Sunday, August 4, 2024—The Conspiratorial Mindset: A Scriptural Investigation (Focus, Justice, & The Real Conspiracy)

# **Introduction/Review**

- Two weeks ago we began a series looking at The Conspiratorial Mindset. I did so because of the concerns I have regarding how Conspiratorial Thinking is impacting the body of Christ, particularly men, husbands, & fathers. It is taking people's focus off "things above" (Col. 3:1-3) and causing them to focus, fixate, and obsess on things below.
- The Bible recognizes the existence of conspiracies.
- The fact that conspiracies do exist does not mean that any particular conspiracy theory is true.
- There are fewer conspiracies than people think. There are two reasons for this:
  - Humans are not good at keeping secrets.
  - Humans are not good at cooperating with one another.
  - Acts 23:12-16
- *Conspiracy Mindset*: The willingness to believe/accept conspiracy theories in the absence of proof. Coupled with the propensity to pattern one's life accordingly.
- I provided the following outline for this course of study (assistance provided by David Reid's message titled "<u>The Conspiracy Mindset</u>"):
  - Biblical Conspiracies
  - The Trans-Dispensational standard of proof is two or three witnesses.
  - In the absence of proof asserting the existence of a conspiracy is evil surmising and false accusation.
  - The believer should be known for moderation.
  - Focus on worldly matters and not "things above."
  - God will handle all conspiracy that actually exist.
  - The conspiracy we should be concerned about is the Satanic conspiracy to hide the gospel.

• This morning, I would like to move on and discuss the final 3-points.

## **Focus on Worldly Matters**

- The Conspiratorial Mindset is a focus on worldly matters and not things above.
  - Colossians 3:1-2—where should our focus be?
  - Romans 5:12—sin entered the word through Adam's sin and "passed upon all men."
    - Cain killed Able.
  - Galatians 1:4—the world is a mess.
- Acts 17:21—I want to hear something new. New doctrine. Current events.
  - The things that matter in life are timeless truths.
  - We live in the information age. 24 hours news cycle.
  - We are like the Athenians on steroids.
  - New items on a sin curses earth are going to be evil and not good.
- Ecclesiastes 1:18—written from the perspective of a man under the Sun. what happens the more details you learn about life on earth.
- Are people still getting saved? Are people still being edified in sound doctrine?
  - When was the last time these good things were reported as news?
- Ecclesiastes 12:12—in your scares time on this planet can you read all the books that exist? Can you read all the magazines or watch all the YouTube videos that exist? No. You are going to have to make choices.
- Romans 16:19—we should be wise about things of God while simple concerning evil.
- Researching conspiracy theories to stratify the scriptural burden of proof results in not being "simple concerning evil." Which is a violation of Rom. 16:19.
- Philippians 4:8—these things aren't evil. What should our minds focus on?
- Researching conspiracy theories leads to more and more knowledge of potentially evil things.

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#### **God's Handling of Conspiracies**

- God will handle all conspiracy that actually exist.
- Romans 12:19-21—God takes care of setting things right. Is God aware of any and all conspiracies.
- I Timothy 5:24—are there people who commit crimes/sins that get away with it?
- I Corinthains 4:5—do people get away with things before God?
- Matthew 12:36
- No lost man gets away with anything.

#### Satan's Conspiracy Against The Gospel

- The conspiracy we should be concerned about is the Satanic conspiracy to hide the gospel.
- Romans 1:16—the gospel of Christ is the most powerful thing on earth. Satan has a warfare against the gospel of Christ.
- Ephesians 6:12—who are we supposed to wrestle against?
- I Timothy 4:1—what do devils do today? They teach doctrines and their purpose is to deceive mankind.
- II Corinthians 4:3-4—there is an effort to hide the gospel from the lost.
- Satan wants to blind billions of people, so they remain lost and suffer eternal punishment.
- II Timothy 2:24-26—lost people are opposing themselves.
- II Timothy 4:1-2—what we do does not depend on circumstance.
- We don't need to be so concerned with earthly circumstances. They are irrelevant to what the body of Christ needs to be doing.