

The Dominion Mandate!

"...and let them have dominion" (Gen 1:26)

Have you ever given much thought to the Biblical notion of kings, kingdoms, dominion and rule? These governmental concepts are abstract ideas; yet, they also represent authentic substance. We will more thoroughly investigate these topics during this Bible Study, especially as they impact believers.

There is an interesting Hebrew word, (*tseh'-lem*) which is translated into the word "image." (*Tseh'-lem*) means to shade (*as a shadow*); a phantom, i.e. (*figuratively*) an illusion. It means a resemblance; therefore it is a representative figure of something else. The word is mostly used in the Old Testament in reference to an idol (*as in the figure to the right*), which comes from the story of Daniel's three friends and the fiery furnace.



That "idol," relayed to us by the writings of Daniel, came from long ago Babylon and was set-up by King Nebuchadnezzar who was warned, "There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego*; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. 13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. Then they brought these men before the king. 14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, do not *ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?* 15 Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, *ye fall down and worship the image* which I have made; well: but *if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace*; and *who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?*" (Dan 3:12-15). If there is ever anything that the kingdom of darkness should never ask, it is certainly, "*Who is that God?*"

During one of Jesus' very interesting exchanges with the Pharisees, He brought up the whole concept of an image. Through His remarks we can learn quite a bit concerning images. The exchange follows, "Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel *how they might entangle him in his talk*. 16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the

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Herodians, saying, Master, we know that *thou art true*, and *teachest the way of God in truth*, neither carest thou for

any man: for *thou regardest not the person of men*. 17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? *Is it lawful to give tribute unto*

Caesar, or not? 18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? 19 *Shew me the tribute money*. And they brought unto him a penny. 20 And he saith unto them,

Whose is this image and superscription?

21 They say unto him, *Caesar's*. Then saith he unto them, *Render therefore unto*

Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matt 22:15-21). Why did Jesus use a coin to make the point of His argument? What exactly did Jesus mean "*and unto God the things that are God's?*" What things or images of things belong to God? If, according to Jesus' reasoning, the things that belong to Caesar are made in Caesar's image; then we should be able to ask which things are made in the image of God and therefore belong to God? Are you beginning to get a revelation here?



To get a firm hold of that revelation, let's review our earlier definition of the Hebrew word, (*tseh'-lem*) which is translated into the word "image;" and means to shade (*as a shadow or image of some real thing*). *It signifies resemblance; therefore, an image is a representative figure of something else*. Nebuchadnezzar built an image of himself, which had earlier appeared in a dream. It is powerful when you realize that the image is not the original or the (*real*) thing; rather, it is only a mere shadow of the original real thing. The Bible is agreement with this concept, "the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that *things which are seen (the universe)* were not made *of things which do appear*" (Heb 11:3). The invisible (*real*) world made the visible (*shadow or image*) world.

Therefore, in the context of our study, which is to researching the concepts of kings, kingdoms, dominion and rule, we need to include the idea of an image or (*a representative figure of something else*). Notice carefully the image identified in the following passage, "And God said, *Let us make man in our image* (*We human beings are merely an image or shadow of something that is real; the "real" thing is God!*), *after our likeness*: and let them have *dominion* (*We human beings have been given dominion or rulership.*) over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man *in his own image, in the image of God created he him*; male and female created he them" (Gen 1:26-27). And, man was given dominion.

Clearly, the creator is dominant over His creation; therefore, He is the ruler or King of creation, "I am the LORD, your Holy One, *the creator of Israel, your King*" (Isa 43:15). Our Creator King said through Jesus Christ, "And this *gospel of the kingdom* shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt 24:14). Inspired by God, the psalmist wrote, "Thy kingdom is *an everlasting kingdom*, and *thy dominion endureth throughout all generations*" (Ps 145:13). The Psalms express



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in another place, “The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and **his kingdom ruleth over all**” (Ps 103:19).

