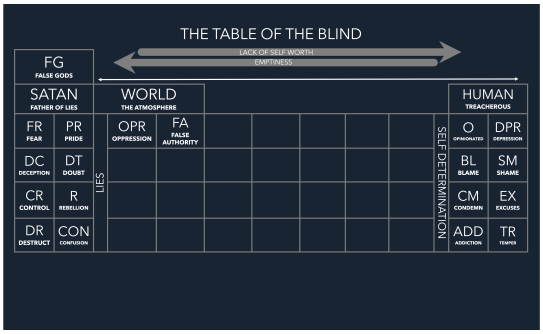
Chemistry of a Christian 7
Outright War

LIGHT AND DARK



THE DARKNESS

Understanding the enemy - Why even study the darkness?

2 CORINTHIANS 2:11 (NLT)

…so that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are familiar with his evil schemes.

But when we look at the table of the blind… many of us understood the table even before we had filled in all of its elements.

We have become accustomed to the darkness. Our comfort in the moment has us choosing a side that inevitably leads to death.

THE DEVIL

HE TWISTS HUMANITY'S PERCEPTION OF THE CHARACTER OF GOD

GENESIS 3:1;5 (NLT)

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

"You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman. "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil."

HUMANITY'S RESPONSE

We carry a responsibility that we are not designed to have.

Our psyche was not designed to carry the burden of the guilt of disobedience to light, wonder, purpose, authority, and blessing.

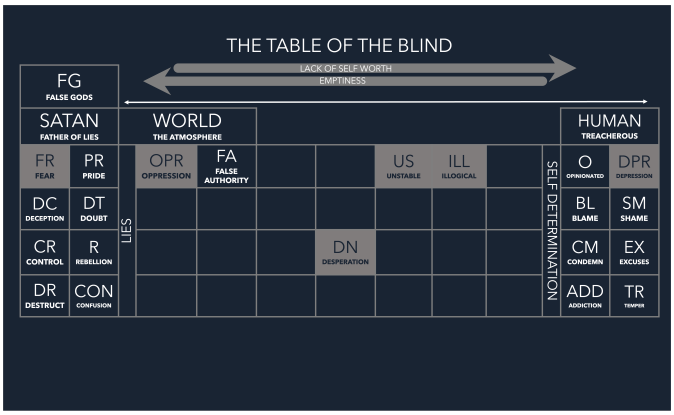
THE WORLD

That darkness in its collective becomes the SPIRIT OF THE WORLD.

Satan's character and conduct are manifested in those over whom he has control.

EPHESIANS 2:2 (NLT)
You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.

SUMMARY EXAMPLE (WITH EXTRA)



FEAR
Satan presents **FEAR**.
The burden of obeying fear manifests in our character as **DEPRESSION**.

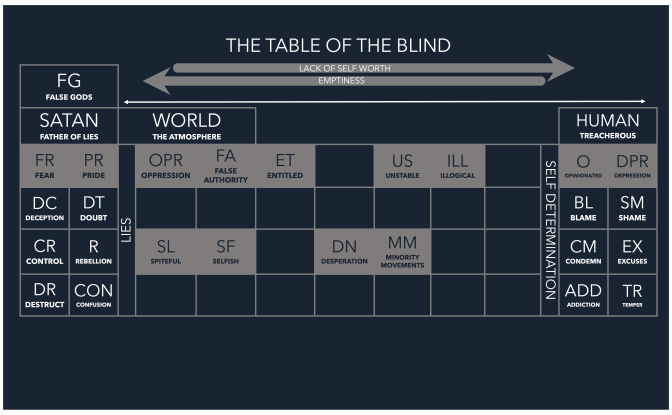
The collective depressed atmosphere becomes evident through the **OPPRESSION** of anything that reminds us of our disobedience or God's goodness.

The combination of fear, depression, and oppression creates an atmosphere or spirit of **DESPERATION**. (Devil himself is desperate as His time is running out)

Nothing good comes out of a space of acting in desperation. We make radically **ILLOGICAL** decisions, and society begins to represent that in making illogical laws, governing, and leading in the craziest of ways that make absolutely no sense.

