

Technology & Culture Reset

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Nathan Jones: I'm going to cover the aspect of the Great Reset that involves technology, and how technology is going to change culture. So, how many of you like stories? Yeah, alright, well let's start I'm going to lay the foundation by giving you a story. And the story is called, "The Modern Day Man."

So, with a sudden explosion of musical notes, Katy Perry's "Roar" erupted from the smartphone frantically vibrating face-down upon the nightstand. The musical cacophony drowned out the long groan that escaped the young man lying on his unkempt bed. Yanking a pillow and pressing it firmly over his head, he groggily half-listened to the muffled lyrics: "I got the eye of the tiger... a fighter, dancing through the fire. 'Cause I am a champion, and you're gonna hear me roar." Well, he let the inspirational message motivate him into at least a sitting position.

Bare feet hanging over the edge of the bed, the man scratched his jawline obscured by his scraggly beard. And with some effort he leaned far over and snatched up his Android. Not expecting facial recognition to identify him in this disheveled condition, he zigzagged his index finger across the phone's surface keying in the code to unlock the interface and he clicked the pause button on Spotify. He was greeted by dozens of multi-colored App icons filled with numbers indicating notifications that were all vying for his attention. Checking the Like count on his Instagram post from the night before, he bemoaned the paltry response, that old pang to his self-esteem shot him through the heart yet again. His selfie picture winking at his dinner reminded his stomach that he was hungry, and that groaned, too. So, after inquiring with Google Home what time it was, the man realized that almost 25 minutes had elapsed since Katy Perry had knocked on his proverbial door and awakened him.

Trudging to the bathroom for his morning ablutions, he switched on both Pandora and the faucet. Soaking in the bathtub took another half-hour as his thumbs deftly moved from Snapchat to WhatsApp to Twitter to TikTok. For kicks, he pulled up BitLife to help him decide if he should towel off or spend some additional time seeing if Studio C had released anything new yet on

YouTube. With a loud sigh, he obeyed, and he dripped his way out of the tub and into a pair of PacSun skinny, grey jeans. He wished he had a dark stacked pair, but so with a few more swooshes of his index finger, Amazon would be delivering a new pair to his front door in just a few hours. His bank's app whined with the disappointing news that there'd be another overdraft fee. No problem, he'd just reapply for another Apple Pay account. A knowing smile at his cleverness spread across the hazy mirror image peering back at him, and so enamored by what he saw, he puckered his lips, and he snapped a picture to upload to his Tinder dating profile. That should get the models swiping right, he mused.

Well, lunchtime had already started as he skulked to the table eyes glued to his phone so he wouldn't have to see the disapproving gaze of his father. He didn't want to start "When I was a 23 year old..." conversation all over again. He had tried online classes at the local community college, but gender studies just wasn't for him. His ambition was to become a YouTube star. He just needed one of his video rants to go viral and then he would have it made. Or he'd become the greatest of Reddit's social justice warriors, if only he could get excited about a cause. Fortunately, his father was busy scanning through the news headlines on his Surface tablet, shifting uncomfortably from side to side as each AP newsbyte irked him. Mother, too, was engrossed between Words with Friends and Facebook, so her half a sandwich just hovered a few inches away from her mouth. Tablets, he scoffed internally, so uncool. They're only good for little kids like his sister to play Peek-a-Zoo, and so she was. The family sat in silence, except for the sounds of chewing and the tapping of glass, each intent on their own devices. The melodic voice of Google Home at last reminded the family of their afternoon activities, and they silently parted away from each other like ghosts.

The young man groaned at the thought of having to endure yet another evening at the Game Stop, a career path he knew couldn't last too much longer in this online gaming world. Brightening at the thought of gaming, he sped back to his shuttered room, switched on his PS4 to earn a better spot on the Fortnite leaderboard. Upon earning a new skin for his avatar's rocket launcher, his phone lit up with an angry text from his boss. Was that the poop emoji!?! He was late again!

Dropping the controller, the absent employee reached to pick up his key fob, only to recollect that his older hybrid-electric Prius wasn't charged and so it wouldn't be moving from its spot on the driveway. Scrambling through his App list, he pulled up Uber and ordered a pickup. Soon standing out on his front lawn waiting for his ride, the young man was forced to face down a few

unbearable moments of uncomfortable nothingness, and so he reached into his back pocket yet again for his phone. Ahhh! That made him feel much better. Fifteen minutes later, the Uber driver gave up trying to draw the young man's attention, and with a shrug, slowly drove off without him.

Now, I'm opening with this story. Now, don't take me wrong here, it is an opening fictional story because it portrays an example of the gadget-laden loser life of a member of the new generation, but does not reflect on everybody in that generation. After all, what generation has not had its slackers, right? Well, my parent's Boomer generation, which was born between 1944-1964, in their youth they weaved necklaces of daisies from out of the back of their multi-colored VW buses to their radios pulsating Led Zeppelin tunes. Your laughing, but you did that.

Now my own Gen-X, listen up guys, born between 1965-1979, spent countless hours devouring MTV and maneuvering a little Italian plumber around turtle shells while Michael Jackson blared from their boom-boxes. Yeah, brother I know what you are talking about. We know that. And now, the Millennials or Generation-Y, they were born between 1980-1998, and then Gen-Zs, born between 1999-2015, endure the pains of Tech-Neck from a life staring down at mobile device screens filled with a plethora of competing Apps as Beyoncé rocks out of wireless earbuds. Each generation has had its distractions and those who have live to be distracted.

But, and this is significant, no other generation in the past has been subjected to as many distractions as the Millennials and Gen-Zs of today. Gen-Zs, in particular, have lived their entire lives never having known what life was like without being connected to the Internet 24/7 and their mobile devices. This characteristic has led Jean Twenge, a professor of psychology at San Diego State University, to label Millennials and Gen-Zs as Generation Me and iGen respectively. And, after having reviewed two studies about classroom attention spans, led columnist Victoria Barret to label the children of today as the Distracted Generation.

