



What about Dominion?

“let them (*humanity*) have dominion” (Gen 1:26)

What is Dominion? Opposing Christian views over the issue of

dominion has caused disagreement in the church. Conflict over doctrine often causes Christians to disparage the beliefs of others. We should be careful to have love for each other and therefore never get involved in these petty arguments!

There are really only three basic belief systems regarding the sovereignty of God: (1) God is in complete control of everything and nothing happens outside of His will; (2) satan is in control of this fallen world and humanity simply has to suffer all of the devil’s schemes until he is dethroned by Jesus Christ; (3) If the Christian is wise, willing, and obedient, good decisions made today create the positive situations and circumstances of tomorrow.

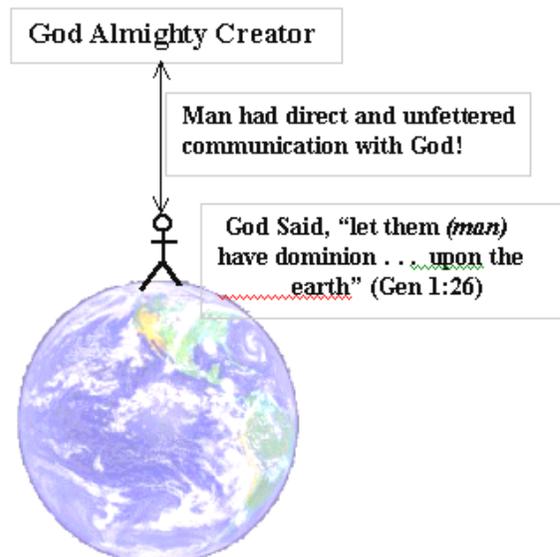
(Let’s ponder each of these alternatives!)

As mentioned before, there are some who would disparage the third option, which is the belief that decisions made today determine our future. Let’s carefully study dominion issues so we will not be confused or misled by this often-contentious topics. Almighty God, the Creator of heaven and earth, said, “**let them have dominion . . . upon the earth**” (Gen 1:26). But, what does it mean for humanity to have dominion?

We find that at creation, humanity in the person of Adam had unfettered communication with God! God immediately spoke to the man that he had just created and he proclaimed over mankind a five-fold blessing, “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion . . . upon the earth” (Gen 1:28).

A key awareness that we must be conscious of is that mankind enjoyed direct revelation (*communication*)

At the creation of man!





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with God; secondly, man was to have dominion over the earth under the overall authority of God Himself!

And so we find God exercising His direct authority over the man, “And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And the LORD **God commanded the man**, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, **thou shalt not eat of it**” (*Gen 2:15-17*). Through His decrees, God made it clear that He was in authority as He gave both direction and instruction to the man.

The relationship between man and his Creator was clearly established. The creator set the rules, which were designed to bring order and produce long-lasting harmony and peace. Man was given the absolute dominion over the entire earth; however, it was clearly implied that mankind was to remain under the overall authority of his Creator, “Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?” (*Rom 9:20*), as Paul said.

However, an ancient enemy of God slithered into the Garden of Eden. Sometime in the distant past, this prehistoric enemy provoked rebellion against God! We find this primeval war oddly described in a prophetic passage from the Book of Revelation. It is as if that ancient war is a harbinger of some event yet future, “And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: **he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him**” (*Rev 12:7-9*). Jesus spoke to His disciples with reference to this warfare as if it were an historical event, “he said unto them, I beheld (*past tense*) Satan as lightning fall from heaven” (*Luke 10:18*). This enemy’s name was Lucifer (*however, his name was changed to satan after the rebellion*). Lucifer was a created being who was one of the highest ranking angels in heaven. He was actually a highly elevated angel, “Thou art **the anointed cherub that covereth**; and I have set thee so: thou wast **upon the holy mountain of God**; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee” (*Ezek 28:14-15*). He rebelled against God the Father, taking many of the angels of heaven with him, “his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth” (*Rev. 12:4*). Through pride, this powerful being elevated himself in his own heart and then fell from God’s grace, “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13 For **thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High**” (*Isa 14:12-14*). This being who made such selfish and prideful confessions was eventually cast out of heaven!