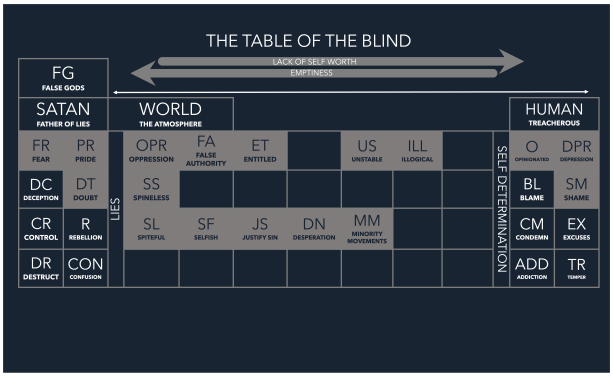
What's next in the fear-based, depressed, oppressed, desperate, and illogical world? **UNSTABLE**.

PRIDE



Satan presents **PRIDE**.
We display our obedience to self by becoming **OPINIONATED**.
The collective opinionated society gets a **FALSE SENSE OF AUTHORITY**.
Before long, we have a society that is driven by **ENTITLEMENT**.

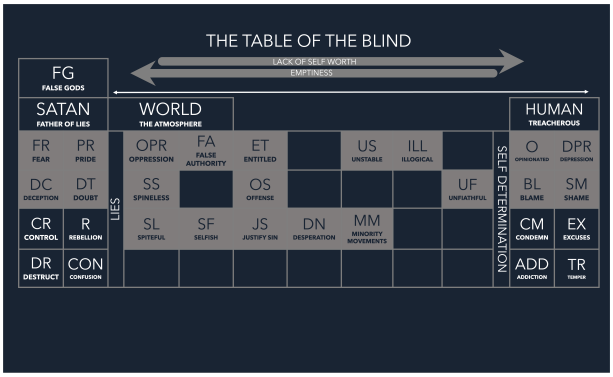
An entitled society becomes a **SPITEFUL** society.
And an entitled, spiteful society becomes riddled with **MINORITY MOVEMENTS**, all with their own prideful, **SELFISH** agendas.



DOUBT

Doubt checks our thoughts, and we walk in **SHAME** and being ashamed of whom we are.

Shame gives the world permission to be morally **SPINELESS** and have no concern in **JUSTIFYING SIN.**

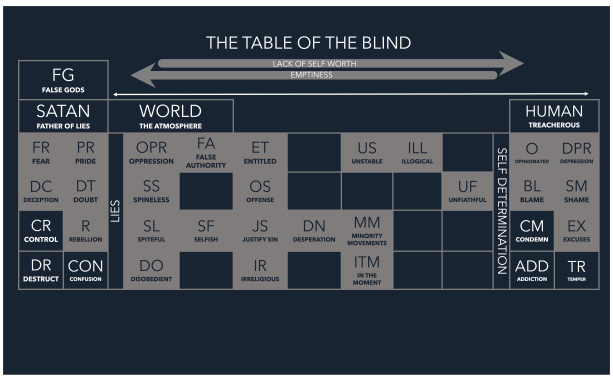


DECEPTION

Deceived by who we are and what we are entitled to, we don't feel fulfilled, shame leads to **BLAME**, and blame quickly leads to **OFFENSE**.

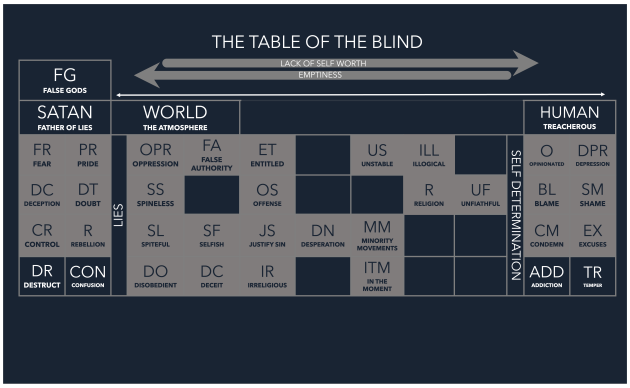
Our offense justifies us breaking promises when it gets tough, or we get hurt and find ourselves in an **UNFAITHFUL** world.

