

Seven Threats of Our Time

5-Rise of a Demonic Worldview & the National Rift

[Del Tackett 7 Threats Series with Video link](#)

[Del Tackett Threat #5 article](#)

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We have been bringing to you sessions of a webinar series entitled, *Seven Threats of Our Time*, by Dr. Del Tackett, author of The Truth Project and The Engagement Project. Today, we will cover the fifth session, of the Seven Threats, called, *Rise of a Demonic Worldview & the National Rift*.

Del Begins

Our topic [today] is one that should be of deep interest to all of us who live in this country and I would say anyone who actually is alive in the world today because the thing that is happening that we see here in America is not just isolated to America but it is happening around the world as well, especially in western cultures. One might even say it's already happened in other western cultures, but the battle rages heavily here in our country.

It is dangerous to ignore the reality of Satan and his forces. I am NOT a person who sees a demon behind every bush, but to run to the other side of the continuum and act as if there is no spiritual warfare is folly and contrary to plain biblical teaching. We forget this to our peril:

“I am certain that one of the main causes for the ill-state of the church today lies in the fact that the devil has been forgotten.”

— Martin-Lloyd Jones

So, I want to, first of all, acknowledge that the world around us has somewhat made it an "eye roll" to even mention, "demonic," the word demonic, or to mention the word "Marx," or to say the word "communism," the machines of the world and the culture around us have moved into a position where that will often evoke an eye roll from people. And if you have that sense as well when we say the word communism or marxism or a demonic worldview, I pray that you might allow the Lord to speak to us [today] without those kind of machinations (*plots or schemes*) that are in play. It is important for us to recognize and understand the times in which we live and the things that are going on.

[Dell says,] I have written about the history of this and the demonic influences upon Karl Marx before and we need not repeat it here, except to note that many had thought that Marxism had taken a death blow when it couldn't get any traction in America and it had failed in so many places. But Marxism was reborn in our country through the Franklin School and Critical Theory. Instead of sowing discord between the workers and the owners, it now sought to sow division in the hearts and minds of those of a "minority" status, convincing them that they were the oppressed and the "must-be-hated-oppressor" was the white, straight, cisgender, Christian male hegemony, including

every institution that he had built. These "minorities" were the new pawns in a demonic worldview that desires to overthrow all of God's social institutions. When we speak of "overthrowing", we do not necessarily mean their destruction by elimination. What we see today is the zealous drive to recreate them into a new image; to modify the language, the design, the purposes into something radically different than God's original. There is a deep, visceral fervor associated with this. Marx's "abolish the family" is driven not by some contrary philosophy, but by something deeply demonic. It is, of course, a scam. The pawns who overthrow the status quo will then find themselves, as every Marxist pawn in the past has found themselves, in a grey, barren world interrupted only by the lavish palaces of the Marxist elite.

This worldview has been germinating in America for over 50 years. Having taken deep root in academia, it has, almost miraculously, exploded upon us in the midst of the COVID scare. And we now awake to find ourselves in a nation that has a deep and severe worldview rift. For most of our nation's history, we shared a common worldview. Yes, we disagreed about politics, and sometimes fiercely. Some of those disagreements were enough to bring us to a civil war, but we shared a common worldview. That is no longer the case. Now, our divide is no longer merely politics, but about the fundamentals of life and truth and liberty. That divide is [made worse] by the fact that this new worldview has embedded itself in academia, prime media, entertainment, technology giants and judicial, legislative and executive bodies. It flies under various flags as "social justice" and "woke" and "progressive" and under the guise of new[ly] defined terms such as "equality", "equity" and "diversity". Most critical is that it has made "compassion" the supreme ethic, though in reality, it is a **malevolent compassion**. This **feigned** compassion overrides freedom, it supplants truth and righteousness, it outweighs sane logic and common sense. It is the new litmus test for everything. But, in our new culture, it sells.