When satan entered into the Garden of Eden he had a two-point plan in mind for the destruction of mankind. First he wanted to interrupt the unfettered communication that man enjoyed with his God; and secondly, he wanted to usurp God’s own influence and thereby become man’s source of authority. Man sinned by ignoring God’s instruction and listening instead to satan. As a result, Adam’s unfettered communication with God was interrupted. However, mankind still retained his dominion over the earth! This is a straightforward and important point that we must not confuse! Mankind has never “lost”



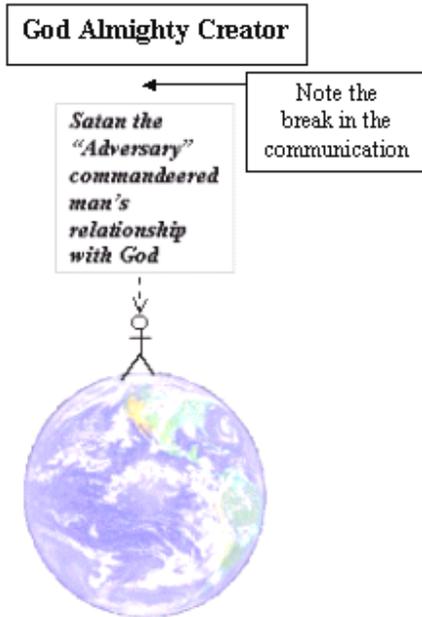
"let her be thy master's son's wife" - Gen. 24:51

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his dominion over the earth. Instead, through his disobedience, humanity positioned himself under the spiritual influence of satan the devil, "Know ye not, that *to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey*; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Rom 6:16)

At the fall of man!



Originally, the man received dominion by the word of God, "let them have dominion!" (Gen 1:26). God never warned man that he would lose his dominion; rather he said that the man would die, "thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof *thou shalt surely die*" (Gen 2:17). This is where some bible students get off track! They mistakenly believe that man lost his dominion as a result of sin! However, this is not scripturally correct. Man's actions can never change the word of God, "I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return" (Isa 45:23). It is an immutable law; God always keeps His word!

When Adam sinned he caused a major shake-up regarding influence. Adam began to listen to satan the devil and thereby God was positioned outside of direct involvement over the affairs of the earth. (*note the interruption of the communication line*) The entrance of satan's influence essentially cut-off man's

unfettered communication with God. However, God has always had at least one human through whom he could influence and thereby affect the future affairs of the earth in some way.

Realize that, satan usurped God's spiritual authority over humanity and thereby he now has direct influence over the earth. However, he can only exercise his influence and authority through a physical man! According to God's decree regarding dominion over the earth, in order for any being to have authority on this earth he must operate within a physical human body or an earth-suit!

In previous Bible Studies we have examined how God used the prophets of old to literally prophesy and thereby speak the Messiah into existence upon the earth. The study named, "Do you Reign in Life" offers more information. --- If you are not familiar with that Bible Study, you may obtain a copy from the World Wide Web at: <http://www.rivkah.org>.

Now realize, mankind has never lost his dominion over the earth; rather, he changed the spirit being through whom he would be influenced! Adam gave himself over to satan the devil; this brings us to the human (*the second Adam*) who challenged satan for that spiritual influence over humanity and thereby gained the spiritual dominion over the earth!

Over and over we can observe the confrontations between satan and Jesus Christ (*The Messiah*) who challenged satan's influence over humanity.



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- Satan caused storms (Mark 4, Luke 8) – on the other hand, Christ said “peace be still”
- Satan caused diseases in humanity – on the other hand

Christ said “you are made whole”(John 5:14) - “take up your bed” (Matt. 9, Mark 2, John 5).

