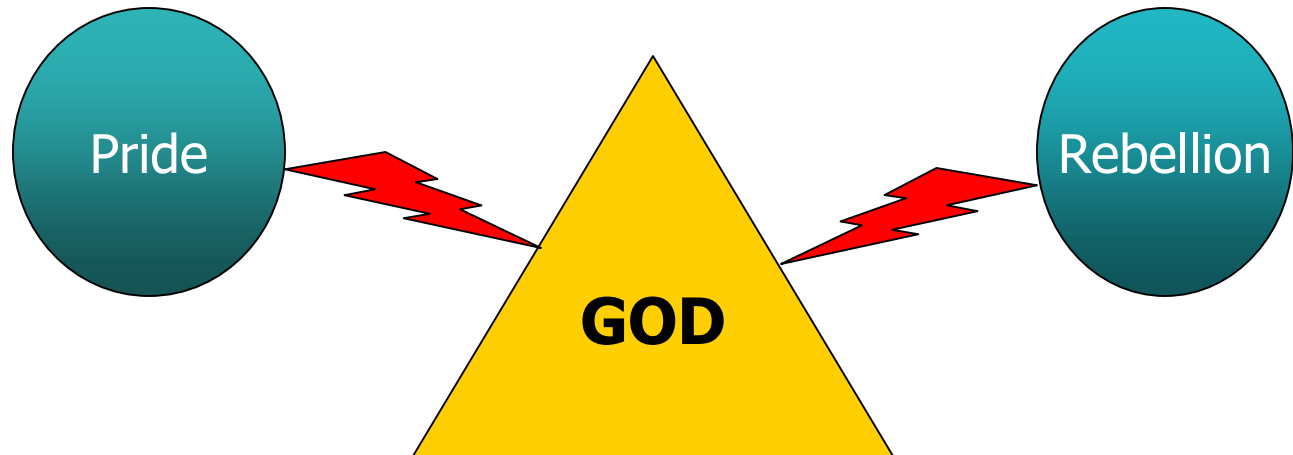


# World System—Two Aspects





# 1. What is the World System?

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- ❖ The world system refers to the thoughts (i.e., self-centered, mental attitude sins), goals (i.e., praise, fame, peer group superiority), values (i.e., temporal, human viewpoint, Satan), and the acts of the world apart from God and the Bible (Romans 12.2; 1 John 2.15-16).



## 2. Satan's pride and rebellion

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- ❖ Satan started the present world system by his pride and rebellion against God (1 Timothy 3.6; Isaiah 14.12-14; Ezekiel 28.11-19).
- ❖ He wants to control mankind; he attempts to do so through his world system.



## 3. Satan rules

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- ❖ Satan, the devil, rules the present world system.
- ❖ John 12.31
- ❖ John 16.11
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 4.4
- ❖ Ephesians 2.2



# 4. Two Aspects of Satan's World System

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- ❖ There are two parts to Satan's world system:
  - ✓ Pride—self-centeredness
  - ✓ Rebellion—opposition to another authority



## 5. World System Pride

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- ❖ World System Pride emphasizes what one thinks. It is characterized by self-importance and self-centeredness. Satan's pride was the original sin. He thought that he was as good as God. He governs his world system through an appeal to pride.
- ❖ Satan wanted to get Eve to think about herself and her independence from God; he succeeded (Genesis 3.5).

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## 5. World System Pride

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- ❖ Pride represents Satan's attitude at the time of his fall. Vanity, pride, arrogance, and conceit made up the original sin of the greatest genius creature of all time, Satan (Is 14.12-14; 1 Tim 3.6).
- ❖ Pride emphasizes man's thoughts over God's thoughts. 2 Corinthians 10.5, "We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ."



## 6. World System Rebellion

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- ❖ World System Rebellion emphasizes what one does. It is characterized by opposition and antagonism against God. Satan rebelled against God's authority.
- ❖ He promotes antagonism and rebellion against anything related to God, especially God's grace (Genesis 3.1-6; Matthew 4.1-10; 1 Peter 5.8; Revelation 12.3-9).
- ❖ Eve and then Adam rebelled against God's authority when they ate of the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3.6).