REBELLION



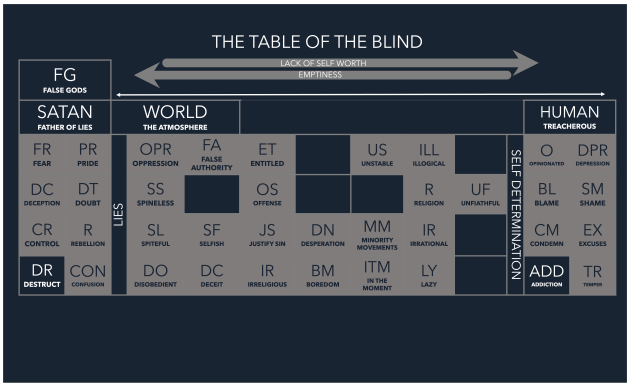
EXCUSING ourselves from doing the right thing because of wrong circumstances, we give ourselves the right to be **DISOBEDIENT.**

We don't have to respect, honor, or take the high ground and become **IRRELIGIOUS** as a society. Living **IN THE MOMENT.**



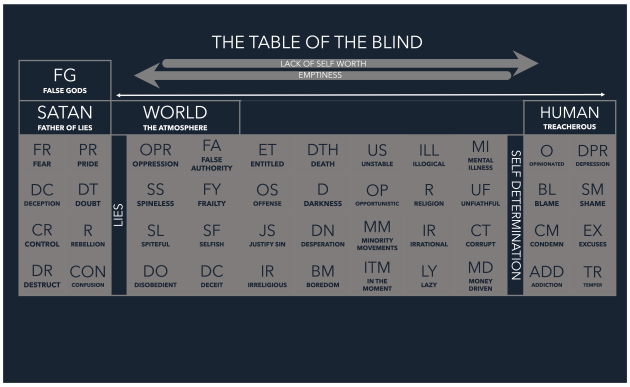
CONTROL (Be Controlled)
We **CONDEMN**, establish **RELIGIOUS** rules to judge others, and learn to live a double life in a world where **DECEIT** is considered a skill.

CONFUSION



Confused by who we are, our **TEMPERS** mount, and our frustration breaks out into **IRRATIONAL** behavior that causes us to lose control of our direction, giving us a sense of worthlessness and trapping us in **BOREDOM** and **LAZINESS**.

DESTRUCTION



Self-destruction lends itself to **ADDICTIONS** that have to be propped up in a material world that is **MONEY-DRIVEN**, and **CORRUPT CHARACTER** is rewarded. In desperation to stop the destruction, we jump at experiences and false **OPPORTUNITIES**. Our minds corrupt, and **MENTAL ILLNESSES** abound. We have suicidal thoughts and self-harm. We lose sight of the life-giving relationship with God's Spirit and begin to operate out of our **FRAILTY**. We begin to **DIE** inside. So much destruction, so much disappointment, and soon it gets very **DARK**.

GENESIS 1:2 - THE DARK WATERY DEEP
DESTRUCTION BROUGHT DARKNESS DEATH AND DECEPTION -

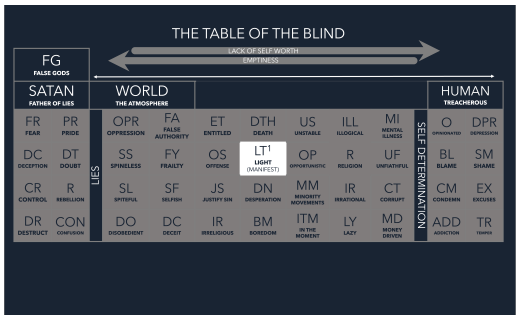
JOHN 10:10A (NLT)
The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

THE LIGHT ALWAYS WINS

GENESIS 1:3 - LET THERE BE LIGHT

2 TIMOTHY 1:10 (NIV)
But it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

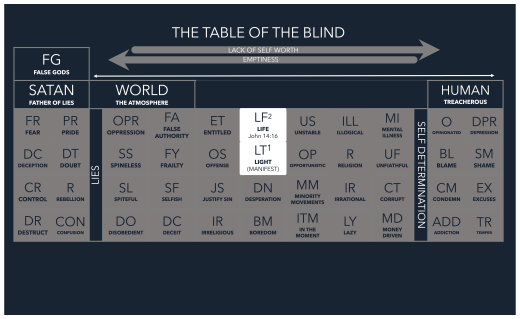
1. DARKNESS TO LIGHT



Darkness is the culmination of the manifestation of the lies of Satan and the acceptance of them by humankind.

