

THE TECHNICAL FAILURE OF TECHNOLOGY

Romans 1:30 & 32

30) Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

32) Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Romans chapter one reveals the spiritual traits that ultimately lead to a reprobate mind. The seven downward spiraling steps towards becoming reprobate are laid out in vintage fashion.

I've always been intrigued with what seems to be, on the surface, a misfit of traits—"inventors of evil things." It is listed in the midst of a category of very sinful attributes. The Greek understanding and definition of this phraseology are defined as "Those who have invented destructive customs, rites, fashions, etc."

The pagans of Rome had so influenced every social arena of society, not to mention even religion itself, that the lifestyles of debauchery were mostly deemed as normal lifestyles. The new apostolic converts in Rome were subsequently tasked with having to unpack years of cultural perversions that were accepted as the norm for sinful society. The inventors of evil things, therefore, were clearly distinguished and called out by the ministry. Men like the Apostle Paul taught that their sin was as dangerous as a rebellion against ordained authority and "haters of God."

Of course, "inventors of evil things" in Bible days were considered men that promoted ceremonial or even social customs and rites that perverted the moral laws of God—offensive idolization of worship protocols. Any technology formats, as we understand and experience them today, would have been far beyond their perceived abilities to grasp. That said, however, the context and spirit of the conceptual reality of this phrase fall within the purview of modern-day challenges in our current arena of exploration.

Many areas of technological inventions, or advancements as we know them today, would invariably be a modern-day reflection of this scriptural context. Overwhelming evidence abounds as proof of the current seismic shift in the spiritual landscape around us due to the barbaric nature and influences that so much of technology has had upon holiness-minded people. There is too much to list and parse through in a one-text venue. Overall, it is far-reaching and consuming in scope on many important levels.

To highlight a simple assessment, yet with a devastating conclusion, is that technology, we were told firstly, was advanced upon making our lives more

convenient allegedly. To bluntly demur, the experiment failed miserably, as we can honestly conclude. In conjunction with that mindless hypothesis regarding convenience, we were also force-fed for the last two decades the notion that technological advancements would also make us more socially connected. This “social myth” has also proven to be a “social abyss.”

In the 1990s, record amounts of spending were invested to equip people better to “get connected.” According to Forbes magazine reports and Wall Street investors' statements in the '90 tech stocks were society's number one chief concern towards financial investment. Today the spending has exponentially increased, to be sure, but with an opposite objective in view. People are now going all in financially to safeguard and secure their own personal identities, along with building social firewalls to protect, if not engage in, new levels of uber-privacy. Many are even disconnecting from the harmful influences of technological platforms such as Facebook.

Pandora's box is obviously equipped with hinges yet conspicuously absent of any locks. Pandora's box may not even have a lid attached to it anymore on many social levels.

Many areas of technology are becoming a bottomless pit of nothing less than social sewer tanks. Evil is too kind of a term, for sure. At this very writing, even many in the United States Congress are actively and aggressively comprising legislative strategies to legally limit, if not to terminate altogether, the poisonous influences of many of these dangerous venues that are now ripping American families and businesses apart. They openly confess that their efforts may end in futility. The horses are out of the barn.

The vast majority of moral men, both religiously and secularly, are now consequently desiring to be invisible in the cyber world for obvious reasons.

The greatest deception of technology, along with the evils of technological advancements today, is now enabling, if not fostering, the spirit of loneliness in society—loneliness unto depression. If you haven't fought loneliness, you will. This is not mom and pop's loneliness of yesteryear either, but rather a loneliness 2023 version. This is a demon-influenced loneliness.

If our eyes are still the gateway to the souls of men, then we can confidently confirm by what we witness through the spiritual vacuum of lost souls and by the emptiness of the eyes of men today that the demon of depression has a close ally in most modern-day technology venues.

Loneliness and depression are the newest scourge for mankind in this age. Will the son of man find faith in the earth when he returns? Like all lies of Satan, the initial

external fruit looks appealing at first glance, but the epilogue is so devastating. We are dealing with a spiritually disconnected human race today that allegedly celebrates being socially connected. Go figure. Loneliness and depression have become the spiritual COVID pestilence of the inner man. It is a struggle that many are currently battling. We hide behind our social masks hoping for some bizarre protective barrier against the unknown and hopelessly incurable advances of technology's increasingly prevailing influences.

F.A.D. is the newest acronym describing Facebook Addiction Disorder—which is now considered by leading psychologists and psychiatrists as a mental disorder for its victims. Quite the opposite results, to say the least, from the initial bait, waved in our faces a few years ago.

Remind me once more of these secular evangelistic tools that are so “beneficial” and needed to video live-stream our worship along with the preaching of our message regarding holiness through these secular social media platforms. Platforms are now proving to be socially and spiritually destructive. When, if ever, will men stop the barbarians at the doors of our sanctuaries?

Ask any wildlife hunter what the term sanctuary means in hunting vernacular. More pointedly, a “federal sanctuary.” It is a safe place for wildlife. A place and area are off-limits to hunters no matter what important credentials for hunting one may legally hold. Hunting in other places may be justly obtained legally, but government-ordained sanctuaries are off-limits. Period. How much more should our holy and sacred sanctuaries of worship put up no hunting, or no trespassing signs, against the entrance of any secular technological or social platforms into the holy? How can we endorse for worship secular technology tools that are most commonly employed by Satan in society that are now proving to be destroying the very moral and spiritual fabric of society today?

If the Lord continues to tarry...

God save our souls!!

Bill Pitman