The Doctrine of the Five Cycles of Discipline

A.   Introduction

1.   The dispensation of Israel began with the Exodus from Egypt in 1441 B.C. and concluded with the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. There were five Jewish Client Nations which we have observed in our study of the Doctrine of the Pivot in lesson 35 of *A Reckoning*.

2.   Also included in that lesson was a brief review of Gentile Client Nations beginning with Rome in A.D. 70 and its journeys westward to present-day Client-Nation United States.[1]

3.   Presently the United States is at a crossroads regarding this issue. For a century, beginning with John Dewey's "Laboratory Schools" in the 1920s and beyond, academia has been propagandizing students, from the first grade forward, with the cosmic ideas of socialism followed by globalism, and now into communism.

3.   We have studied in detail how Antonio Gramsci's "Rules for Radicals" were developed in an Italian prison following the communist overthrow of the Romanov dynasty in March 1917. Following the Russian takeover of the country, Gramsci observed that although the revolution had been successful, the conquered population did not willingly adjust to the new rulership.

4.   The term "top down, bottom up" emerged as a description of the strategies applied to topple the nation, however the Russian people quickly realized the resultant tyranny was not to their liking.

5.   Gramsci surmised that the revolution did not think through its vicious, bloody takeover of the Russian people. The reason was the failure of the Soviets to realize that subservience is not willingly adopted overnight.

6.   Realizing this, Gramsci began to write his analysis. From his ideas emerged a strategy that was adopted by John Dewey. If top down failed to win over the people of Russia, then that portion of the population should be ignored.

7.   Instead of the bloodbath associated with the "top down" strategy, Gramsci advocated the opposite idea of "bottom up." This tactic recommended that the most effective way to take over a nation was to forget the adults and concentrate exclusively on the children.

8.   In the early 1930s, a group of Germans picked up on Gramsci's writings and formed the Frankfort Institute of Social Research in Germany which promoted the "bottom up" strategy.

---

[1] A synopsis of these Client Nations is found in the books, *Gospel's Missionary Journey* and *Whirlwind: Four-Generation Curse*. You may request copies by writing to: Joe Griffin Media Ministries, 1821 S RIVER RD, ST. CHARLES, MO 63303-4124.

9. This institute had several Jewish staff members. When Hitler came to power, they quickly realized that he was a raging anti-Semitic. Several of these men opted to get out of Dodge and focused their sights on the United States.

10. Among them were such luminaries as Theodore Adő́rnō, Walter Benjamin, Max Horkheimer, Erich Frōmm, and Herbert Märcúsĕ. Fleeing Hitler's anti-Semitic pogroms, these men fled to New York and reestablished their Frankfort Institute at Columbia University.

11. It is there in the 1930s that these men coordinated Antonio Gramsci's "bottom up" strategy with John Dewey's "Laboratory Schools." Dewey was a professor of philosophy at Columbia until his retirement from the faculty in 1930 and then remained with the university as a professor emeritus during which the continued his voluminous writings until this death in 1952. Dewey's scholarly output at Columbia was enormous; one bibliography devotes approximately 125 pages to listing the titles of his publications during these years.[2]

12. From these early strategists, the format for propagandizing the youth of America was well-established and the propagandizing of students in the grammar schools was well underway.

13. The brainwashing of the American population has continued to exist to the present hour. Now generations of students have been indoctrinated by the "bottom up, top down" strategy.

14. You may ask, what has this situation got to do with the doctrine of the five cycles of discipline? The decline and fall of a Client Nation are facilitated by the ongoing propaganda that is taught as truth in the public schools over the course of a century.

15. The biblical doctrine of divine punishment of a Client Nation in decline is actually a set of warning signals to the population that establishment viewpoint is on the wane while the doctrines of Scripture are no longer being observed and applied.

16. We have adequately described these five stages of decline that have been played out over the millennia. Having a clear understanding of these cycles is a way one may have a full understanding of the problem whose repetition confirms its consistency and its predictability.

B.   Doctrinal Principles for Avoiding the Cycles of Discipline

1. First of all, it must be recognized that the human race exists on this planet by virtue of the divine decree.

---

[2] George Dykhuizen and Clarence Henry Faust, "Dewey, John," in _The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Macropaedia_, 15th ed. (2010), 4:52.

2.   The reason we are alive at all is so we may freely decide whether to be witnesses for the Prosecution or for the defence before the Divine Court of Appels.

3.   This court proceeding is the result of Lucifer's rebellion documented in Isaiah 14 where he declares five assertions, the fifth one voicing the claim that he will supersede God as authority over the angelic community: "I will make myself like the Most High" (Isaiah 14:14*b*).

4.   The angelic community had come into being by the will of God in eternity past. All of them were perfect in the sense they did not possess a sin nature although each of them had free will.