Its end, however, is the same: total dominance; total control; total acquiescence of the masses. Comply or die. Maybe not physically, but you will be isolated, shunned, forced out of the means of communication. Some have already had financial accounts closed, jobs terminated, reputations ruined. All of us, if we are honest, must admit that there is **a new standard associated with what you can say and what you can't. Free speech has been lost** and we weren't even aware it happened. If you are guilty of CrimeSpeak (1984) you will be cast out. This is not *[the]* future. This is now.

Survivors of the horrors of Marxism in the former Soviet Union, in China, and other places where it has terrorized millions and left mass graves and grey skeletal cultures, are screaming at us to wake up. They speak with alarm, pleading with us, for we now walk the same dangerous path they saw in their former lands.

This storm front is massive. When it is combined with the others, it may be fatal.

We have a lot to cover [today], so we're going to move fairly quickly, but the first thing I want to do is to call your attention to Matthew 16, it says that the Pharisees and the Sadducees had come **seeking a sign** from Jesus and Jesus responded to them with a little bit of an admonition, if not a large admonition, that they were capable of discerning the signs of the physical world around them, they could discern the signs associated with the weather and the sun and those kinds of things, but Jesus then admonished them by saying **they could not discern the signs of the times**. And then when he got alone with the disciples, the disciples were caught up in a little bit of the same problem, because Jesus told the disciples, "watchout and beware the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." And the scripture tells us the disciples were saying, "well, it's because we didn't

bring bread", they were thinking basically of the surface, physical things. And then Jesus opened their eyes [and] he told them what was true. And then scripture says [in Matthew 16:12 (ESV)] *Then they understood that he did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.*

The word [for] teaching there in the Greek is better understood not simply [as] a lecture, a small teaching here or there but, it is better understood as the larger teaching associated with, in this case, the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Vines defines it in that way, in that larger sense as well associated with this Greek word.

So, those of us who are involved in worldview teaching and interested in worldviews, it would be appropriate for us to understand what Jesus was saying. He was warning them against the Pharisees' and the Sadducees' **worldview**. And we need to be careful of that worldview. In 2 Timothy we read this:

2 Timothy 4:3-4 (ESV)

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,

→ A worldview that will suit their own passions...

⁴ *and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.*

And that is what we are going to be doing today[, identify the worldview that we need to be careful of]. We've been talking about what we've called the perfect storm, the seven threats all converging on Western Culture in our particular time, in the time in which we live [in] western culture. We're looking at it primarily today as how it is impacting our nation.

The first four threats that we looked at was:

The Rise of the Scoffer and the Depraved Mind

We talked about the possibility that God had given us[, our culture,] over to a depraved mind. So that we are now dealing with a culture, a large segment of our culture, that could no longer process spiritual logic.

The second threat,

The Rise of Homo Deus and Meo Christianity,

that has arisen is the whole notion that we have now descended into a position where we believe that **the human heart** speaks something divinely and so we have a tendency to bow down to someone's declaration. If they declare they are a woman then we believe that is some sort of a divine proclamation and we must bow down to and acknowledge [that] as a divine proclamation. And if we do not and we speak against it we'll be [considered] speaking blasphemy. And there are, increasingly, blasphemy laws that are being crafted in our culture and along with the Consolidation of Massive Earthly Power, that we talked about last time, you can be canceled in a number of ways.

The third [storm front], a critical one that we talked about,

The Loss of the Noble Male, the Loss of the Virtuous Female

And therefore, [resulting in] **The Rise of Malevolent (Evil) Compassion** as being the number one ethic in [our culture] today.

And without the Noble Male and the Virtuous Female, grace and compassion [are] no longer bridled by truth and wisdom and righteousness. And so, what remains is this compassion that is not wise compassion, it is not compassion based upon truth and righteousness, but it becomes a malevolent compassion, it becomes in our culture the prime ethic. So everything is judged against and based upon, even public policy increasingly becomes crafted based upon this malevolent compassion.

That led us then to the fourth threat that is rising around us. This is:

The Consolidation of Massive Earthly Power,

And that massive power is a different kind of beast than normal. We'll look a little bit at this again because it is necessary for us to have all of these, the first four threats are the foundation of what we are going to be talking about today. But we are witnessing today an unprecedented consolidation of massive power in a new form. In a way that's never [been] seen before in the history of man.