A great price has been paid psychologically for these endless distractions. Barret cites a Pew Research Center finding where nearly 90% of teachers surveyed said that digital technologies were creating "an easily distracted generation with short attention spans." In a Common Sense study, 71% of teachers surveyed said they thought technology was hurting attention spans "somewhat" or "a lot," with 60% concluding that online distractions hindered their students' ability to write and communicate in person. Almost half of the teachers concluded that continual distractions also hurt critical thinking and homework skills.

Well, this ever-connected, though ever-connected to their “friends” over social media, losing in-person human relationships has caused Gen-Zs to find themselves increasingly homebound, jobless, lonely, dislocated, lethargic, physically weakened, depressed, taking prescription pain killers, and even 35% more likely to commit suicide than previous less-technical generations. Well, after learning that 44% of high school seniors in 2015 had never been out on a date, Dr. Twenge noted with some worry that, “it’s not an exaggeration to describe iGen as being on the brink of the worst mental-health crisis in decades” with the cause being that “much of this deterioration can be traced to their phones.” She concluded that “the twin rise of the smartphone and social media has caused an earthquake of a magnitude we’ve not seen in a very long time, if ever” and that “there is compelling evidence that the devices that we’ve placed in young people’s hands are having profound effects on their lives and making them seriously unhappy.

This abruptly negative shift in teen behaviors towards troubled emotional states is not a localized to the Western world either, it has become a global phenomenon. Twenge noted, “The arrival of the smartphones has radically changed every aspect of teenagers’ lives, from the nature of their social interactions to their mental health. These changes have affected young people in every corner of the nation and in every type of household. The trends appear among teens poor and rich; of every ethnic background; in cities, suburbs, and small towns. Where there are cell towers, there are teens living their lives on their smartphone.”

On another note, and don’t take me wrong about this either, your initial impression might be, well, gee, Nathan doesn’t like technology very much. He must hate technology. Well, quite the contrary. I do, I love technology. I mean after all, isn’t technology about just applying what we know to fix problems and make stuff, right? Well, technology can be thought of as the gadgets and devices we make, but it also includes the technical skills and creativity it takes to invent and forge these tools. And so, I have dedicated the last 20 years of my life professionally in the Information Technology world, specifically in Web development, design and digital marketing; to ministerially as an Internet Evangelist pursuing every new technology that can potentially reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The communications technologies the Lord has provided His Church today have reached far more people for Jesus Christ than any era before. Itek Corporate founder Richard Leghorn coined the term “The Information Age” back in 1960. Praise God! And the testament that we have 2,000 people tuned in right now confirms it.

But, as I’ve said, technology is a double-edged sword. The same social media that keeps us connected to long lost family and friends also connects us to click-baiters, and identity thieves,

and cyber-bullies. The same online classes that we take to help educate us from anywhere in the world can also depersonalize the educational process and leave the student learning in a vacuum. I have two college age kids, I know. News and weather at the touch of the fingertip, which wonderfully warns of impending storms, can also keep us in a constant state of agitation long after the event has passed. The benefit of encountering so many different points of view online can leave one's head spinning in moral relativism and despair.

Technology and the many devices that connect us provide great benefit to the individual and society, but in the wrong hands, they can produce great harm. The lord of all evil, Satan he knows this. He's had a plan going for thousands of years, since the beginning of his corrupting influence on humanity, and it continues to this day. The only difference between then and now is that Satan has added technology to his strategy for reaching his insidious goal.

So, going forward then, let's get the big picture view of what is going on with the Great Reset. Let's identify Satan's end-goal. Then we are going to discern his overarching strategy. And, finally, I reveal a number of the technologies which combined culminate into the ultimate device which our Enemy now employs to help achieve his nefarious objective.

So, let's look at Satan's goal and strategy. What is it exactly?

The book of Isaiah provides a first-hand narrative of exactly what Satan has long been attempting to achieve. He said, "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High." And ever since God's guardian cherub and heavenly worship leader began to envy the praise and worship that the Almighty received, Satan has sought to usurp God and sit on His throne. A failed coup d'état forced the prideful angel to change his plans, having been banished from Heaven and cast down to the Earth. If he could not rule the universe, then Satan would at least rule over the planet promised to God's children who were made in His image. Satan would corrupt humanity, bending these mere mortals to serve him rather than their Heavenly Father, and so build his own heinously evil global empire upon their subjugated backs.

So, what strategy does Satan employ in his attempt to reach his sinister goal of establishing his global empire and so garner the praise of mankind? Well, he continues to follow the same five-step strategy he did back in the Garden of Eden.

Step number one, Satan's goal is to distract. The first step in Satan's nefarious strategy to steal the planet Earth from mankind began by distracting God's children. Genesis 3 tells the story of how Satan, in the form of a serpent, approached the very first woman, Eve. Hanging down from his perch in a nearby tree, the serpent stopped the woman in her tracks with a simple question asking, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" And the woman replied to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but the fruit of the tree, which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

Well, God had created and then placed the very first people, Adam and Eve, into a garden paradise. No weeds or thorns or thistles or stinging and biting creatures could be found there. The first couple only had to keep the garden well-trimmed and cultivated, name the animals, and keep God and each other company. No want or need existed, for the bounty of the garden was lovingly given by God for them just to pluck at with ease. Every imaginable fruit and grain was at their disposal. And the crops grew, and the trees fruited all year long.

Only one rule existed in this tropical paradise, and that was for Adam and Eve not to eat from one lone tree. That's it! Just one tree. The first couple had even been warned by God what should happen to them if they ate from that tree, death. But, Satan knows that which is forbidden often becomes the most tempting. So, even with all the boundless delicacies at their disposal, Satan knows how easy it is to distract mankind with the things that they can never possess. With that one simple question Satan posed, all of the bounties faded away from Eve's sight, and only that solitary forbidden tree remained stubbornly tugging at her mind.