- Satan said “All **this power will I give thee**, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me and to whomsoever I will I give it” (Luke 4:6) – on the other hand, Christ said, “all authority is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matthew 28:18).

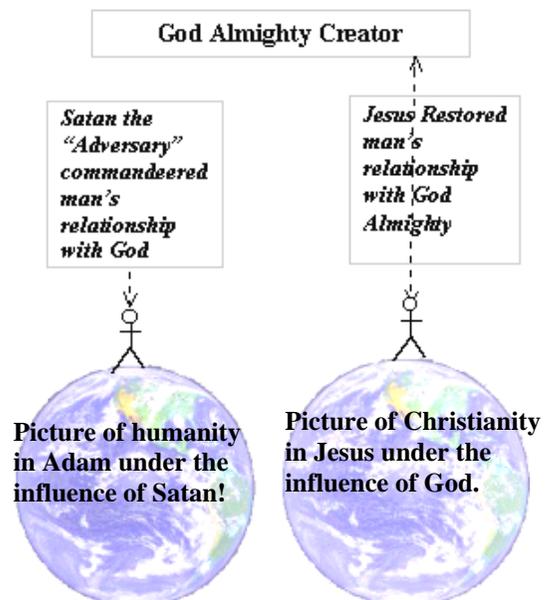
Jesus’ persistent victory over satan throughout His life demonstrated His spiritual dominion over the earth, “I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And **there was given him dominion**, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: **his dominion is an everlasting dominion**, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed” (Daniel 7: 13-14). Notice as Daniel continued, “they shall take away his **dominion**, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. 27 And the kingdom and **dominion**, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, **shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High**, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all **dominions** shall serve and obey him” (Daniel 7:26-27). According to Daniel, the saints are to receive and share the everlasting dominion over the earth under Jesus Christ!

We observed that **dominion** of the influential spirit realm has been given to Christ, who then shares that **dominion** with His saints. So now we find mankind once again exercising his authority over the earth under God just as it was originally established in the beginning, “the head of every man is Christ . . . and the head of Christ is God” (1 Cor 11:3). Jesus the Christ is already the head of this kingdom, “Thou hast put all things **in subjection under his feet**. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But **now we see not yet all things put under him**” (Hebrews 2:8). That last verse is powerful! Notice that at present, the Kingdom of God is incomplete! At this point we see only a partial reinstatement of the government; “**not yet**” are, “**all things put under him!**” A day is coming when this state of incompleteness will no longer be the case; there will no longer be two kingdoms!

Currently Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God Almighty in heaven! There was absolutely no rebellion in the Son of God. Satan could find no claim upon His soul and therefore the Father legally gave His Son the spirit dominion of earth.

Remember that there are only two groups of humans: (1) those who submit to Jesus’ authority and (2) those who by default have submitted to satan’s authority. Humanity must choose between one of these two masters who operate in the spirit realm, “For **sin shall not**

After the Resurrection of Jesus!





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have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. 16 Know

ye not, that *to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness*” (Rom 6:14-16). From that verse we can recognize just how powerful is that spirit dominion over the earth!

Christ now sits at the throne of God where he operates as our advocate. He governs over those who love His Father; therefore, He can offer our prayers to the Father as if they were His own. Because of Jesus, satan cannot point to any of our sins and use them as a wedge between us and the Father; therefore He grants our every faith-filled petition.

Jesus Christ dominated over sin; further, He has given Christians His own dominion over sin! Christians have three enemies - the *flesh*, the *world*, and the *devil*. These have been called by some: *self*, *society* and *satan*, “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh (*self*), and the lust of the eyes (*society*), and the pride of life (*satan*), is not of the Father, but is of the world” (1 John 2:16). Eve battled against these same three elements, “when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (*self*), and that it was pleasant to the eyes (*society*), and a tree to be desired to make one wise (*satan*), she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat” (Gen 3:6). Many seem to be well aware of the work of the devil and yet ignore the adverse influence of the *world* and the *flesh* on our lives.