5.   This perfection was dramatically altered following Lucifer's assertions as we learn that one-third of the angelic community sided with him thus fomenting a rebellion against God. This division of angels between Lucifer and God is mentioned in figurative language in:

> **Revelation 12 :4***a*   And   his   tail   **[reference   to Lucifer's power]** swept away a third of the stars of heaven **[census of the number of demons noted in Isaiah 14:13: "I will raise my throne above the stars of God," who chose to follow him]** and threw them to the earth.[3] (NASB)

6.   These assertions mean that Lucifer had "thrown down the gauntlet," challenging God for rulership over the angelic creation.[4] This challenge was immediately answered by God who "took up the gauntlet by accepting his challenge."

7.   We have recently studied the "Chronology of Events from Eternity Past through the Restoration." In so doing, we concluded that the reason the human race was created was to resolve the angelic conflict.

8.   The fallen angels under Lucifer's leadership were allowed access to the earth following the fall of Adam. As Adam and Ishah procreated they introduced new souls into the conflict, each equipped with free will.

9.   The same freedom of volition was imputed to them to accept or reject salvation by faith alone in Christ alone. Those who chose to remain in status quo unbelief remained as witnesses for the defense while those who responded positively became witnesses for the Prosecution.

---

[3] Most major footnoted editions of the Holy Bible provide commentary that references Isaiah 14:13 and include: D. A. Carson's *NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible*, Charles Caldwell Ryrie's *Study Bible: NASB*, Earl D. Radmacher's *The Nelson Study Bible: NKJV*, and Cyrus Scofield's *The Scofield Study Bible: NASB*.

[4] "Throw down the gauntlet: This expression alludes to the medieval practice of a knight throwing down his gauntlet, or metal glove, as a challenge to combat. Its figurative use dates from the second half of the 1700s." ("Throw down the gauntlet," Christine Ammer (*The American Heritage Dictionary of Idioms* [New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1997], 658).

10.   When Joshua defeated the walled city of Jericho, the Jewish people moved into the land and established the first Client Nation. Others followed as we have noted with emphasis on the Northern Kingdom during the time of Elijah.

11.   Other Jewish groups followed but the final one's demise occurred in A.D. 70 when Titus defeated the Jews with his siege of Jerusalem.

The Doctrine of Fear

A.   Introduction

1.   Fear is an emotional sin; therefore, fear is negative in the spiritual life of a believer. If you are afraid, you are out of fellowship and recall of biblical principles is canceled.

2.   The negatives of being afraid include: **(a)** no adult spiritual life, therefore, no advance to the high ground of the sophisticated spiritual life, **(b)** failure to acquire a personal sense of destiny that results in occupation with Christ, **(c)** fear is a virus that creates in the soul an emotional arrogance, loss of fellowship with God, and dependence on His Word, **(d)** therefore, fear reacts to the problem and panics instead of applying doctrine inside the bubble [3 illustrations: **(1)** Abraham's sterility, **(2)** Moses at the Red Sea, and **(3)** David v. Goliath], **(e)** these three men applied doctrine to their situations rather than emphasizing the problem, **(f)** the key was their ability to avoid the problem of fear by remaining occupied with Christ.

3.   Fear is an emotional and irrational sin causing the believer's spiritual life to be cancelled, resulting in self-centeredness. Putting self ahead of the Word results in forms of arrogance such as self-justification, self-deception, and self-absorption.

4.   These problems are rejected by Scripture; here is an example:

> **Isaiah 41:10**   'Do   not   fear   **[Qal   active imperfect of** יָרֵא **(***yare'***): "Do not keep on being in fear"]**, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

> **2 Timothy 1:7**   For God has not given us a spirit of   timidity   **[** δειλία **(***deilía***): "cowardice,   timidity, fearfulness"]**, but of power and love and discipline.

5.   **Principle:** Being afraid of death will not prevent a person from dying, therefore there is no logical rationale to support fear as being a part of the believer's spiritual life.

6.   Therefore, fear's only function is to cause a distraction in the believer's life.

B.   The Distraction of Fear

1.   The more times a believer allows fear to enter into this soul, the more things he will come to fear.

2.   Fear therefore becomes a habit and left uncontrolled causes doctrinal erosion in the soul. This causes erosion of truth in the soul and leads to no capacity for divine absolutes in one's spiritual life.

3.   Therefore, the extent to which a believer surrenders to fear, to that extent fear controls multiple aspects of his life resulting in a loser believer. He is saved and possesses eternal life but is handicapped by his fear of losing his temporal life.

4.   This results in a member of the royal family of God being neutralized, not by external exigencies common to the devil's world, but rather by the failure of his own volition to inculcate and apply the problem-solving devices of the Word of God.

5.   The ultimate problem-solving device is occupation with Christ. Yet a believer living in spiritual darkness concentrates on the externals of the devil's world instead.