Step number two, self-focus. So, with Eve's mind distracted away from all she possessed to know only what she could not have, Satan implemented the second step in his strategy to wrest the world away from humanity. He made the humans focus not on a loving God and their countless blessings, but on themselves.

In verse 4 the serpent said to the woman: "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Well, Satan's bald-faced lie placed a niggling doubt in the back of Eve's mind. She began to think that, well, maybe God is holding out on her, and that, well, maybe He did not love her and Adam as selflessly as He had claimed. And maybe that God was jealous of humanity and was just trying to keep them down. Her outward focus on God and her husband became self-focused on

what she now believed she didn't have but deserved. Eve began to see her and Adam as victims. Dupes even! An unknown feeling welled up within her for the very first time in her short life. Eve began to envy. And Satan recognized that emotion all too well.

Step three, break apart. The story goes on in verse 6 that a distracted, self-focused Eve took a good look at that forbidden tree and found the fruit was quite attractive, for "it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise." Purposefully ignoring the subconscious voice pleading with her conscious mind to not do this disobedient thing, Eve made up her mind, she plucked a piece of the forbidden fruit, and ate it.

Adam now enters into the picture. We don't know if he was there the whole time, or that he'd just come upon Eve and the serpent conversing. Genesis really doesn't say. Some claim that Eve's newfound understanding of the difference between good and evil, the loss of her child-like innocence, caused her to realize that she had somehow become different from her husband, maybe even emotionally superior. Regardless, her willful disobedience had broken her apart from her mate. And with this realization, Eve may have even tried the first feminine charms to lure Adam to join her in her guilty state. Unlikely, though, for verse 17 places the fall of mankind squarely upon Adam's shoulders. We know simply that she also "gave to her husband with her and he ate," and "then the eyes of both of them were opened." Eve may have been deceived when she disobeyed, but when Adam disobeyed, he chose to do so with all the facts present.

Now, mere moments passed before Adam and Eve's relationship had begun to break apart. The juice had barely dripped off their chins before they realized with some shock that they were naked, and so they ran off to sew fig leaves together and make for themselves coverings. Well, the complete openness in their intimate personal relationship was for the first time cloaked from each other. Instead of an equal partnership, going forward man the stronger vessel would dominate woman the weaker vessel, and all future marriages would suffer some level of gender warfare. God would later in verse 16 explain to Eve this new hierarchy as, "Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

Mankind's relationship with their Heavenly Father had also been shattered. Verse 8 reveals that for the very first time in their lives, Adam and Eve feared the presence of God, and so they hid from Him. And when God at last found their hiding spot, He rhetorically asked the couple how they knew they were naked and why they had disobeyed Him? Immediately, the guilty two flung

incriminations like knives at each other. Adam blamed Eve for their sin and Eve blamed the serpent, and in their newly fallen self-righteous state, surely all three found a way to blame God.

And yet another breaking occurred, for as verse 21 reveals, the Lord God made tunics of skin out of animals to clothe them. Death had finally entered paradise. The trusting relationship between mankind and the animal world had also been shattered by their disobedience, and much fear and mistrust and blood would be spilled going forward.

Step number four divide. So, Satan's temptations had successfully achieved the breaking apart of God from Man, Man from Woman, and mankind from the animal kingdom. Satan had with almost too much ease wrested the title deed of the earth away from humanity. Satan was now the "god of this age", and the Earth was his.

But, as soon as the Enemy heard the first baby's birth cry, he realized he had a whole new problem to contend with, mankind's offspring. The very same pride and lusts and self-focused ambitions that fueled Satan and his demonic followers now also fueled mankind. Satan hadn't just created one god to rule over the world, he had ended up creating hundreds, thousands, millions, even of self-proclaimed gods. Every one of them at some level craved the attention and worship that is meant for God alone. It was bad enough the demonic overlord had his demons clamoring for higher positions, but how could he possibly rule the entire world and still have all of God's creation worship him when challenged by billions of ambitious competitors? The task seemed daunting, the challenge, unbeatable.

Well, Satan's first solution in dealing with this quandary was to attempt to transform humanity into becoming more like his demonic kind. Genesis 6 reveals that "when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, and the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose." As demons possessed men and conjugated with the women, the resulting offspring became giants. These were the unholy creatures, and they provided the mythos for the demigods of ancient lore. And so abominable was this perversion of nature, and so evil had the hearts of mankind been corrupted that God announced He would limit the lifespans of humans, He would cap it at 120 years. Then at last stepped in and wiped the Earth clean of them with the Flood. For being the so-called ruler over the Earth, Satan could not stop God's interference, and was relegated to being a mere bystander at the global deluge. Creation had been reset, and humanity rebooted, starting with the righteous Noah and his family. The first Great Reset.

The true solution to Satan's quandary came surprisingly from God Himself, mankind must be kept divided. Genesis 11 reveals that in only a few generations after Noah, mankind had yet again set their hearts against God's authority and sought to establish their own rule. All of Noah's descendants gathered as one in the land of Shinar and began to construct a tower that would stand as a monument to mankind's disobedient refusal of God's command to spread out into all the Earth. Verse 4 reveals humanity's wayward intention, "And they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.'"

God recognized that what humanity could not do alone, they could certainly achieve if they all worked together. So, as God surveyed the construction site, the Trinity conversed with Himself, concluding in verse 6, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them." God knew that dividing humanity would slow their progress, and so He came up with quite a clever solution, I think, He confused their languages. After hours of futilely attempting to communicate with each other by waving their hands around and they had heated arguments and fistfights started breaking out, those who could make sense of each other began assembling by common language. The divided people groups soon migrated off to the ends of the earth, becoming the forerunners of the ethnic peoples and nations that we have today. The combination of linguistic confusion and greedy hearts would bring about millennia of endless war and ongoing division. Mankind's dreams of wresting back the title deed of the earth grew frustrated to approaching impossible.