The "*world (society)*" means that our eyes become entirely fixed on physical earthly things to the exclusion of the heavenly realm. When humans are caught up in worldly things, the present day-to-day living consumes their thought life. When the world (*this life*) is perceived as all that there is, the individual operates as a secular (*worldly*) humanist who has no consideration of God. The net result is actually one who clutches to unbelief in God.

The "*self*" is closely related to the power which the *world* holds over us, but is completely centered on *self*. The *flesh (self)* Biblically refers to carnal lusts of all kinds common even among Christians. Those in the world may hold higher moral values and still not be Christian. Paul referred to "*carnal Christians*" “Because the *carnal* mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the *flesh* cannot please God. 9 But ye are not in the *flesh*, but in the Spirit” (Rom 8:7-9).

The Bible teaches that there are some Christians who want also to please their fleshly desires. The result is that this kind of person builds their own little kingdom rather than the kingdom of God. Instead of *self*-gratification, we are supposed to crucify fleshly desires!

Christians who enjoy a true relationship with Jesus will exercise the dominion that God has given them to keep the world and the flesh under control. What we must understand is that the world and the flesh are the passages through which Satan gains a foothold in the life of a believer. The Bible says, “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7). In other words denying our dominion over sin and allowing the *world* and the *flesh* to reign, gives Satan an open door into the life of the believer, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world” (1 Peter 5:8-9).

In the eyes of some, satan appears to be our greatest enemy; however, that is simply not true! He was our enemy; however, he no longer has any influence over the Christian! The



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only weapon that he can use against us is our old way of thinking! Satan can only bring up our past; for this reason we must renew our minds with the washing of the water,

“That **he might sanctify and cleanse** it with the washing of water by the word” (Eph 5:26). Christians all too often fear Satan more than they trust God; Satan really has no access to a Christian. Sin (*satan*) no longer has dominion over Christians, “sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace” (Rom 6:14). In other words, we have help in our battle against our old way of thinking concerning the world and the flesh, “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. **Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded**” (James 4:7-8). “Submit” means to let God have His way instead of seeking our own way. Instead of blaming the devil for all of our problems, we need the Holy Spirit to look into our hearts and identify areas where we have allowed unnecessary access. Applying the focus of God’s word to cleanse us in these situations is certainly a form of submission to God; as a result, the devil flees from us.

The church of Jesus Christ is only beginning to realize that she has dominion over the world, our flesh, and the devil. Jesus said that the very gates of hell could not prevail against His church (Matt 16:18); instead of loosing, Jesus said, “All authority has been given to Me, in heaven and on earth” (Matthew 28:18). With all of this authority notice what He described to His disciples, “he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. 19 Behold, **I give unto you power** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy**: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that **the spirits are subject unto you**; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:18-20).

We have been given dominion over the spirits; the Hebrew word for "dominion" is: pronounced, (*raw-daw*); it means, to tread down, i.e. subjugate; specifically, to crumble off. It has been translated in the KJV – “have dominion,” “prevail against,” “reign,” and “to rule.” God created man to have dominion and to rule over His creation! The man who lives under his God given dominion serves God and thereby rules creation. Christians have become God's vice-regents on this earth! Jesus appointed Christians (*the body of Christ*) to rule over His creation. This does not mean that man has absolute control; rather, Christian power is subordinate to Jesus. The Christian is under the authority of Jesus and therefore obeys and serves God. As He obeys and serves God he properly exercises his dominion.

