

## Spiritual Turbulence in the World

A lot of Christian critics dismiss the Bible's writings of spiritual beings and powers and authorities as being so much rubbish with no application to the real world. It's just that their eyes have been blinded. The evidence is certainly there. Aristotle said, "Pretty much the most difficult things for men to understand are those furthest removed from the senses." Many people use the wind to illustrate this principle. But even that can be perceived by the senses, just not the sense of sight.

A better illustration would be gravity. It can't be seen, touched, smelled, heard or tasted. And yet, we know of its existence primarily because of the effects it produces on secondary objects.

So it is with spiritual powers. We cannot see them directly, but we can note their movements by the effects they exert on things that can be perceived by our senses.

The Bible speaks of evil powers - such as the "Prince of this world" - ie. Satan, but Christ is also described as a Prince in several passages. Then in Daniel 10, it describes how these powers push and struggle with each other, and when defeated, how other "Princes" fill the void. It follows with interpretations and explanations of events on the ground so that we can see with our senses what's happening in heavenly realms beyond our sense perception.

But the same is happening today, if we will pay attention to current events on the ground. The heavens are again in turmoil.

There are many spirits and forces at work in the world today. Princes and principles that motivate men and nations to act. There are major and minor powers. Russia and China possess a spirit that drives them to act - it's called Communism. Iran + Syria possess another - it's an Islamic one in general and Shi'ism in particular. Even in the

Western nations such as Europe and America, we have been possessed and controlled by an ungodly spirit, some call it Secularism, in general, perhaps Capitalism, Socialism, Democracy, etc... its a spirit that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. A spirit that sets its own values of right and wrong - "equality, liberty, brotherhood"; maybe freedom of choice - homosexuality, abortion, drug abuse... and passes laws and decrees that declare such ideals as right no matter what, or even in opposition to what God says.

This spirit in the West can be traced back to the French Revolution in 1789. The revolutionaries battle cry was "To overturn Altar and Throne." It led to the end of the Catholic monarchies all across Europe and the West. It was a cry of a people demanding "rights" to do as they pleased, against God's will. So we, as nations abandoned God and submitted to the Secular Spirit, believing that it and not God, would promise us happiness.

But unlike God's Holy Spirit - the Secularist spirit is not almighty. It can face opposition, and can, and is, being defeated. Its only a matter of time before the hour granted it is expired and another spirit exerts its influence over the world.

Look at Syria and Bashar Assads regime. It is a key Iranian ally, which places it in direct opposition to Secularism. Iran is a Shiite Theocracy, basically, and though their understanding of God is not entirely in alignment with the Truth - they do strive to place God's will (rightfully) above the will of the mob mentality. Regardless of all the lies and slanders coming from Western (Secularist) media sources - Iran is more righteous of a nation than we are.

And God's hand at work shows! For all of America's attempts to destroy Assads regime and impose a government more susceptible to control by its Secular Spirit - it is failing to do so. Why?

We've seen the nations controlled by the Secularist spirit throw all the resources under their control at Assad's regime - and yet it still stands. It's portrayed him as the bad guy in mainstream news outlets; it's encouraged the opposition/rebels with moral and advisory support; it's even pumped untold of numbers of dollars and weapons into the hands of the terrorists in an attempt to topple Assad's legitimate government.

It seems the Secular Spirit has limits. Not everyone embraces or adores it. Not everyone bows at its alter like the West we even see the Communist spirits of Russia and China opposing the Secular Spirit via Syria. While America arms and supports the terrorists - China and Russia arm and support the Government of Syria.

Once again - the Spirits are clashing. This may be a minor point of friction now, but like in Daniel 10 - eventually one spirit will succumb to the other.

Not everyone holds Secularist values. Not everyone believes that Money should be the prime Motivation in Military + diplomatic or even economic policy. Not everyone believes that American laws are an accurate reflection of what right and wrong is.

Not everyone will adopt such values or be intimidated into doing so. Some people will attempt to use reason to rationally justify their position to maintain governments that reflect their own beliefs and values, but when all peaceful means of redress have failed, some people will resort to the use of armed force to defend what they believe in.

Iran has something to believe in and fight and die for. Their loyalty to their god while we've abandoned ours when we allowed our western Christian Theocracies to be destroyed and replaced by the goddess in Washington. We could probably learn a lesson from them and turn back to Christ the King before the "Prince of the Air" - Secularism betrays us any further.