Well, yet another division arose when a man named Abraham came on the scene that would further keep humanity divided. Back in the Garden, before Adam and Eve had been expelled out of a paradise and into a cursed land. Las Vegas. God had presented the serpent with a tremendous prophecy. He declared, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." So, not only would mankind be divided by language barriers and soon ethnically along racial lines, but also between those who choose to follow Satan's rebellious path and those who surrendered their lives to faithfully follow God. The unfaithful would be separated from the faithful, God's enemies versus God's children, and Satan's followers pitted against God's disciples. Under the Old Covenant, it was the Gentile world pitted against the Jewish nation, and then under the New Covenant, the entire world against the Church.

With this first messianic prophecy, God also proclaimed a champion for His faithful, the One who would come to be known as the Messiah, the Christ, the revealed Son of God. The perfectly holy incarnation of God, Jesus Christ, broke loose Satan's tenuous hold on the title deed to the Earth with a selfless act. Jesus crucified, buried, resurrected from the grave, victorious, He became the Worthy Lamb slain. His victory over death granted Jesus' dominion over the Earth. And, Christ's faithful children, long having surrendered their claim over the world when they also surrendered their lives to Jesus, will one day be granted inheritance rights to the planet upon Jesus Christ's return. And, yet again banish Satan, this time to the Bottomless Pit, and Jesus will establish His Millennial Kingdom. But, that's getting ahead of ourselves. I wanted to give you the end picture as well.

Alright, Satan's final step is to globalize. Satan's strategy began by distracting humanity with perceived wants, then redirecting people to focus only on themselves, resulting in a breaking apart of vital relationships, and then dividing humanity so they could not join together and so attain the power and praise which he so lustfully desires. The fifth and final phase of Satan's strategy to achieve both world domination and mass worship ends with globalization.

Satan has spent many long centuries anxiously waiting for a means to at last be developed that would make possible the ability to regather the warring masses and then reprogram humanity under a whole new unifying culture and ethos, his ethos. This newly shared culture and (im)morality would bring about a false sense of harmony that would result in a reunification of the discordant nations, but all under his own global governmental control. Satan seeks to establish a new world order.

The Bible, especially in the book of Revelation, reveals that Satan in the not too far off future will be wildly successful at implementing his new world order, though not all by his own efforts. God at first, again, interferes in the affairs of Satan and man yet again by removing His restraining influence, and He does so by, what? Rapturing the Church up to Heaven. "Then we, Christians, who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus, we shall always be with the Lord forever," 1 Thessalonians 4:17.

The shocking removal of all Christians from this planet will plunge the world into abject terror and a descent into spiritual darkness. With no Church to hold back this darkness, every evil inclination will be let loose from people's hearts. Every foul deed will be done with maniacal glee. Anarchy and lawlessness will abound. And chaos will ravage the divided old world order.

The mystery of lawlessness that is already at work in this world will at last reveal itself. Out of the old world order a new world order will arise. Out of lawless, the Man of Lawlessness will come forth. Satan will present his own chosen one who will ascend as if a messiah by spouting false promises of peace and safety to calm a chaotic world. The prophet Daniel in chapter 9 describes this supposed man of peace who shall come will “confirm a covenant with many” for seven years. And along with political peace he will also offer up a brand new religion, the Mystery Babylon religion, to unite the world religiously. The mask of peace will merely be a façade, though, for the peacemaker will quickly reveal himself to be a warrior, a Beast, a global tyrant. As the Second Seal Judgment so tragically portrays, the Antichrist will bring war to those who refuse to bow to his rule, and it result in, get this, a staggering death of a quarter of the world’s population, over 2 billion people in today’s numbers.

In the middle of Daniel’s seven years of prophesied Tribulation, Satan through the Antichrist will have at last subjugated all the nations of the world, except Israel. The world ruler will then break his covenant with Israel by opposing and exalting himself “above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.” In doing so, the Antichrist will establish his own high priest, the False Prophet, and he shall bring an end to the sacrifice and offerings made to God in the newly built Jewish Temple. In committing this blasphemy, Satan through the Antichrist will kill the Mystery Babylon ecumenical world religion by setting up his very own religion in its place, outright Satan worship. The False Prophet will construct a living image of the Antichrist and require all of the world to fall before it and worship it. Those who survive the wars and God’s raining judgments will then be required to take a loyalty mark which displays the Antichrist’s name or number on their right hand or forehead. All must worship the Antichrist or by the False Prophet’s hands be cut off from commerce and so starve, be immolated in flames, or sentenced to beheading.

So, after thousands of years of human history, Satan during the coming Tribulation will have at last achieved worldwide dominion and global worship. His strategy successful; His goal achieved. And, anyone who resists and refuses to comply, such as the Jewish people and the post-Rapture converts to Christ, they are going to be massacred according to the Bible.

Well, so we have identified Satan’s end goal, the usurping of God’s rule over the Earth, the entirety of the Earth and the theft of mankind’s worship that had been meant for God alone. And, we have learned what Satan’s five-part strategy entails, ending with a new world order controlled by a global government and a forced religion. Now we will step back and look at the

means by which our Enemy will implement his new world order, a means he has so long desired, the building of another proverbial Tower of Babel. This great unifier which has taken centuries to build and which in our day has at last been achieved, which wields the awesome power on one hand to corrupt a society while on the other hand redefining and reuniting it, which deconstructs the mind of man yet transforms them into living by a brave new ethos, Satan's means is technology.

I contend that in order to subjugate a people on a worldwide basis, to take captive and then bound them to the spirit of the Antichrist who wants to enslave all of humanity under the coming regime of the First Beast of Revelation 13, can only be achieved by the implementation of certain key technologies. These key technologies when combined, it will culminate into the ultimate mind-altering mechanism, which is even right now being used to capture the minds and hearts of mankind, particularly the youth, to benefit Satan's nefarious work in the high places in which he occupies in order to create the minions for the Antichrist spirit. That all-encompassing mind-altering device is? The smartphone.