Man must obey God in all things as he keeps the commands of Jesus. Notice the work that God gave to humanity, “And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden **to dress** it and **to keep** it” (Gen 2:15) – the Hebrew word "dress" (*abad*) – which means to work, or to serve. It means to labor, to work, to do work and to serve (as in Levitical service). The Hebrew word "keep" is: (*shamar*) – meaning “to keep,” “to guard,” “to observe,” “to give heed,” “to protect,” “to save life;” “to watch as a watchman,” “to celebrate,” “to keep” (*sabbath or covenant or commands*), and “to perform” (*a vow*). In essence, God placed man in the Garden of Eden to exercise dominion. Adam began his dominion over the garden by naming (*speaking the specific characteristics into*) to the animal kingdom! He was to dress and to have charge over the Garden of Eden. Man was to rule and work in the Garden of Eden. God made man to work; this means that paradise was a place of accomplishment and not a place of idleness and leisure. Verse sixteen of



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Genesis two teaches that God commanded Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The mere existence of the command implies that the dominion of

man was to remain wholly under the absolute dominion of God Almighty. ***What we learn from that lesson is that man must first be obedient to God in order to properly exercise his own dominion.*** Humanity cannot determine for himself what is evil or good; right or wrong; what is the law. Man does not define his work in his own terms; instead, he must live by “every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” While Adam (*humanity*) obeyed and served God he properly reigned over God's earthly creation. When he stopped obeying God his dominion turned into a reign of death, destruction, and horror!

Jesus Christ has dominion over every area of life. There is not one part of God's creation that is outside of His dominion. As the King seated at the right hand of God He has complete dominion (*rule, authority*) over all things, “In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth. ***He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth***” (Psalm 72:7-8). This passage describes a comprehensive dominion under the LORD Jesus Christ.

We are in Christ, therefore we share His dominion, “Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because ***as he is, so are we in this world***” (I Jn 4:17). We have been raised together with Him to sit with Him in heavenly places, “But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath ***raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus***” (Eph 2:4-6). The fact that we are sitting with Jesus implies that we share in His authority!

Christianity has received dominion; however, most Christians have been living far below their proper level of privilege! There is the pitiful and distressing story of a man who saved up his money for years so he could go on a cruise. However, neither the captain nor his crew observed him while they were out at sea. As he was disembarking from the ship the captain noticed the man and realized that he had remained recluse during the journey; naturally the captain inquired if the man had enjoyed his cruise. The man answered, “Yes, but I was a bit hungry most of the time; you see I spent all of my money on the ticket therefore I brought my own food on the ship. I knew that I could not afford those delightfully smelling meals that you were serving on the food deck, so I didn't even want to go anywhere near the aroma. Therefore I decided to enjoy the cruise from my cabin.” Obviously the captain explained to the man much too late that all of the amenities came along with the price of the ticket!

That is exactly the same pitiful predicament in which most of Christianity exists. We need to know exactly what is included with salvation! Notice God's word on the matter, “He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, ***how shall he not with him also freely give us all things***” (Rom 8:32). What is this, “all things” that God will “freely give us?” Does this include: Health; Healing; Finances; Peace; Prosperity; Answers to Prayer; Housing; Happy Marriages; Transportation; Salvation of Family Members? We need to recognize that God gave us His most precious gift! Does it make any sense that God would give us His most precious and costly gift and then hold back on the lesser items? Absolutely not! If you were somehow the recipient of a costly mansion, would it make any sense to tell the benefactor, “Thank You so very much! The house is so



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wonderful and I don't deserve such a lovely home! I greatly appreciate the wonderful gift; and I hate to ask for more; but do you think that I could keep just the appliances that are in the kitchen? I will try to pay for them over time! You see I could never afford to furnish that kitchen in that fashion?" All the while the benefactor would be trying without success to explain, "Everything is included with the house!"

Jesus is the most valuable item! Is He not superior to everything? Therefore, everything of a lesser value has been given too! We did not have to ask; we did not have to earn; He gave us Jesus and "all things" before we even knew God! Our actions had nothing to do with the gift! We didn't even need to ask; our only responsibility is receive, "the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Ps 84:11). But who are these "that walk uprightly?" They are the sinners who, "he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor 5:21). I am, and you are the "the righteousness of God" in Jesus Christ! Since we are righteous then we are the ones who "walk uprightly" and therefore those from whom, "no good thing will he withhold!"

Sons of God should begin to recognize their privileges and refuse to live below their level of authority. Consider the following pattern, "For unto us *a child is born*, unto us *a son is given*" (Isa 9:6); do we understand the Biblical difference between a child and a son?

