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Media—Suppressing the Spirit?—P2

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness" (Romans 1:18 ESV).

As we saw last time, David prophesied that "the kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saving, 'Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us'" (Psalm 2:2-3). The primary bond on satan's government today that forced it into the shadows is the Holy Spirit, Who is "restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time" (2 Thessalonians 2:6). One of the ways the Holy Spirit restrains satan's government is by convicting "the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment" (John 16:8). Because of the Holy Spirit's work, everywhere the Gospel went, people came to the Lord, and nations became "Christianized," which also meant they became "more civilized," condoning less (in public) the lawless, violent deeds that were a way of life in Pagan times. Yet, many rulers and powers secretly continued their allegiance to satan's government and served its ways hidden (Occult) from the public's eye, covering up its evil work and laboring for its return to open rule. In pursuit of this for those who perish, because they did not reday, the "initiated" powers have labored for centuries from the shadows to "burst" the Holy Spirit's "bonds" that restrain the evil they desire to bring openly into the whole world.

In these last days, they have renewed their labors to suppress the Holy Spirit's voice convicting the world. How? One way is through the increase in "knowledge" (Daniel 3:4) that has allowed them to weave around the world a binding "web" (Isaiah 59:5) of mass communication (music, movies, TV, internet, etc) col-

lectively called "Media." Media is the plural form of Medium - "an agency by which something is accomplished, conveyed, or transferred" (Free Dictionary). In like manner, the ancient definition of a Medium was the prophet or channel through whom a demon conveyed its "word" into the world: "Do not turn to mediums or spiritists; do not seek them out to be defiled by them. I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 19:31). Modern Media conveys a defiling voice that goes out into all the world, telling us sin is okay, there is no righteousness, and there will be no judgment-it "un-convicts" people. For the first time in history, the devil has a relentless voice speaking his mind to people everywhere, and they consume its deluding influence with an insatiable appetite for its words and images, which they imitate in their lives. Every year the content "streamed" into our minds becomes increasingly lawless and violent—the works of the flesh "evident" (Gal. 5:19), which could not have been so widely learned any other way.

While the Holy Spirit speaks the Word of God into the world, this modern "Medium" is a false prophet speaking the word of satan-a forerunner of the False Prophet and Beast, "whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the deception of wickedness ceive the love of the truth so as to be saved. For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness" (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12).

"Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, 'Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion'" (Hebrews 3:7-8a ESV), for those who suppress His voice in rebellion will suffer God's eternal wrath. Amen.

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