Normally that consolidation of massive power has been consolidated in the institution of the State. And, of course, that is true. We are seeing an increased consolidation of power in the **State**, but there are other powers that have arisen in our culture that are fairly unique to the time in which we live. We've never seen this amalgamation [*ie. the action, process, or result of combining or uniting*] of centers of power, primarily in the sphere of **Labor**. From **Academia** to **Media** to **Entertainment**, recently we've seen the rise of the power of **Medicine** and **Science**, or *so-called* science that have the power to shut a culture down. They have a power to shut an individual's economic capabilities down. We've seen that happen in people in various places around the country, especially those who are blasphemers who do not speak in accordance with the current rising worldview.

So that now leads us then to this next threat. And I have labeled it...

Rise of a Demonic Worldview

I do not shy away from that adjective because I believe that it is a demonic worldview. It is based upon what has been, academically, referred to as the Marxist worldview. And we will reiterate again that I am absolutely convinced that Carl Marx was under the deep influence of demonic forces. That worldview, many have written and documented hundreds of millions of people have been slaughtered at the throne of that worldview. It is demonic. And [the] rise of that demonic worldview in our country has now for the first time created a **[National] Worldview Rift**.

It is important for all of us to understand that **the divide** we see today **is not a political divide**. We had political divides in the past, we've had serious political divides in the past, but as a whole, **our nation shared** a common worldview. And I contend it was a **biblical worldview**. That doesn't mean that everybody followed that worldview perfectly, and in some cases, some people didn't at all. But it was a common worldview that brought about a common understanding of what was right

and what was wrong. It was a worldview that produced almost a church on every corner. It was a common worldview, yet we had some very serious political differences that even brought us to the Civil War and other things, but there was still a basic foundational worldview that the nation rested upon. ***That is no longer true.***

The rift that we see in our nation today is no longer simply a political rift, it's a worldview rift.

Ok, so, as I have mentioned, as those of you who have been on any of my tours before, I have often said and I will continue to say, I hope for as long as I have breath, that whenever you come to any kind of an issue, anytime you come to a problem, the best thing you can do, and the first thing you need to do, is to go back and understand the nature of God! That provides the foundation for whatever issue we're looking at. His nature and character, his attributes are the source of all truth, so we must go there before we begin to study whatever issue. We're going to do that again [today/tonight] for this very, very, serious issue that we see before us.

When we go back and take a look at...

God's Character,

in particular the attributes that are important for us [today/tonight], when we talk about the fact that God is...

One

That's what the scriptures tells us. And yet we understand that "One" is not a singularity (ie, not denoting just one person or thing). Yes it is a One associated with the understanding that there is no other God, but Him. And yet, when Jesus, in John 17, talks about He and the Father being One and that He wanted us to be one, there is a notion of the...

Socially Complex

aspect of God's character, the *Triune, three-in-one*, nature of God, that is associated with that character of God.

He is One, He is a Socially Complex One, He is the One of the Many. And that God, Himself, is a...

Relational God

within His own nature. It's not that He's relating to us as a monolithic being (like a single large block of stone, the monolith), but He is relational within His own nature and character and has for all eternity. The Triune nature of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the socially, complex, true God, Creator of all things, is relational within Himself. He relates and has the capacity and ability to relate to Himself before He created anything.

And therefore, God represents both...

Unity and Diversity

The diversity of the three Persons in the triune nature of God and the unity of those three Persons

such that they are One in essence (the intrinsic nature or indispensable quality of something). They are unified so much that when you look at One you are looking at Them all. There is a mystery associated with the triune nature of God, and yet it is the reality of the true God that He represents both Unity and Diversity.

So, let's take a look then at the character of God and the nature of God and

Compare that to Satan,

because we're going to be talking about the influence of Satan [and] the demonic influence upon the world around us.

And so, when we talk about God, that He is a relational God based upon the fact that He is triune, He is unity, He is diversity, all bound up in the very nature of God, what we find is that Satan, of course, is the opposite.