Obviously, God is King! We read just a few pages back that He made man to have dominion or to rule over the earth. As we consider the “rulership” state of man, we need to remember that the Creator is **sovereign**, which by definition means, (*The one who has supreme or absolute authority.*) Therefore the sovereign establishes what He will. Further, it is the sovereign who sets the standards. For example, we all agree on what a pound of weight is because the king of England (*a sovereign*) long ago set the standard for a pound. Much later in time our United States government (*a sovereign*) set the standard for its currency; therefore, we all agree on the value of a dollar. Therefore, we must understand that the Creator God set the standard that it was man (*Made in His own image as a sovereign*) who was to rule over the earth.

In the passage that follows the beginning of Jesus’ ministry is described as the stage for His appearance is set, “**The people which sat in darkness saw great light**; and to **them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up**. 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, **Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand** (*this is the first Messianic announcement of the imminent Kingdom from heaven*)” (Matt 4:16-17). Jesus’ primary message with respect to the Kingdom of Heaven was “repent.” Repentance means to change or transform one’s thinking!

The kingdom of darkness is a domain, which rules its subjects by ignorance (*Which means the absence of true knowledge*). This means that the king over this world rules through ignorance, “the god of this world hath **blinded the minds** of them which believe not” (2 Cor 4:4). In essence, satan blinds the mind or source of knowledge not the eyes! The Kingdom of Heaven is in total disagreement with the Kingdom of darkness. Now, let’s get a good handle on the clear distinction between the two completely opposite kingdoms. We learn that God, “hath delivered us **from the power of darkness**, and hath translated us **into the kingdom of his dear Son**” (Col 1:13). The point is that from the Bible’s earliest revelation, “God divided (*or separated*) **the light** from **the darkness**” (Gen 1:4). Paul was sent to the gentiles, “To open their eyes, and to turn them **from darkness to light**, and **from** the power of **Satan unto God**” (Acts 26:18). Regarding these two opposite kingdoms, Paul continued with the light versus darkness motif, “let us therefore **cast off the works of darkness**, and let us **put on the armour of light**” (Rom 13:12). The book of Revelation teaches that during the last days upon the earth there will be a literal king sitting upon the throne of darkness, “the **seat of the beast**; and **his kingdom was full of darkness**” (Rev 16:10). There are two domains: one rules through ignorance (*darkness*); and one who rules by knowledge (*light*).

Satan began his evil deeds through a campaign of misinformation; he actually sought to pervert **God’s revelation** to Adam! God gave Adam information (*light*), which if believed and followed would have protected him! However, satan immediately set out to make that revelation of no effect. He started out by attacking God’s information, “yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?” (Gen 3:1). His first attack was to produce doubt regarding the information that Adam had received from God, “the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17



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But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof

thou shalt surely die” (Gen 2:16-17). Satan’s retort attacked God’s revealed information, “For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, **then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods**” (Gen 3:5). Satan lied; we have previously read that Adam was already like God. He had been created in His image and likeness; further, Adam’s eyes of understand were already open! The point is that God gives information (*light*); our responsibility is to believe and follow God’s revelation. God says, “by whose stripes ye were healed.” Essentially it is revealed that by the stripes of Jesus we have no reason to fear ill health; however, in effect satan retorts, “you still have pain, numbness, swelling, etc. therefore you cannot trust Gods word on healing!” Now here is an example of two different examples of conflicting information coming into us! It is easier for one to believe the pain; however, that means that the person would remain in the darkness concerning the healing element. Essentially, these two kingdoms work against each other, “the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and **these are contrary the one to the other**” (Gal 5:17)! One brings life and the other death. We must therefore keep that revelation from God’s Word flowing into our spirit. Remember in the parable of the sower that the birds came immediately to take away the seed, “When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, (*information from God’s Word*) and understandeth it not, **then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart**” (Matt 13:19).