To gain an understanding as why the smartphone has become Satan's preeminent device towards achieving his long-desired new world order, we have to explore the underlying technologies which make the smartphone possible. The smartphone as a technology does not stand alone, but rather it exists like the spider at the center of a web of many other technologies. The smartphone isn't just one technology, but the culmination of many, many technologies all layered and integrated like the many cells, organs, and systems that make up the human body.

So, now we are going to explore six vital categories of technologies that comprise the smartphone and, therefore, makes Satan's globalization strategy possible. Now, bear in mind that the identifying and explanation of each of these technologies would constitute whole books. I was going to preach until midnight, but I'm pretty sure you're all ready to go home soon. So, therefore, I'm going to only provide a cursory description of each category while expounding on those that provide key technological components that specifically aid the creation of Satan's new world order.

And, before, again, you label me a Luddite, or even worse a conspiracy theorist, please bear in mind I have a smartphone, right? And you do, too, right? I'm pretty sure you do. I'm pretty sure Don's got it integrated into his body somewhere. It's likely either in your pocket or at least an arm's length away. Right? And as I stated earlier, technology can be used for good or evil, it just

depends on the one who wields it. Smartphones are merely technology, but a device Satan so masterfully knows how to utilize in order to manipulate the masses towards his diabolical ends.

So, the first two categories of underlying technologies, electrical power and computers, are going to be electrical power, and I'm sure you can guess the other one, computers. They are essential to making the smartphone possible. And so, I would classify them as infrastructure. Not as the Biden Administration classifies it. These two technologies provide the basic, underlying framework and features for the overall system. You will recognize these as foundational to all of our modern-day devices, and without which, folks, we would be propelled as if by steam locomotive back into the Industrial Age.

So, let's look at category number one, electrical power. Ever since Benjamin Franklin attempted to catch a lightning bolt with a kite and a key, mankind has known that advancing society would require the harnessing of electricity. After all, who can imagine today's technology without electricity? You can only power so much with windmills and water wheels and coal fires. As though of us in the state of Texas learned last winter.

In 1831, Michael Faraday created the very first viable electric dynamo, leading American inventor Thomas Edison and British scientist Joseph Swan to develop the direct-current system, which in September 1882, provided the power to illuminate the first New York electric lamppost. Interesting. And this soon led to Serbian-American electrical wizard Nikola Tesla to work with AC and AC-powered motors. George Westinghouse purchased and developed Tesla's patented AC motor, propelling first American society and then the world into a future powered across interconnected electrical grids by AC. Not too long ago, huh? Staying plugged into an electrical socket isn't always convenient, though. Electricity needed to be stored and made mobile. In 1800, Italian physicist Alessandro Volta first discovered that particular chemical reactions could produce electricity, and so he constructed an early electric battery which he called the voltaic pile.

Well, let's fast forward to today to inventors, like Elon Musk. They have continued to perfect the battery, even producing and manufacturing one as large as the \$13,000 Powerwall which can power an entire house for seven continuous days before needing to be recharging. Whether your device is powered by disposable AAA, AA, D or 9-volt batteries, or a rechargeable lithium-ion battery, portable electricity allows for technology on the go.

That is the first time I've ever got amened about a technology. Amen, brother.

Category number two, computers. Mankind, much like our technology, continually seeks upgrading. Does anyone know what the first computer was?

To aid our brain's computational capability, the first computer, the abacus, was created to help perform basic arithmetic operations. The harnessing of electricity led to the development of vastly more powerful computers that perform electronically and process a far greater number of calculations in far less time. By the 1940s-1950s, the first general-purpose electronic computer called the ENIAC, Tim was there, utilized thousands of vacuum tubes, crystal diodes, relays, resistors, capacitors, plugboards, and switches it took up 167 square meters, and weighed 27 tons, and consumed 150 kilowatts of power. That's why there was only one of them. With the invention of the transistor replacing the vacuum tube, computers began to shrink in size. And, the invention of the microchip, led to much more manageable mainframe and then personal computers. Created in the 1970s, the first single-chip CPU, or microprocessor, was the Intel 4004. The micro-computer was born.

Well, the last few decades have seen computers move at almost light speed away from blinking lights and punch cards to graphical user interfaces complete with monitors, keyboards, mice and touch screens by which to more easily operate them. Incomprehensible binary machine code made up of ones and zeros has been augmented by coding languages such as Fortran, COBOL, BASIC, MS-DOS, C++, Java and Perl, which I've learned a few of them, has allowed for armies of programmers to create billions of lines of computer software, which is the DNA of computers. Software has made possible graphics-based operating systems such as Windows, and OSX and Mac OS, evolving computers to become much more user-friendly and, therefore, much more desirable to the general public. Right? You didn't want to buy an ENIAC. Ever-increasing, near-limitless terabytes of data can now be stored on servers in server farms, which we now call the Cloud.

Computers have also become smaller and lighter, resulting in laptops, PDAs, cell phones and tablets. Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak, the co-founders of Apple, made smart devices all the rage, and now people wear their computers on their bodies in the form of smartphones and watches and other mp3-playing devices. And as computers have become easier to use and cheaper to buy, billions of people have scrambled to purchase electronic devices, filling their houses and their lives with portable technology. Statista reports that as of 2020 the average person owns how many computers? Three. No, keep going. 6.58. How come nobody said 6.58?

6.58 computer devices, I don't know how that happens. Adding up to nearly 50 billion devices operating worldwide.

Computer processing speeds also continue to accelerate, doubling every 18 months. Known as (Tim) Moore's Law, this is just one manifestation of the greater trend in how all technological change happens to be occurring at an exponential rate. Do you know by 2023, computers are expected to possess the processing speed equivalent to the human brain. Do you know the supercomputer that they just created it is three-times more powerful than any supercomputer out there. And what did they name it? Megatron. Hmmm, evil killer robot. Good name. By 2045, in a mere quarter of a century, Moore's Law predicts we will possess computers with the computational equivalency of the entire human race.