Satan **IS** a monolithic being, of course, but Satan wants to...

Destroy Relationships.

In fact, in the Engagement Project we make the statement that Satan's ultimate scheme is to destroy relationships. Because if He can destroy relationships, he can destroy the fruit of God's creatures.

And where God is both unity and diversity, Satan pursues that which is...

Disunity and Discord

He pits people against each other. He attempts to destroy any unity and any relationships.

God therefore...

Enjoins Oneness (ie instructs, urges, prescribes to do & prohibits from something)

As we refer to in John 17, where Jesus was almost emphatic about us being one as He is One, all those things that [we] read there in that amazing prayer that we are privileged to listen in to through the scripture that God enjoins that oneness. We see it elsewhere throughout the scripture where God calls for unity, calls for oneness. But that unity and oneness is bound up in that which is right and true and good.

Satan therefore,

Pits One Against Another

rather than God enjoining unity, enjoining oneness, Satan works to pit people against each other.

The second thing about God and we have also dealt with this in our last time together, we also spent a lot of time on this in the Engagement Project as well, talking about

the *Modus Operandi* of God.

And that leads us to understand that because of who God is, that unity & diversity of God, that we find that God has created, and it shouldn't surprise us, that the triune God has therefore created a universe that is filled with unity and diversity, it's filled with systems that are made of diverse pieces and parts all working together in a order to achieve a higher purpose.

And so, therefore, the entire

Social Order

that God has created for us is based again upon who God is. It is hard for one to even imagine a God who is monolithic could create a universe that is filled with systems and relationships, diversities and parts, working together.

And so, that Social Order leads us to understand how that social order works with positions of

Authority, Submission, and roles

that are associated with the members of those social institutions. In the Truth Project we layout six of those, yea seven, God being the seventh. And we took a look at each of those institutions and the designs that God has given to us for those institutions. A design that talks about positions of authority, submission, their purpose, their roles, and all of those reflecting again the

Triune Nature of God

So the Modus Operandi of God, therefore, is this,

that

God creates, equips, empowers and delegates authority and responsibility to His creatures to operate within those social systems so that even the smallest creature might flourish, bearing fruit... and that fruit brings glory to God.

We've referenced

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God,

So, When the sun shines it is being fruitful as it was made by God to be fruitful. And that fruit, the shining of the sun, brings glory to God.

Of course Jesus said in John 15:8, "By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit..."

And so, we see that link between the fruit of God's creatures and the glory that comes to God. This is an important thing for us to understand, the modus operandi of God and how He has created things, why He has created things the way He's done that. God has created His creatures and delegated to them and empowered them and equipped them in such as way as creatures in relationships and only in relationships can bring forth fruit, and that fruit then bring glory to God.

When we therefore contrast that with

Satan's modus operandi,

where God delegates authority so that the smallest creature might flourish and bring forth fruit that brings glory to God, Satan consolidates power at the top, increasingly enslaving people, making them dependant and destroying their desire and incentives to be fruitful and therefore, Satan's modus operandi is to attempt to destroy the glory of God by destroying the fruitfulness of His creatures. And [Satan] does that primarily by destroying the relationships that God has made out of which that fruit is to be produced.

Ok we spent some time on this last time and I don't want to spend too much time on it now, but it's all important,

the foundational things

that we need for going forward for [today/tonight].

Each of those institutions that God has given to us, those diverse members, that each has a role, there's obedience, submission, there's a purpose associated with those. We read in Romans 13, the purpose of the State is to punish evil, to condone what is good. The purpose of the Church, the leaders are to equip the saints, and the saints are to, therefore, be fruitful in their ministry.

We have seen, over and over again, examples given to us in the scriptures: Nebuchadnezzar, for example, who was in position of king, and yet he rejected that position of submission to God, exalted himself, and God punished him.

In the individual Saul, if you recall, usurped the role of the priest and Uzziah did the same thing, he breeched the boundary of the role of what we would refer to the church today and God punished [them].