If satan’s kingdom is darkness, then his biggest nightmare is the increasing light of God’s word! The psalmist said, “**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path**” (Ps 119:105); “The entrance of **thy words giveth light**; it giveth understanding unto the simple” (Ps 119:130). For this reason, “ye do well that ye take heed, as unto **a light that shineth in a dark place**, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts” (2 Peter 1:19). According to Peter, it appears that the Kingdom of God will come like the dawning of the day; more light will be apparent as more people come under the Kingdom of God, until finally Jesus Himself will break the horizon like the morning light, “For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be” (Matt 24:27). Our horizon is continually growing brighter!

We were born ignorant but have since come out of the kingdom of darkness; therefore, our thinking must change in order to flourish in the **contrasting** kingdom of light. There is an actual story of some native Bohemians who were given a mansion to live in. The story is graphic; nevertheless, it is illustrative of an individual needing to change his old way of thinking. To show their appreciation, these Bohemian natives had invited their old missionary friend into their new home. It seems that one of the native children had left the door to the bathroom open and the missionary could not help but observe as the child climbed upon and squatted over the bathroom stool in the same posture that the child would squat over a hole in the ground during his past. When the missionary reported to the parents how the child had squatted to use the restroom, they asked the missionary, “Isn’t that the way it is supposed to be done?” Even in new circumstances we must learn the need to change our mind by the word of God; every human needs the renewing of the mind, “**be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**” (Rom 12:2). We will continue in darkness without the renewal of our minds!



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The kingdoms of this world even though established by God are not the kingdom of God. Nevertheless, God has established governmental authority, “For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil . . . **he is the minister of God** to thee for good . . . 5 **Wherefore ye must needs be subject**, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for **they are God's ministers**” (Rom 13:3-6). Proverbs teaches that, “By me kings reign, and princes decree justice. 16 By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth” (Prov 8:15-16). Even though established by God, we still need to remember that in this present age, all governments come under the kingdom of darkness. That is why even some evil governments like that of Saddam Hussein can operate, “For three things the earth is disquieted, (*meaning that the earth trembles over such a thing*) and for four which it cannot bear: 22 For **a servant when he reigneth** (*a “servant” is someone who himself needs to be under authority not in authority!*)” (Prov 30:21-22)

God’s original purpose concerning government / human dominion over earth was four-fold:

- (1) to extend His Heavenly (*unseen*) kingdom: God wanted to extend his invisible kingdom over the visible earth through communication with the invisible spirit in man to convey dominion to visible mankind;
- (2) to establish a kingdom of sons and not subjects: Instead of **subjects**, God wants **sons**, “the **servant abideth not in the house** for ever: but **the Son abideth ever**” (John 8:35). The son has ownership in the house and is actually part of the family;
- (3) to establish a family of sons and not merely servants: In the story of the prodigal, we graphically observe the difference between the concept that was in the mind of the son; and, the concept that was in the mind of the father. When the son considered going back home he thought within himself that he might say, “Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19 And am **no more worthy to be called thy son**: make me as one of **thy hired servants**” (Luke 15:18-19). In contrast, “the father said to his servants, Bring forth **the best robe** (*the robe represents the son’s authority as part of the family*), and put it on him; and **put a ring on his hand**, (*the ring represents the son’s financial capabilities in the family*) and **shoes on his feet**: (*the shoes represents the son’s walk (fellowship) in the family*) 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found” (Luke 15:22-24);
- (4) to establish relationship: Instead of **religion**, God wants **relationship**. Instead of **searching** for God (“*searching*” is the main root of the word “*religion!*”) sons have **found** God. “Henceforth **I call you not servants**; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but **I have called you friends**; (*close relationship*) for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you” (John 15:15).