Computer scientists are looking even past those goals, pursuing artificial intelligence, AI and quantum computing and robotics at a frantic pace. I was in Las Vegas two years ago at a conference about AI, it is the number one topic among companies to create AI. They foresee a time in the not too distant future when computer advancement will reach what they call the Singularity, and that means "the moment when a civilization changes so much that its rules and technologies are incomprehensible to previous generations, it's a point-of-no-return." Some of you older folks are probably saying, we are already there.

Science fiction writer Vernor Vinge, who popularized the idea of the Singularity in his 1993 essay "Technological Singularity," wrote: "We are on the edge of change comparable to the rise of human life on Earth, the precise cause of this change is the imminent creation by technology of entities with greater than human intelligence." Entities with greater than human intelligence. In other words, mankind is attempting to create artificial life. Just ask Billy Crone and buy his DVD.

The rise of computer hardware and software companies such as Xerox, IBM, Toshiba, HP, Fujitsu and Microsoft have grown into international behemoths. These Fortune 500 mega-companies, you know, wield enormous influence over the world's economic, cultural and political realms. Tech companies control the future of the human race.

Category number three, communications. Now, the author of the book of Ecclesiastes once wisely noted that "a threefold cord is not quickly broken." So then, what's better than one computer working alone? Well, how about three, or three hundred, or three million, or even better three billion, devices all working together. Hence, we come to our third vital category of technologies which comprise the smartphone, and that's communications technologies. This

category consolidates a virtually mind-numbing array of various technologies, everything from print and audio and video. Radios, transmitters, televisions, cell towers, satellites, cable, cameras, Wi-Fi, fiber optics all of these technologies into one massive network provide just the tip, just the tip of the communications technologies iceberg.

The true genius came when all of these technologies began to be linked together only some 60 years ago, initially as a weapon by the United States to combat the Cold War. We call it the Internet today, but this wonder of modern-day life was birthed as a means for scientists and researchers to communicate and share their computer data across vast distances in their efforts to combat the Communist world. That's why the Internet was created. As soon as the Soviet Union launched the world's first manmade satellite named Sputnik on October 4, 1957, a spooked U.S. federal government quickly formed the NASA and ARPA. And these agencies would wage a Cold War by developing space-age technologies that would lead the world into the digital age. So, much like today as we are concerned that an EMP blast is going to destroy all our lines of power, they were worried that Russians would destroy the network of lines that made efficient long-distance communication possible. And so, in 1962, a scientist at ARPA by the name of J.C.R. Licklider proposed a solution. He was going to build the galactic network. Doesn't that sound awesome? A galactic network of computers that could talk to one another and enable government leaders to communicate even if the Soviets destroyed the telephone system. So, on October 29, 1969, two house-sized computers, one at the research lab at UCLA and the other at Stanford University, shared their first node-to-node message, the very first message between computers was "LOGIN." The Internet was born. Well, not quite yet that was the ARPAnet.

By the end of 1969, the two computers linked became four, and then throughout the 1970s more and more military and research computers all around the world were identifying each other by Internet Protocol, IP address and sharing their data. Then we come to 1991, a Swiss computer programmer by the name of Tim Berners-Lee, not Al Gore, opened up the burgeoning connectivity to the general public over what he called the World Wide Web, and he created the first web server, and he made the first website. Now anyone with a personal computer could access the Web over browsers such as Netscape, Mosaic, Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome and Safari. With such massive amounts of data being shared as millions of new computers were being connected to the Internet every day, search engines had to be made, Google, AltaVista, AskJeeves, Yahoo and later Bing mapped and indexed all of that data. A world of information was literally at anyone's fingertips via their desktop or mobile device.

So, as of 2020, 4.54 billion of the 7.77 billion people in the world are connected by the Internet, and 4.18 billion connect by mobile device. In the United States, 100% of 18- to 29-year-olds, 97% of 30- to 49-year-olds, 88% of 50- to 65-year-olds and 73% of older are Web “surfers.”¹ The average Internet user spends how many hours a day online? Yes, 6.5 very good. They generate 88,555 gigabytes of Internet traffic every second! The average smartphone user will spend how many hours a day on their cellphone? Whoa, no, 3 hours and 49 minutes, dedicating 90% of their time to downloading any of the 5+ million Apps from the leading App stores such as Apple Play, Apple’s iTunes and Amazon.

Truly, the Internet over smartphones has developed into today’s Tower of Babel. Language barriers are even becoming a thing of the past, as translation Apps such as Google Translate have turned one’s smartphone into a Star Trek-like universal translator. The networks are getting faster and more robust, as fifth-generation technology is being implemented at a record pace. The Internet continues to expand into its third phase, seeking to encompass every device you have from your coffeemaker to your pacemaker to your car, the Internet of Things is what it is called. And Alphabet, the parent company which owns Google, has become a monopoly. Do you know how much of searches are done through Google? 92%. How much of e-mails generated go through g-mail? 44% of all emails generated. And it is now Google is deciding what information you see. Cries of Internet censorship, especially against Conservative and Christian viewpoints, are on the rise. As television fiction writer J. Michael Straczynski, said, “He who controls information controls the world.”

Category number four, ecommerce. Like most inventions, the Internet really didn’t take off until businesses began to realize there was money to be made and the end-users how they could more easily purchase stuff. Right? The buying and selling of products and services had to move beyond the brick-and-mortar and into the electronic realm of online shopping. This now leads us to the fourth vital category of technologies which comprise the smartphone, that is ecommerce technologies.

Electronic commerce, or ecommerce, had its humble beginnings back in the 1970s with Electronic Data Interchanges and teleshopping. Companies such as Barnes & Noble, Amazon, Etsy and eBay quickly became the online go-to shopping experience. SSL, or Secure Socket Layers protected it. And the new trust in online shopping swung the boom away from buildings to ecommerce websites. Many long-lived shopping chains, you know it, Sears and JCPenney,

too slow to adapt to an online model, quickly found themselves facing bankruptcy. I miss Toys“R”Us. A seismic shift in commerce transformed the world in just a few short years.