When Jesus was a baby He had to learn from his parents to crawl and to walk and then to run; he was, "unto us a child" that was born. However, Jesus grew into sonship, "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man" (Luke 2:52). But one day when Jesus was thirty years of age there came, "a voice from heaven, saying, *This is my beloved Son*, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt 3:17). It was announced on that day that Jesus was no longer a child and that He had attained to sonship, "Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; 2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father" (Gal 4:1-2). All of creation had waited for that day when, "the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for *the manifestation of the sons of God*" (Rom 8:19). When the Father called Jesus his "son" that was a special day.

There are only two things that hold us back from truly receiving "all things" and walking in the glory as the Sons of God: (1) Ignorance; and (2) Immaturity! When we are in "ignorance" of those Bible promises, we simply do not know what is included in salvation and we do not realize that we have access to "all things." Secondly, when our situation is "immaturity" we simply need to develop. Why is it that my brother Ivan would not entrust his diesel pickup with his young nine-year-old son, Bo? The answer is that Bo simply has not yet gained the maturity to handle a vehicle of that power. A child simply does not yet know how to exercise judgment and properly cope with responsibility. Bo would actually become dangerous to those around him if he had access to all of that power.

Like Bo, we too need to grow in maturity before we are given "all things!" You might ask the question, "How do we prove to God that we are mature enough to handle more?" Let's respond with another powerful question, "Are you *faithful* in the small things?" Jesus taught the concept, "because thou hast been *faithful* in a very little, have thou authority" (Luke 19:17). Jesus made the concept clear by saying, "he that is *faithful* in that which is



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least is *faithful* also in much” (*Luke 16:10*). God will continually share bigger and better things with us; the important idea is the concept of maturity! Jesus taught,

“Be ye therefore

perfect (*mature*), even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect (*mature*)” (*Matt 5:48*). The Greek word for “perfect” is (*tel'-i-os*); it means to be complete or to be developed in mental and moral character. The New Testament has translated (*tel'-i-os*) into the following: “of full age,” “man,” and “perfect.” The point is that as we mature in Christianity, we will be given an ever-increasing authority and dominion! We have learned from Jesus that Sons of God are those who will, by the power of God, bring deliverance and liberty to mankind. Sons of God are those who grow to understand their divine nature!

God does not honor gifts! He does not look down from heaven and say to Himself, “Oh that person is such a great speaker, I simply must have him preach for Me;” or “Now there is a great singer, I must have her sing for Me.” God is not looking for gifts; He gave us our gifts in the first place! What He is looking for is faithfulness and maturity, “***A faithful man shall abound with blessings***” (*Prov 28:20*); and, “But strong meat belongeth to them that are ***of full age***” (*Heb 5:14*). We gain God’s trust by our faithfulness and maturity! That is the concept behind the story of the talents, “Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. 21 His lord said unto him, ***Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things***” (*Matt 25:20-21*). The point is that our maturity advances us and our immaturity holds us back!

The policeman has authority in his badge and uniform. He can stop a ten-ton semi-tractor trailer with the words, “Stop in the name of the law.” This is authority. So too, we Christians have authority and dominion over the spirit realm, “***I give unto you power . . . over all the power of the enemy . . . the spirits are subject unto you***” (*Luke 10:18-20*).

We increase in our dominion through growth and prayer! As long as we refuse to grow (*change*) we will live as servants, “the heir, ***as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant***” (*Gal 4:1*). The Christian must long for and begin to taste his incredibly vast potential! Christianity is essentially the release of the life of God into these human vessels! Remember, God gave authority of the earth to mankind. We must rule over the earth!

