

The Attackers: The Power Nouns of Eph 1:19; the Believer's Inheritance; Two Systems of Authority: Divine and Cosmic; Orientation and Adjustment Away from a Cosmopolitan Worldview over to a Grace Worldview

Ephesians 1:19 - and what is the surpassing greatness of His omnipotence [*dunamis*] related to His plan upon us, the believing ones, according to the Holy Spirit's operational power [*energeia*] of the Word of God's intrinsic power [*kratos*] of the believer's endowed power [*ischus*] (CTL)

23. This endowed power is our inheritance, bequeathed to us by the Lord which becomes operational at the moment of our salvation.
24. Even though tempted in all things as we are, our Lord faced them without sin inside the prototype divine dynasphere (Hebrews 4:15) and has bequeathed this divine power system to believers in the Church Age.
25. The same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead is the same power that has been bequeathed to us as part of our inheritance.
26. Inheritance brings us back to our central passage, for it is the inheritance of the divine operating assets that enables us to execute the Christian way of life:

Ephesians 1:18 - The eyes of your *kardia* having been enlightened so that you have a permanent knowledge of what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance [κληρονομία (*klēronomia*)] in the saints,

Ephesians 1:19 - and what is the surpassing greatness of His omnipotence [*dunamis*] related to His plan upon us, the believing ones, according to the Holy Spirit's operational power [*energeia*] of the Word of God's intrinsic power [*kratos*] of the believer's endowed power [*ischus*]

v. 20 - which power [ἐνέργεια (*energeia*): the **operational power of the Holy Spirit**] had been operational in Christ, having raised Him up from the deaths [plural of νεκρός (*nekros*)] and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.

27. The two power experiments are mysteries that the world fails to comprehend and therefore remains unable to successfully evaluate the lifestyle and worldview of the biblically based Christian.
28. The inheritance of the believer contains every asset necessary to fully provision his life, from growing in grace, executing the protocol plan, experiencing physical death, and transferring to the eternal state.
29. Our inheritance means we share the destiny of Christ. We possess all that He possessed in time and possesses presently in eternity.
30. Knowing our personal destiny, our assets, our provisions, and our ultimate existence in heaven provides us with the happiness and humility that cannot be understood by the unbeliever or the cosmic believer.
31. The plan of God includes systems of authority from which every person has the freedom to choose. No one is free from some system of authority. The grace-oriented believer has chosen to submit to the authority of God and His immutable Word.
32. By doing so, he is humble enough to trust in their intrinsic integrity and therefore willing to submit to the leadership they provide.
33. Whatever life presents, he is content to orient and adjust. His conscience is thus organized around the directives, guidance, and imperatives of the Word.
34. Unbelievers choose to reject divine authority and opt instead to make decisions that satisfy their own urges and objectives.
35. A common misconception is failure to realize that everyone is under some system of authority. Unbelievers and cosmic believers are controlled by their sinful natures and the doctrines of demons.

36. Believers who are committed to serving God are controlled by the leadership of the Holy Spirit and that portion of Scripture that circulates in their streams of consciousness.
37. The proper way for the advancing believer to influence others is through the daily performance of Spirit-filled thought processes, decision-making, and application.
38. Freedom allows everyone to make choices within the parameters of positive law, which freedom should permit the exercise of certain rights: (1) movement, (2) assembly, (3) speech, and (4) press.
39. Each of these is imperative to the proper function of what the First Amendment refers to as “free exercise” of “religion.”
40. The message of the gospel must be presented to the devil’s world in two ways: (1) personal testimony by means of behavior patterns and character traits that exhibit a biblically based lifestyle, or (2) a personal testimony that conveys the essential elements of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
41. Those who function under the authority of their sinful nature and who are students in the cosmic academy seek to tear down standards that restrict their behavior.
42. Their cosmopolitan worldview converts liberty into carte blanche license to do as they please; consequently they place no restraints on their decisions and take no responsibility for their actions.
43. The dictionary defines “cosmopolitan” as “belonging to the whole world; not national or local. Not bound by local or national habits or prejudices.”¹

¹ Webster’s New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language: Unabridged, 2d ed., s.v.: “cosmopolitan.”

44. When “national habits or prejudices” are incorporated into a nation’s positive laws” then the behaviors they forbid become the cosmopolitan’s cause célèbre until they are generally accepted and legalized while the “national habit” is either diminished through verbicide or gradually expunged from the culture by fiat.
45. In other words, “Allow me to think, decide, and behave the way I want to or I will attack your “habits and prejudices” by means of critical theory and ultimately enforce my cause célèbre by means of intimidation and by law if necessary.
45. This is part of the process by which the Long March makes its way through the institutions of a traditional culture.
46. Major elements of our culture’s traditional foundation are the laws of divine establishment and the four divine institutions. Many of these standards are associated with spiritual principles that define the Christian way of life.