**BIBLE DISCOURSE**

(05/28/2023)

Watchman Catholic Charismatic Renewal Movement

(Voice of the Last Day Ministries Inc.), Toronto, Canada

**Topic: THE CHILDREN OF THE KINGDOM AND THE CHILDREN OF THIS WORLD (PART 4)**

**Texts: Matthew 8:12; 13:38; Luke 16:8; 20:34**

**INTRODUCTION:**

This part of our Bible teaching on the above subject matter is addressing the ***other side of the coin***, namely, ***the children of this world***. It is wonderful that there is the Bible, the book of books, where the truth on all matters has been put down.

In the past sessions of this discourse, we have dwelt on ***the children of the kingdom of God***. We have surveyed six other titles by which they are known, namely, ***the children of light*** (Lk.16:8; Jn. 12:36; Eph.5:8); ***the children of God*** (Matt.5:9; Rom.8:16,21; 1Jn.3:10; 5:2); ***the begotten of God*** (implied in Heb. 1:6: 1Pt. 1:3; 1Jn.5:18): ***the born of God*** (Jn. 1:13; 1Jn.3:9; 4:7); ***the elect of God*** (Lk. 18:7; Rom.8:33; Col.3:12; 1Pt.1:2) ***and the saints of God*** (1 Sam.2:9; Ps. 116:15; Acts 9:13,32,41; 26:10; Rom. 1:7).

We have also considered all that these titles denote of them that are so-called. In fact, numerous lessons have been learnt through the teachings/discussion.

After considering ***the children of this world*** hereunder, we will conclude with ***the great privileges of the children of the kingdom vis-a-vis the eternal reward for those who will remain and die as children of this world.***

**THE CHILDREN OF THIS WORLD (Lk.16:8: 20:34)**

In the two places where this title was used in the New Testament, it was used interchangeably to denote ***(i) the generality of human beings living in this world*** (Lk.20:34); ***(ii) human beings who do not have the light of God's word and Spirit or the nature of God in them*** (Lk. 16:8). It is this second usage that we are considering. Put in another way, the children of this world are ***those who are ruled or influenced by the ungodly traditions or trends in this present world, or who love this world and its ways*** (implied in Jn. 17:14-16; 1Jn.2:15-16).

As with the children of the kingdom of God, the children of this world have some other titles by which they are known, namely, ***the children of Belial*** (Deut. 13:13; Judg.20:13); ***the children of the wicked one*** (Matt. 13:38; Jn.8:41.44); ***the children of disobedience*** (Eph.2:2: 5:6; Col.3:6); ***the children of wrath*** (Eph.2:3); ***cursed children*** (2Pt.2:14.) Let us proceed to see the meaning and implication of these other titles.

1. *CHILDREN OF BELIAL (Deut. 13:13; Judg. 19:22; 20:13; 1Sam. 1:16).*

The Hebrew word for belial is "belivaal" meaning, worthlessness, wickedness, evil, and ungodliness. This title was used in the Old Testament sixteen times to denote people who were good-for-nothing, valueless, vile, and ungodly (1Sam.2:12; 10:27:25:17). Furthermore, Belial is used once in the New Testament as an epithet of Satan and all worthless people (2Cor.6:15). So, in light of this, the children of Belial also mean the children of Satan. It therefore follows that any persons who have traces of wickedness, worthlessness or vileness are children of Belial.

1. *THE CHILDREN OF THE WICKED ONE (Matt. 13.38; Jn.8:41.44; 1Jn.3:10).*

This is yet another title that the children of this world are known by. The wicked one is no other personality than Satan himself (Matt. 13:39). This title does not imply that some devils had some affair with the mothers of these people. Rather it means that, though they were born like all other people into this world, but when they grew up, they chose the way of sin - lies, hypocrisy, stealing, pride, gossip, cheating, immorality, unbelief, and all other forms of sin. By so doing they automatically plugged themselves into Satan, while pledging their loyalty and sonship to him, whether they know it or not (Cons.Jn.8:39-44).

1. *CHILDREN OF DISOBEDIENCE (Eph 2:2; 5:6; Col.3:6).*

This title gives us another perspective on the children of this world. They are called children of disobedience because they have nothing to do with, nor do they bother to obey the word of God. Now, any person who is disobedient to God's word in any area of life, or to parents in the things that are not sinful, or to laws, rules, and regulations of traffic or of the nation, in general, is a child of disobedience (comp. Rom.13:1-7; Tit.3:1). All such people are daily being influenced by these fallen or disobedience angels (spirits) (Eph.2:2).

1. *CHILDREN OF WRATH (Eph 2:3).*

This is another fearful and worrisome title which the Holy Spirit has given to some sons of men. This means that they are daily getting set for God's eventual wrath (whether they know it or not). One or two examples of God's wrath need be relayed here to remind us of what is being expected in hell fire, the final and eternal instrument of God's wrath for the children of this world (cons. Gen.6:5-7; 7:11-22; 19:12-26; 2Pt.2:4-6; Jude 6-7). This is one of the aspects of the doctrines of God that many people who indulge in sin refuse to accept, claiming that God is so good that He cannot have such punishment for His creatures. This they do in ignorance or feigned ignorance, not realizing that God is the God of justice and justice demands punishment for error. Besides, although God is the embodiment of love (1Jn.4:8, 16), yet His mercy shall cease and His wrath revealed when the impenitent departs this world (Rom.2:4-11; 11:22).

1. *CURSED CHILDREN (2Pt.2:14).*

Here again, is another title of the children of this world that any reasonable person must strip him/her off. In 2 Pt.2:10-19, we find the description of people in this world regarded as cursed children. Note well that such cursed children can still be found in church; however, they are found majorly in the world, particularly among those who hold some pseudo-religious or non-religious.

**NOW THE QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

1. Enumerate the other titles by which the children of this world are known.
2. What is the meaning or implication of each title? In other words, what does each title denote of those who are so-called? Use scriptures to support your explanations.
3. What does the Hebrew word for Belial mean? Can religious people be children of Belial? If they can, give Biblical examples.
4. The Lord Jesus said that the children of this world, in other words, the children of the wicked one were planted by Satan (Matt.13:39). Enumerate and discuss a few ways Satan makes and plants his children in the world and in the church.
5. In the light of these Scriptures, Ps.119:104-105; 2Cor.13:5, state and discuss three ways through which someone can discover whether one is a child of Satan or of Belial, or of this world, etc. since generally, everyone is right in his eyes.
6. Who will want to remain a child of this world after this discourse?
7. How can one strip oneself of these terrible titles that have horrible consequences? (Isa.55:7).