6.   The more a believer allows fear to dominate his life the more self-induced misery he receives upon himself.

7.   Fear has such an impact that self-centeredness dominates the soul resulting in arrogance. The emotion of arrogance demands that others join him in also worrying about the object of his fear whatever it may be.

8.   This believer has now become a recruiter for the dark side and spreads his fear to others who also have a propensity toward fear.

9.   Rather than concentrating on the problem-solving devices provided by the immutable Word of God, the cosmic believer emphasizes a number of behaviors patterns from the sin nature: **(1)** arrogance, because others will not join him in their fear and **(2)** emotions, which are substitutes for rational analysis of the situation.

10.   **Principle:** Arrogance is an overbearing attitude of presuming superiority on a given issue. Emotions are subjectively directed toward the objects of fear.

11.   Throughout Scripture, the mental attitude of fear is never cited as a permitted problem-solving device for the believer in Jesus Christ.

12.   Nevertheless, it must be said that there is a positive application of the word "fear" in Scripture which is "respect": 1 Peter 2:17 and Revelation 14:7 begin with the imperative, "Fear God."

13.   There are circumstances in life that can cause the emotion of fear to enter the soul. However, there are problem-solving devices that are designed to stabilize the soul. They result in a return to the stability of the filling ministry of the Holy Spirit where objective analysis of the situation restores order.

14.   There are circumstances in life that require one's focus on them to make positive responses to them. The imperative, "Fear God," is one of those. The meaning in this context is to "Respect God." In society there are laws that are to be feared because of their penalty clauses, therefore we "Respect the law." There are circumstances common to the environment which we must fear therefore we "Respect electricity."

15.   Our emphasis is on fear as an emotional sin and it is not to be respected. There are circumstances that do result in a believer becoming emotional, entertain fear, and then apply these emotions outwardly. There are multiple exigencies in life that are capable of causing fear.

16.   Our nation has sent military personnel into harm's way on numerous occasions. Here are a few examples: The War for Independence, the War of 1812, World War I, World War II, 9-11, and the present unpleasantness of what in reality is World War III. Among those conflicts, hundreds of thousands of Americans died in defense of the freedom others lived to enjoy.

17.   There are many things to elicit fear from the spread of Covid: uncontrolled rebellion, murder, arson, theft, robbery, and various other crimes with only a handful prosecuted, and a presidential election which many suspect the virus's management was manipulated in order to produce the desired outcome.

18.   Yet, regardless of the circumstances surrounding the events of the past year, the most inadvisable response to this ordeal is fear. This is especially true regarding the issues associated with Covid.

19.   Just as our military personnel went into battle to defend our shores, they did so from a sense of honor and duty motivated by a mind-set to defend our shores.

20.   The invisible power that sustained the above episodes of hot wars to victorious conclusions, was the presence of Pivot power, along with the grace of God.

21.   There is nothing different in the present contest except the battlefield is being waged on the streets of the United States, the halls of political power, and most importantly the souls of believers who reside in sophisticated spiritual life.

22.   The question that remains to be answered is this: Does the present Pivot include enough residents to deliver us from the current assault from the Dark Side or not?

23.	The number sufficient enough to prevent the planned conversion of the United States from a republic over to a socialist, progressive, one-party nation ruled by quasi dictators is known only to God.

24.	However, when there are believers who have made the advance to the sophisticated spiritual life but when incessant propaganda from the Dark Side fomented fear in their souls, then they are the ones who have abandoned their duties to God and country.

25.	Believers without doctrine cannot help being afraid because they do not have the necessary biblical inventory to prevent it. It is Pivot-rank believers that are the ones most culpable when they are propagandized away from the power of doctrine over to the rationales of human viewpoint.

26.	Covid is not to be feared. Covid is to be respected because of its attributes. The Pivot is protected when its believers stay inside the bubble. But that bubble is most evanescent and most vulnerable to incoming flack.

**C.	The Two Applications of Fear**

1.	Fear is a mental attitude sin characterized by worry, dread, and apprehension from an external source that imposes assumed or real danger to one's health, safety, or physical life.

2.	Fear is also used as a way to describe a person's association with those who are his superior: parents, teachers, law enforcement, superior rank, leadership, or respected possessors of legitimate authority.

3.	Fear is used to describe those in an inferior position to those who outrank them in life and in status. This form of fear has several synonyms: respect, deference, reverence, awe, and obedience.

4.	These terms are examples with regard to human systems of authority. However, those who are universally respected by the term are God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

5.	Therefore, the two uses of fear in the Bible are obviously determined by context, but the one in our discussion has to do with the mental attitude sin. The word in the Hebrew is the adjective, יָרֵא (*yareʾ*) and in the Koine Greek, the noun, φόβος (*phóbos*).

**D.	The Solution to Fear**

1.	The Word of God is designed to remove fear from the soul and replace it with confidence whose object is the power of doctrine from which gradually emerges confidence.