminent and transcendent. Millions of years ago He was eminent and transcendent. He's eminent and transcendent now. He has never once been influenced by evil.

God is also omnipotent and He has the power to stop evil. God has the power to stop evil. "Greater is He that is in YOU, than he that is in the world." "He that is in the world" is Satan. He's the ruler of this world. "He that is in you" is God. He's greater than Satan, who is a creature.

God is also immutability. None of these characteristics can be changed to accommodate evil. God is absolute veracity, truth. Veracity is the antithesis of evil. Veracity is the source of the Word. Veracity is the source of anything that is true, honorable, or represents integrity in society.

We've added another characteristic to God. We call it "sense of humor." God's sense of humor tolerates these things in order to bring about the completion of the unseen conflict to its proper conclusion, of which we are a part.

So, God is minus sin. God is minus evil. God is minus the ability to tempt. God cannot tempt anyone. He is minus all of these things. That's what Satan does every day. James 1:13 says "Let no man say when he is tempted 'I am being tempted by God,' for God cannot be

tempted by evil. He Himself does not tempt anyone.” Since God has nothing to do with evil, since there is no evil in God, since the thought is blasphemous and unthinkable, we must recognize that His character does something with evil.

Principle 17). God judges evil. Psalm 34:16 says, “The face of the Lord is against evil doers.” “The face of the Lord” is an Old Testament phrase that has its counterpart in the New Testament, which is the word “glory.” “We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God.” The word “glory” is His essence, or character.

Now, “the face of the Lord” in the Old Testament is the same, His essence. Every part of Divine essence is opposed to evil. The sovereignty of God is opposed to evil. The righteousness of God is opposed to evil. The justice of God is opposed to evil. The love of God is opposed to evil. God’s eternal life if opposed to evil. God’s omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience, His immutability, His veracity, even His sense of humor is opposed to evil. So, God is in total opposition to evil.

You say, well, why then does evil exist? Well, for one reason only. There are three types of volition in the human race. Divine volition, or sovereignty, angelic volition, and human volition. The presence of volition in time makes it possible for evil to exist. Satan perpetuated his genius on certain parts of the human race. But God always judges evil. Isaiah 13:11 says, “Thus I will punish the world for its evil and the evil ones for their iniquity. I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud. I will base the pride of the dictator.”

Principle 18). So, in spite of evil, the Lord Jesus Christ continues to control history. Proverbs 16:3, 4 says, “Commit your works to the Lord and your plan will be established. The Lord has made everything for His own purpose, even the wicked for the day of evil.” Jesus Christ controls history. The greatest demonstration is the problem passage which we have to turn to now and get it clear once and for all.

Isaiah 45:7. There is a tremendous principle here on “in spite of evil, Jesus Christ continues to control history.” People have been plagued by Isaiah 45:7. It’s a strong passage on this particular subject, but a lot of commentators have mistranslated and misapplied it. It says “I am the Lord. There is none else. I formed the light and create darkness. I make peace, and create evil. I am the Lord and I do all these things.” Let’s stop and analyze this. “I am the Lord and there is none else. I formed the light and create the darkness. I make peace, and create evil.” Look at that. “I, the Lord, do all these things.” So let’s stop and analyze this. This is one that we can’t simply quote.

The corrected translation takes a little more time than that. Let’s review, first of all, the verbs for creation, because three of the four are used in this passage. There are four Hebrew words for creating. Three of the four are used here. One: Probably the most important of all, is the word BARA. BARA is translated created in the King James version. But there are four different Hebrew words. Now, this one means to create out of nothing. This means to create out of nothing. BARA was used for the creation of man’s soul. With that we have a second creation word related to the soul. That’s ASAH. It means to manufacture something out of something. See, two different words for creating. This is to manufacture something out of existing material. ASAH then is used for the creating of man’s soul, resulting in man’s personality. Man’s personality is related to his soul.

In other words, we all have self-consciousness. It’s a part of your personality. We all have mentality. Whether you think, or not, mentality is a part of your personality. We all have volition, negative and positive. That has to do with your personality. We have emotions. They have to do with your personality. We have a conscience and that has to do with your personality. And we have an old sin nature. And that’s a part of your personality. And even in your social life you have compatibility to run with people whose sins are the same as yours. That causes you to look down your nose at people who have sins that are

different from yours. And you may be highly critical of other people for sins, because you and your friends have a different brand of sins, and you're not even bothered in the area that they are. This is one of the great problems in the field of pride and self-righteousness. The fact remains, then, that our soul is BARA with all of its characteristics and from this comes our personality.

So, first of all, we have the word BARA, which means to create out of nothing. That's used for the various characteristics of the soul, the essence of the soul. Secondly, we have the word ASAH, which is the personality that emerges from the soul. Every one of us has a personality. It may be good. It may be bad. It may be pitiful. It may be obnoxious. It may be pleasing. It may be scintillating. It may be startling. But it's your very own and it is derived from your very own soul. The soul was created out of nothing. The personality is derived from the soul. So, that is the second word, ASAH.

The third and fourth words have to do with the body. The previous two had to do with the soul. Isn't it interesting? God the Holy Spirit uses the Hebrew and Greek languages because of their accuracy to depict His completed thought to the human race. So, the third and fourth words for creating in the Hebrew language have to do with the body in the human race. JATSAR. The man's body was said to be molded. Then we have BENAHA, which means to build. The woman's body is said to be built, or constructed. This word (JATSAR) is used for the man and this word

(BENAHA) is used for the woman's body. You know, they were created differently. Adam was created out of the dust of the ground and God breathed into his nostrils and he became a living soul. He put Adam to sleep and He took a part of him and He built the woman out of him. That's the rib. So, JATSAR is the man's body. JATSAR means to be molded. And BENAHA means to build. The woman's body is constructed.

These are the four words: BARA, ASAH, JATSAR, and BENAHA. Three of them are used in our passage. We'll not get to the fourth now, but will in the future. We're dealing with verse 3 only at this time. These first three are found in this passage. "I have formed the light, created darkness, I make peace and create evil." We have all three used in that passage, and guess what? We're out of time. We'll have to go into it in the next lesson.

Here we see the genius of Scripture. You didn't know that was there. But, you see, that thing possibly caused you a problem when you saw that words "created evil." You thought God created evil. **No! God can't create evil.** I was building up to that.

This pamphlet was taken from a class taught by Buddy Dano in his series on 1 Timothy on May 8, 1985.

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