

are energized by the spirit of this terrible enemy of the true God, Satan, who is blinding their minds, and to whom they are in bondage, and who *is their God really, and their prince*: no matter what their form of godliness may be, or religion.

Yea, such is the state of this sphere, or condition of things called "*the world*," that the Spirit says through the inspired Apostle James, that "the friendship of it is *enmity with God*,"—that "whosoever will be a friend" of it is "*an enemy of God*"—and calls those believers who mix with it, "adulterers and adulteresses." How solemn! how awful! While the same Holy Spirit through the Apostle John, in the 1st Epistle and ii. Chapter, verse 15, says, that "if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." The reason given being, that "all that is in the world," the three motives that in some form or another govern the walk and ways of the world, *i.e.*, what it takes pleasure in, and seeks to find happiness in the gratification of, *viz.*, "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, *are not of the Father, but of the world*," and are all going to pass away. Yes, dear reader, and just as Pharaoh ruled over the children of Israel, in Egyptian bondage, by task masters, so Satan rules over the children of this world, through the natural desires of the flesh and of the mind, so that God is shut out, and man, *the world*, is in bondage to sin, and their minds blinded to the truth: unless the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God,