Many unbelievers and young Christians might ask, “Since God is sovereign, why do we need to pray?” Or they might ask, “Evil (*such as 911*) obviously exists in the world; why does He not put an end to that evil?” Many have experienced diminished faith over these very issues! Is God really sovereign? How can our prayers influence this sovereign? Our prayers are needed because God is faithful to His word which said of humanity and the earth, “***let them*** have dominion!” If God were to take back authority over the earth, He would violate His own word! That He will never do, “thou hast ***magnified thy word*** above all thy name” (*Ps 138:2*). God even holds his word above His own name!

God gave dominion of the earth to humanity and he will not take it back. When God placed man in charge of the earth, He effectively removed Himself from dominion over the earth except as He might work through obedient men! The word human comes from



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“humus” or dirt! The earth needs a dirt-man to rule over it. No spirit can rule over the earth except as he works through a man! Every creature that would rule the earth must first have a human body! There is no example from scripture where God performs any act upon the earth without the assistance of a human. From the great flood by the hands of Noah to Sodom and Gomorrah by the hands of Abraham and Lot God has never acted upon the earth without the acquiescence or agreement of a human being!

Christians were commanded to pray, “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven” because God has been working through humans from every generation to establish His kingdom upon this earth! Jesus gave the Church authority, “I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and ***whatsoever thou shalt bind*** on earth shall be bound in heaven: and ***whatsoever thou shalt loose*** on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (*Matt 16:19*). Our prayers regarding dominion give God the authority to interfere in the activities of this earth! Therefore, prayer is the most important activity in which we Christians can engage!

It appears that the Lord Jesus Christ will remain in heaven at God’s right hand for a period of time, “The LORD (*the Father*) said unto my Lord (*Jesus Christ*), Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool” (*Ps 110:1*). What is a FOOTSTOOL (*Heb. kebash*, sometimes “trodden” upon). The footstool is an article of furniture used to support the feet when sitting in state, as upon a throne (*2 Chr. 9:18*). It was also the divine glory that resided symbolically between the cherubim above the Ark of the Covenant is supposed to use the Ark as a footstool (*1 Chr 28:2; Ps 99:5; 132:7*). Finally, the earth is called God's footstool by the same expressive figure that represents heaven as His throne, “Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool” (*Isa 66:1*). Notice also “Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: 35 Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool” (*Matt 5:34-35*).



From the 110th Psalm we learn that Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father seemingly until His enemies have been made His footstool. Does this mean that Jesus will not rule upon the earth until the earth is completely subdued? NO! Jesus is already ruling the earth, “when he (*the father*) raised him (*Jesus*) from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only ***in this world***, but also in that which is to come: 22 And ***hath put*** all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the ***church, 23 Which is his body***” (*Eph 1:20-23*). Notice that the Church is Jesus’ body!

Now let’s notice that verse a little more closely! Jesus has already been placed “Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only ***in this world*** (*that includes this world now!*),” the point is that Jesus is already on the throne at the right hand of the Father and He is ruling “***in this world!***” But how does He put His enemies under His feet if he has not yet returned? He uses His body (*the church*) “I give unto you (*the Church*) power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (*Luke 10:19*) to subdue all things! We need to understand the Body of Christ, “he said unto them, Wheresoever the



What about Dominion?

“let them (*humanity*) have dominion” (*Gen 1:26*)

body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together” (Luke 17:37). An eagle is a symbol of the angels, “the fourth beast was like a *flying eagle*. 8 And the four beasts had

each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come” (Rev 4:7-8).

In your minds eye, picture Jesus on the throne to the right with the earth as his footstool. He is the head and His feet are part of His body or the Church! It is the Church that will be used to bring the earth under dominion! This does not necessarily mean that the Church will take over the governments on the earth; rather, it means that the Church will be used to pray (*speak*) the Kingdom of God into existence, “After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven” (Matt 6:9-10).

Jesus is already reigning over the earth from his throne! Notice what Peter said on the day of Pentecost, “The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool” (Acts 2:34-35). We have already learned that the footstool of God is the earth. Jesus’ feet (*the church*) will subdue the earth through prayer!