And with the rise of ecommerce came the rise of online banking. My first IT job was in on-line banking. And soon cash gave way to electronic funds and new currencies such as the Bitcoin. Global ecommerce companies like PayPal, which began in 1998, and Authorize.Net and others provide transaction services across all the currencies to billions of the people worldwide. And entirely cashless societies, folks, are being considered. Sweden plans to go all cashless in March of 2023. And there are great concerns over the growing power that banks now have over people’s finances. For every transaction, banks get a cut of it, and have grown tremendously wealthy and influential. Increasingly, stories are emerging of banks and transaction entities such as PayPal cutting people off from their finances over ideological disagreements. Once a society goes cashless, a person can easily be separated from their assets by a mere order of the government or bank and a mere push of a button.

Online shopping has increasingly gone mobile. In 2010, payments platform Square allowed small businesses to accept debit and credit cards over mobile devices, creating \$17.9 billion in sales a year. Since then, more than a third of U.S. e-commerce sales have been made over people’s smartphones. Who has bought something over their smartphone? Wow, Las Vegas really is an interesting town. Okay. Since then, more than a third of US e-commerce sales have been made of smartphones. See you guys are behind the ball there. The top 100 online marketplaces sold \$203 trillion worth of goods in 2019. 47% of all shopping done this year will be done over people’s smartphones. And, just like the computer and Internet tech giants, online shopping giants such as Amazon, which sold over \$275 billion of goods in 2019, have risen to an almost monopoly status with no entity able to stop them from censoring merchants who depend on Amazon as practically their only marketplace.

Category number five, entertainment. So, this now leads us to second to the last vital category of technologies which keeps people addicted to their smartphones, and that’s entertainment applications. Online entertainment takes the form primarily of streaming video which includes long and short-form video, gaming, and social media.

Today’s society is visually driven. Do you know that 65% of people learn visually? So, in today’s world of advance technology and high-speed communication, many technologies drive visual learners to on-demand, and streaming video.

As technologist John Dyer points out, “Technology has become a kind of supra-cultural phenomenon that finds its way into every aspect of our diverse lives.” Today’s advanced communications technology has provided a boom in what is known as long-form video created by Hollywood. Turner notes, “Film supplies more widespread cultural references than any other art form” and “movies provide a shared reference point.” Films and movies provide an unparalleled opportunity to connect to an increasingly visually-driven culture that is story oriented, and then reshape it to the storytellers’ point of view.

Now, to meet the rabid appetite for all things, streaming video companies had to come. How many of you watch TV via streaming? Again, wow, Las Vegas, okay. How many of you use Netflix, Hulu, HBO Go, Disney Plus, Amazon Prime Video, Sling TV, Crackle? Okay, good, good. I haven’t watched normal TV or cable in like 15 years. Streaming devices connected to one’s smart television such as Apple TV, Kindle Fire Stick, Roku and Chromecast and other mobile devices, are making cable box executives fearfully contemplate their industry’s impending demise. For only a few dollars a month, subscriptions to these services open up vaults of libraries of movies and films, even finally we get to see into that ever-elusive Disney vault.

The advent of what is called short-form video, meaning video that runs a few minutes in length and allows for amateur production quality is on the rise. Pastor Craig Loscalzo notes that this media is perfect for engaging the mosaic style of thinking used by the Post-Modernist culture, meaning they draw conclusions from seeing the parts rather than seeing the whole because they are a “sound-bite driven culture” who have neither endurance nor lengthy attention spans.

And where can people find the best short, unprofessional yet widely accepted short-form video? TikTok, yeah. Yeah, just give all your videos to China. As one marketing expert cleverly noted, “YouTube is the future of entertainment. It has been for a few years now.” Do you know there are some 2 billion users? Almost a third of the world’s population, that watches YouTube every month. Some 79% of Internet users claim that they have a YouTube account, or videos, in 80 different languages. What are we streaming this conference on? YouTube. Isn’t that amazing? 90% of U.S. Internet users 18 to 44 years accessed YouTube, Gen-Zs have been called the “YouTube Generation.” What do they watch? They don’t watch regular TV, they watch YouTube, or TikTok. The YouTube generation uses their smartphones to hop from one short-form video to the next, and they will consume a mere 720,000 hours of video uploaded daily to YouTube’s platform. Countless hours every day are devoted to YouTube video consumption.

And, increasingly, Christian and Conservative content, content such as what Conservative spokesman Dennis Prager's PragerU produces and lost a lawsuit defending, are increasingly coming under censorship as Google decides what people should or shouldn't watch.

That we are having a conference on the Great Reset, on YouTube is amazing. I'm actually wondering if it will still be there by Monday? Watch it now.

Let's talk about gaming. It is a \$100 billion gaming industry has taken the world by storm. Gaming apps such as Pokémon GO, Minecraft, Snapchat, Hearthstone engage in multi-online role-playing games. Do you know the number one gaming country in the world? No, it's Germany. Isn't that weird? Germany, Japan, the U.S., Singapore and South Korea. According to one 2019 Forbes poll, gamers are playing on their smartphones an average of seven hours a week, but that goes up 20-25% every year. The global gaming community, folks, it transcends national borders. The people live within their own virtual worlds, they share common experiences and speak in a common vernacular.

And along with video watching and gaming, social media has added an average of 2 hours and 24 minutes per day spent with one's smartphone multi-networking across an average of 8 social networks. Who primarily uses social media? Women. And primarily in gaming? Men. Yeah. I guess that is sexist, they ought to shut them down. Social media has now, now get this, has become the primary communications among youth. And when polled most GenZs today will tell you, they prefer to talk to their friends through social media over in-person communication. Is that true GenZs? They are all asleep. Okay, I'm sorry.

