

# Pastors Thoughts of the Week

## Peaceful Thoughts

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Jeremiah 29:11

One of the most popular literary motifs of the Middle Kingdom of Egypt was "Order vs. Chaos" which can be seen in a number of their most famous literary myths. The demented genius that drove the chaos was the malevolent god, Apophis, who was depicted as a serpent, the embodiment of chaos. No matter how many times Apophis was defeated and killed, he always rose again to life leaving in his wake confusion, calamity and chaos. These cunningly devised myths have a strange resemblance to the Genesis account of the serpent in the garden as well as the chaos his serpentine temptation effected.

In the Biblical study of Cosmology we are assured that in the initial creation, God spoke His universe into existence, subject to an irenic, ordered structure. He pronounced it as "very good". It wasn't until Lucifer fell that chaos ensued; and then Adam's failure brought even further disruption to the cosmos with a dynamic tension juxtaposing peace and evil or, as in the greek expressions, Cosmos versus Chaos.

We live in unsettling times where evil pervades the culture bringing its accompanying miseries and with those miseries, accompanying uncertainties. Stress and anxiety have driven people to mental institutions, drug therapies, yoga sessions, and alcohol consumption in a desperate, albeit illusive, desire for inner peace.

It is of no small comfort to the believer to recognize that our munificent Creator thinks thoughts of peace toward His children. We can be assured that all things work together for good and that the Father has given us hope for an expected and prosperous end. What a stark contrast to the unbelievers who find themselves "at their wit's end". Psalm 107:27 What a pitiable condition when one has to rely on temporary modalities in lieu of trusting in the insured promises of a merciful God.

Let us be sure to laud the "the God of hope" who will "fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost." Romans 15:13

*Pastor*

*Faith cometh by hearing: and hearing by the word of God Romans 10:17*