Some contend that if Jesus is ruling, then why is there so much unrest and warfare occurring in the world today. But the scriptures teach that His reign is presently existent in his Church! His reign is a gradual reign until all come into subjection to Him. It is not that he will wait to reign until all has been made subject to Him; rather, the Bible explicitly teaches that He is ruling until all things are subjected under Him.

HE MUST REIGN TILL HE HATH PUT ALL ENEMIES UNDER HIS FEET.

The reason all things are being subjected to Him gradually is the finished work He **Jesus is Seated Ruling Earth from the Right Hand of God!** accomplished on the cross 2000 years ago. Calvary became such a conquest that



He has been sitting on the throne ever since that day. That single work of love will eventually leave no enemy standing. That is one powerful work! Praise be to God!

Christ is presently seated and ruling over all things. And according to Hebrews and 1 Corinthians, this means that everything is gradually being subdued



What about Dominion?

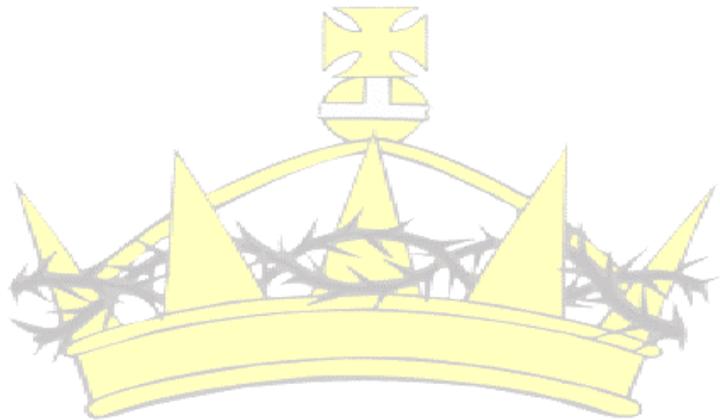
“let them (*humanity*) have dominion” (*Gen 1:26*)

under Him as time progresses. Finally death will also be abolished!

Does it make sense to say that Christ rules all, yet clearly all things are not subdued under Him? Yes! His rule is to be seated at God’s right hand, He is sitting there observing as all things become His footstool. His work on the cross ripples through time as it brings down every enemy before Him. Essentially, He is seated right now over all things. All things are gradually coming under His authority.

The dominion of humanity over the earth has never been lost! Rather, man merely changed his influencing spirit from God Almighty to satan the devil. In fact, the existence of evil in the world is proof that satan at some point seized the spiritual influence over man. Through this evil influence man’s dominion has left behind a record of death, sorrow, and destruction as history proves! The good news (*Gospel*) is that Jesus has taken over the influence of the leadership of the earth from satan the devil. This spirit influence is taking place in the Church for now; indeed, “Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end” (*Isa 9:7*). The Kingdom of God under Jesus the Christ will continue to grow forever! Finally, “And when all things shall be subdued unto him (Jesus), then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him (the Father) that put all things under him, that God may be all in all” (*1 Cor 15:28*).

Power is the ability to obtain results! Sons of God ultimately get results, “as many as received him, to them gave he **power to become the sons of God**, even to them that believe on his name” (*John 1:12*). The mark of a Son of God is power and nothing is, “worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creature **waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God!**” (*Rom 8:18-19*). How long will creation have to wait for the sons of God? The Apostle Paul seems to give us a cryptic answer, “**Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God** (*Is this the knowledge that the Son of God possessed that he indeed was a SON?*), **unto a perfect man**, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ” (*Eph 4:13*). Jesus did not manifest miracles until he was 30 when the Father said of Him, “a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him” (*Matt 17:5*). It appears the our job is to “he ye him!” This means that that **we all** need to grow in Jesus’ dominion (“*speak to the mountain;*” “*whatsoever things you ask;*” “*I give unto you power;*” “*tread on serpents and scorpions;*” “*over all the power of the enemy;*” “*the spirits are subject unto you!*” When we do this, “Henceforth there is laid up for me **a crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and **not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing**” (*2 Tim 4:8*).



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