Alright, let's get to the last, so you all can go home and get on your smartphones. And let's talk about security. This sixth and last vital category of technologies inherent in the smartphone involves security measures. These are the technologies that on the surface are meant to keep the individual safe but are really about keeping society safe.

There are those security software packages and firewalls which protect our phones from the ever-increasing threat of cyber-warfare and identity thieves. But there are also those hyper-advanced technologies that continually track the smartphone and hence the smartphone's user all the times by GPS, and tower pinging. Though GPS has conveniently replaced the paper map. I haven't used a paper map in years. Our phones know exactly. Today I was being navigated around a parking lot, it was amazing. Location tracking constantly sends data back to big tech companies such as Facebook, Apple, Microsoft, Amazon, Google know where you are

at all times. And they give that data to third party originations so that they can target you with mobile ads. You are driving past a Dollar Store, oh, boom, you get a Dollar Store ad, that is because they know where you are. And, folks, you permitted them to track you through data-sharing policies buried deep within pages and pages of privacy policies and terms of agreements. How many of you have read through that whole policy? Nobody, right? Ah, Las Vegas. Apple even tracks personal calls, emails and texts in order to prevent fraud and to rate the owner with a trust score. Everyone of you has a social trust score. Personal privacy left the building as soon as online privacy did.

For example, security technologies include the Orwellian-realized world of constant monitoring via cameras, microphones and smart assistants such as Siri, Echo and Google Home. Anybody have these? They are always listening to you. For example, ever since 2014 when Amazon unveiled the Echo speaker featuring Alexa, its voice-activated virtual-assistant software, they hired armies of low-paid Amazon employees to listen in and transcribe your conversations. They glean very personal security information from it. And, they said it was to make the product better, to improve its services. What does that look like in the wrong hands?

Totalitarian governments get involved in security monitoring, you get, what I think Billy is going to touch on more tomorrow, China's Social Credit Score. The closest system we have today to the Mark of the Beast, folks, I believe is China's Social Credit Score. It has been instituted in their more populous cities. And countries throughout the world are buying up its system. China's Communist government has infiltrated millions of cameras everywhere in order to spy on their citizens, including the cameras built into your cellphones. Computer algorithms then rate the citizen's allegiance to the government, granting benefits to those who are more loyal and restrictions on those computers deemed not to be patriotic enough. Many other countries are adopting this system, and folks, I am sure it will eventually become a worldwide system.

And, as home security systems and home devices become more "smart" and interconnected through the Internet of Things, with the master controller being one's smartphone, the threat grows of a shady outside entity being able to gain control and monitoring your own home over their very own security system. How is that possible? How many of you own a Ring? Amazon's Ring doorbell camera system was discovered being monitored by company engineers over unencrypted live video feeds. Amazon even wants to tie their Ring doorbells into facial recognition. They are tying them together so they can circumvent your own wireless network and feed off of other people's networks if they go down. And they've allowed police forces to

use their system as a surveillance network. So, the very home security devices which keep the robbers out, also keep the homeowners in a monitored prison of their own making.

Well, alright, let's conclude by tying it all together. I have been presenting the argument that Satan's final step towards realizing his goal of world domination and global adulation rests on globalizing the world under his new ethos and culture. Theology professor William Edgar defines culture as "something like a key to the beliefs and customs of a particular society, with a view to changing them." With the advent of today's vast technologies, the pinnacle being the smartphone, Satan has found the perfect device in which to mold his new unifying ethos and culture.

What then characterizes today's brave new culture? Media expert Steve Turner would characterize it as "pop-culture" and notes just how vastly it suffuses just about every part of the lives of everyone everywhere. He warns that the driving spiritual forces behind much of pop-culture are intent on altering the perceptions of the outgoing culture, often negatively also towards the God of the Bible and Christianity. "When we suspect, he said, "that culture has an agenda, we are naturally more guarded. When we think that it's only there to tickle us, we roll over and start purring... we are vulnerable to spiritual corruption when not alert." The result has been a transition of our society away from a historical, Post-Modern culture, describes the characteristics of this brave to a Post-Relativist based Christian era.

Evangelism expert, Rick Richardson describes the characteristics of this brave, new post-modern culture as including "a common belief that people are their own gods, they often engage in identity politics, they are rampantly distrustful of authority, they hold a general belief that love rules, they have an overt fear of "the patriarchy," they readily discard whatever came before, and they tend to view Christians as self-serving." I think there is one word we can walk away from this from Brandon's presentation, and that is wokeism. This is Satan's new ethos, carefully indoctrinating the masses worldwide by their ever-present and ever-watching smartphones, thus creating a new global culture, and the Bible prophesied it. Paul said, "But know this that in the last days perilous times will come for men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient toward parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanders without any self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness, but denying His power."

Pro-Humanist, anti-Christian, “having a form of godliness but denying its power” the end of days culture Paul warned Timothy has at last come. These deniers of the one true God, Paul promises, folly will be made manifest to all. But, for you Christian, know the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Let’s pray. Lord Jesus, we thank you so much for everybody here, it is late at night, and we just thank you. There is a lot of information to digest, Lord tonight, but I pray its woken up in us, an awakening, not a wokeness, but an awakening to what is going on the world. Satan has his agenda, Lord, but we know that You have a bigger agenda, that this is just a passing thing. It won’t even be remembered in the eternal state. So, I pray for every believer here. We all know, Lord, that life is going to get rougher, and rougher for us, I pray you will keep us strong. Keep us faithful. Keep us connected to you. Help us to help each other through these difficult times until Your return. And Lord, if there is anybody here who is watching on-line who doesn’t know you as Savior, I pray that they will surrender their lives to you tonight. They will cry out from the depths of their heart, in faith and repentance, “Oh, dear Jesus I am a sinner, I need to be saved. Lord, please forgive me and be my Lord and Savior.” Lord, I look forward to the day when their sins are forgiven, their guilt is washed away, and they inherit eternal life with you. Until that day we say, “Maranatha, come quickly Lord Jesus.” Amen.