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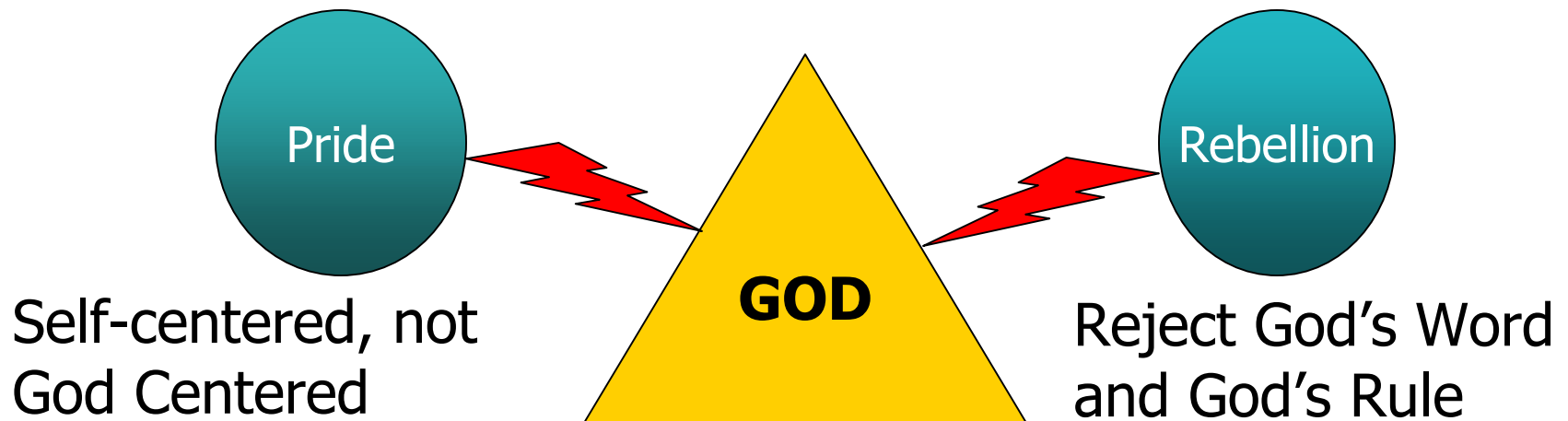
## 6. World System Rebellion

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- ❖ Rebellion is now the function of the believer in apostasy under the principle of antagonism.
- ❖ Rebellion promotes antagonism toward the gospel, Bible doctrine and spiritual life, and the laws of divine establishment.
- ❖ Rebellion promotes human viewpoint over divine viewpoint.
- ❖ Rebellion hates God's word and seeks to confuse it, contradict it, and ridicule it.

# 7. Summary graphic

In order for Satan to rule he promotes two kinds of life: pride (self-centeredness), and rebellion (opposition to God).





# 8. Psalm 1 and 2 and the world

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- ❖ Psalm 1 contrasts those whose life centers on the Lord and his word with those set their own course for life.
- ❖ Psalm 2 warns the rebellious rulers—those who oppose God and his king—that the Lord laughs at them in their puny rebellion. He will install his own king as ruler over the earth and the rebels had better pay homage to God's son.



## 9. So What?

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1. We are in a spiritual conflict. This conflict is worldwide. We had better choose God's side.
2. This conflict begins with ideas, choices, values, and goals. It is a conflict of visions or worldviews.
3. We naturally tend toward pride and rebellion. We need to guard against that.
4. God must transform us through renewing our minds with Bible doctrine through the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 12.2).



## 9. So What?

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5. Through the knowledge of Bible doctrine we challenge and destroy our viewpoints that exalt man and oppose God (2 Corinthians 10.4-6).
6. Our thoughts, goals, and actions take direction and energy from our Lord (Colossians 3.1-3; Hebrews 12.1-2; Galatians 2.20).
7. The Christian life under God rules instead of the world system under Satan.
8. The Christian life checklist *is* important!