So the notion of *Sphere sovereignty* is part of God's modus operandi. When He created the social order, He created that social order in such a way that there is a sovereignty associated with each one of those social institutions. That's what we see in Uzziah and Saul. The king does not have the right to breech the boundary of another institution. And God judged them because of that.

So, we then looked at Statism and what happens when power is consolidated increasingly into the power of the State. The state has to, obviously, do away with the notion of God being in authority over the king. The king then exalts himself, the king or whatever the governmental form is, we're using the word, "king", to refer to whatever the governmental authority is, it can be a bureaucracy, it can be all different kinds of authority form, but once it exalts itself to the position of total authority, then it has attempted to reject God's design. And the State, historically, it has been true in nation states, have followed this pattern over and over again, to their peril. Where they have absorbed, they believe, the authority of all the social institutions, pulling them underneath the reign and rule of the state. Citizens, therefore, really end up becoming wards of the state.

So this is the typical Statism of what happens. All of this is important to understand before we begin.

And last time I was borrowing some imagery, as I tremble a little bit to do that, but I think that imagery to borrow from the book of Revelation, where there is a very, very, strange beast that has arisen in the book of Revelation that has seven horns. And I made the assertion last time that we

are in the midst of a very unique time in culture. It is not simply the state that carries enormous power, but we now have, [for] the first time, have the international technology conglomerates that have GDPs, if you want to call it that, greater than most of the nations of the world and they have extreme power. They have the power to keep you from buying and selling. They have the power to cancel you. They have the power to pull down the statue of Abraham Lincoln.

And riding on top of all that, again borrowing from imagery in the book of Revelation, and again, I'm not trying to make any statement associated with our times today, in terms of end times and so forth, I'm just simply borrowing that imagery because I think it's good imagery for us to understand and look at the evil we see today. But it's always been a little strange to think in the imagery of the book of Revelation that there is, it says, a harlot that rides on top of that beast. Very difficult to understand. It's easy for me to understand and hopefully for you to understand it in terms of how [we are applying this imagery to what] we look at what's happening today [and] to recognize and understand this [harlot as] the malevolent compassion that has been unleashed from what God has given to the virtuous female of grace and compassion, he's also given that to the noble male, but when you remove absolute truth and true wisdom and true righteousness then what is left is a compassion that is malevolent[, it is evil]. It does not bring about good, it is not a wise compassion, it is not a righteous compassion, but it is a compassion that leads to that which is malevolent.

And again as I mentioned before, Star Parker has written, as an example, how this malevolent compassion was behind the entire notion of the welfare system that was placed in our culture and that welfare system spelled the destruction of the very intact black family. In our culture it is malevolent and it destroys people rather than seeking what grace and compassion bridled by truth and righteousness and wisdom according to God [is able to accomplish for the good of people.]

Close Morning Lesson

We're going to break here and continue the rest of the lesson this evening.

Again, [we need to] remind ourselves that we are not a people that are without hope. Every time we talk about each of these threats it is easy to be overcome by the weight of what is happening around us. And yet we need to understand and realize that we are pilgrims in this world, but we are still here and we are placed here for a reason. We are placed here for a purpose. And God has given everything that we need, everything that we need to follow what He's asking us to do.

And so, my [recommendation] to you is to be [of good courage], be of good hope, even in the midst of this perfect storm that is raging around us. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

But to cut to the chase

The solution is the church. Jesus left and we remain, why? He has work for us to do. Not just making new Christians, but teaching them to do all the He has commanded. We need to be transformed through the renewing of our mind and conform to the image of His Son, Jesus Christ. We need to study to identify the biblical Christian worldview and then live it. We can't be part-time Christians with one toe in the world and one toe in the church. Jesus told us we cannot serve two masters. We have to choose one and live for Him building relationships with others to be fruitful and in so doing, glorify God.

Invitation

We are extending the invitation to anyone who is subject to it. Come forward, now, while we stand and sing.

<https://www.deltackett.com/resources/36043/7-threats-in-our-times-5-rise-of-a-demonic-worldview-and-the-national-divide>