

Relational rehab in Cyber-land

I. Introduction-

- Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! Ps 133:1
 - By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. Jn 13:35
1. We live in a physical reality- defined and controlled by the laws of nature and science-
 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. Heb 11:1
 2. We all live in a spiritual reality defined and controlled by spiritual laws –
 - He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:12
 - For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Eph 6:12
 3. We live in a virtual reality- defined by laws of cyber-reality-
 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Ps 103:19
 - My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. Jn 10:27
 - For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart. I Cor 1:18

II. Cyber-land was designed to have net-neutrality-

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. Gal 6:7

A. Cyber-land is not neutral spiritually-

- Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. II Cor 4:3

B. What we worship will define the cyber-land we live in-

- You shall have no other gods before me. 4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God. Ex 20:1
- Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. Rom 6:12

C. The bible is the absolute truth and guide to life in cyber-land

- All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. II Tim 3:16
- Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Rom 12:2

1. God is fully present in cyber-land

- Lord, you have searched me and known me! Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! Ps 139:1
2. Warning up front of the dangers of this cyberreality that we cannot escape
 - The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it. 4 The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life. Prov 22:3
 - Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. I Jn 4:1

III. The hope and the blessings of cyber-land-

- If you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. 2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God. Deut 28:1

A. In cyber-land we can tell the world about Jesus-

- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Mat 29:19

B. The superhighway of information-

- Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, Jn 8:31
- An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. Prov 18:15

C. Instant answers and communication-

- If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. Jam 1:5

IV. The dangers and curses of cyber-land-

- But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. Deut 28:15

A. False teachers

- For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. II Tim 4:3

B. Social media-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uquRzrcwA18>

- The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? Jer 17:9

c. Amusement in cyber-land-

- Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith. I Pet 5:8
- Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Eph 5:15

D. Sex in cyber-land-

- "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. Mat 5:27

E. Protecting our home- in parenting seminar

- I will walk with integrity of heart within my house; 3 I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me. 4 A perverse heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil. Ps 101:2

V. The traveler's guide to cyber-land-

- "You are the light of the world. let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Mat 5:14
- Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. 14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. Mat 7:13
- "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Mat 7:11

Additional resources:

Information of Artificial Intelligence

<https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2021/november/rise-of-the-machines-are-we-entering-dangerous-territory-with-machines-that-replace-god>

<https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/national-security/2021/december/the-third-revolution-of-warfare-is-america-losing-the-ai-race-against-china>
<https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2017/november/this-former-google-exec-says-artificial-intelligence-is-god-creates-new-religion>
<https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2018/december/speech-police-an-online-hate-index-run-by-artificial-intelligence-what-could-possibly-go-wrong>
<https://www.christianpost.com/news/preparing-for-the-ai-tsunami-stages-in-civilization-part-2.html>

websites:

<https://www.christianpost.com/>
<https://www.biblegateway.com/>
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/interlinear-bible/>
<https://biblearchaeology.org/>
<https://www.icr.org/>
<https://crossroads-ridgecrest.org/>
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