Light is the culmination of the manifestation and revelation of God's character.

2. DEATH TO LIFE



To understand death, we need to understand its source - disobedience.

GENESIS 2:15-17 (NLT)
The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over

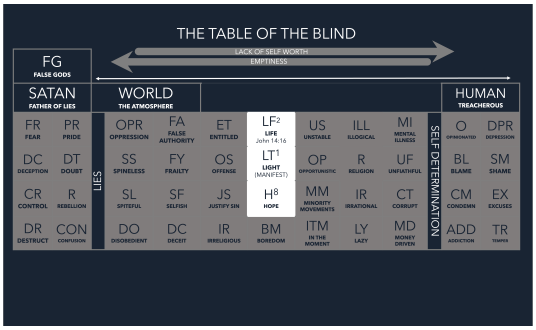
it. But the Lord God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die."

Obedience to God's character would reveal what is right and wrong (Holy Spirit) and eternal life (characteristic of God).

Disobedience has us replacing the real with the fake.
Moving our lives from darkness to light and from death to LIFE requires our obedience to the right source.

DEATH IS DEFEATED, AND LIFE RETURNS.

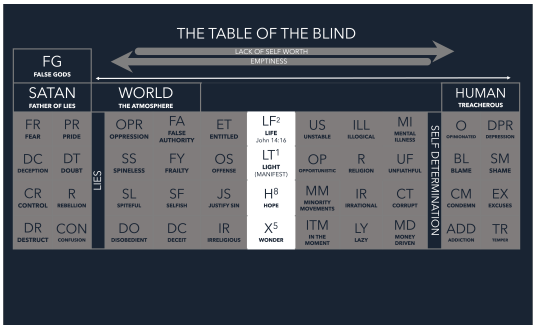
3. DESPERATION TO HOPE



For the believer there is hope beyond the grave, because Jesus Christ has opened the door to heaven for us by His death and resurrection." **-Billy Graham.**

DESPERATION turned to HOPE.

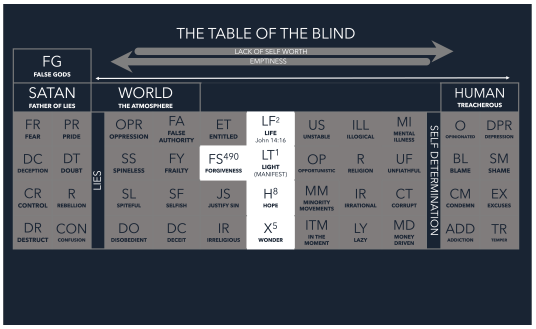
4. BOREDOM TURNED TO WONDER



JOHN 4:13-14 (NKJV)
Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again, The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

OUR BOREDOM TURNED TO WONDER.

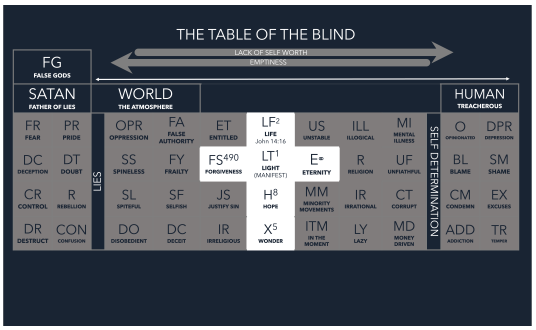
5. OFFENSE DEFEATED BY FORGIVENESS



1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-5 (NLT)
Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged.

OFFENSE CAN NOT BE CARRIED WHEN OUR OFFENSE IS FORGIVEN.

6. OPPORTUNISTIC THINKING BECOMES ETERNAL PEACE



JOHN 10:28-29 (NLT)
I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand.

OUR FRANTIC, DESPERATE LIVES ARE GIVEN PEACE THROUGH THE GIFT OF ETERNITY.

WINNING YOUR WAR

2 TIMOTHY 2:10 (NLT)
So I am willing to endure anything if it will bring salvation and eternal glory in Christ Jesus to those God has chosen.

What are you willing to do to run towards the Light?

JOHN 8:12 (NLT)
Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. ***<u>If you follow me</u>****, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."*

1 CORINTHIANS 2:12 (NLT)
And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.