God does not want servants or slaves; instead, He wants relationship with his own SONS! The key to Kingdom thinking is expressed in the following verse, “And God said, **Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So **God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them**. 28 And **God blessed them**, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the



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earth, and **subdue it: and have dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth” (Gen 1:26-28)

We need to recall the law of first mention at this point! God’s first instruction to humanity was a **dominion mandate!** He wants us to dominate the earth, “and let them have dominion” (Gen 1:26). He wants us to rule the visible earth through the visible body from His invisible realm. God wants His will be done on earth as it is in heaven through the dominion of His sons! This is the dominion leadership mandate! The Hebrew word for dominion means: (1) to govern; (2) to control; (3) to rule; (4) to manage; (5) to master; and (6) to lead!

What God creates to do, he designs it with. This means that if God created the fish to swim, He put the ability to swim in the fish. If God created the bird to fly, he put flying within he ability of the bird. Since God made us to rule he therefore put the ability to rule within us! That is why we have such a hard time coming under the authority of tyrannical individuals. Our nature abhors being dominated: (1) the boss tells the employee, “you must do this job right now!” (2) the mother tells the child, “you better get over here right now!”

God always speaks into the person that he calls based upon what He knows about them:

- (1) Abraham was called a father of many nations while he had no children;
- (2) Saran was called a mother when she was still barren;
- (3) Gideon was called a mighty man of valor while he was acting cowardly;
- (4) David was called a king while he was still a child tending sheep;
- (5) Through God’s dream, Joseph believed he was a ruler while he was yet a prisoner.

We are children of the Creator King; however we must change our thinking from that of a servant to that of a king! We must believe that we are sons of the king. Say it out loud! “I am a son of the Great King, God Almighty!” This is why we cannot ever oppress or depress others! God does not oppress us! The Holy Spirit never forces himself upon us!

As Creator, God established all of the standards; therefore, He is the King. However, He does not want subjects in His domain; He wants sons! God created because he is a Creator. Creating is His natural role. Whatever the Creator creates is naturally His domain.

God wanted us to be kings over the “dom.” In other words, in order for there to be a King there is naturally going to be a domain. Say the following words quickly, “King, Domain,” say it again, “King, Domain!” This is the kingdom. The Bible claims that we have dominion over the earth! Dominion means to rule! We are the world’s dominators. In point of fact, the earth is our domain. The biblical words “Ruler” and “King” have the same origin. We are the kingdom of God on the earth. **The kingdom is the functioning of the rulers on the domain.** The kingdom is not the physical planet; as we carry out the dominion of God upon this planet, that rule is the kingdom.

We are all kings over the territory or domain of the earth, “the earth hath he given to the children of men” (Ps 115:16). We are supervisors, leaders, governors, managers, and rulers of the planet. God teaches that whatsoever we bind on earth, “shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Matt 16:19). If something is not happening in the earth it is because we are not allowing it to happen! This



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is the purpose of prayer. Prayer is constantly giving God permission to interfere upon the earth’s activities, “Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven” (Matt 6:10). We are the ones who have the body and therefore the license to rule over the earth; however, “men ought always to pray, and not to faint” (Luke 18:1). This means that we should be in constant prayer; if we do not continually pray, we will end up limiting ourselves. John Wesley said something to the effect, “Prayer is strange. Without God we cannot; without us God will not!” Whenever we disagree with any of the existing earth conditions, we need to pray. Prayer is business; it is our dominion communication link into the Kingdom of God.

We were born to dominate earth. We were not made to dominate heaven. Heaven is only a temporary habitation for us. In the future God will bring His habitation the New Jerusalem to the earth. Our domain is the earth. However, if we dominate plants, trees, birds, and animals, why are some people dominated by cocoa leaves (*cocaine*) or tobacco leaves (*cigarettes*)? Why are some people dominated by fermented juices (*alcohol*), which comes from various plants? Why are some people dominated by green dyed paper, (*money*) which originally comes from trees? You get the point; rather than being dominated, we dominate!

Let’s examine the difference between the two terms: the “kingdom of God” and the “kingdom of Heaven.” In a general sense, these two terms are basically the same; however, the Kingdom of God is the location of God’s headquarters while the Kingdom of Heaven is the impact from the Kingdom of God upon the earth. The Kingdom of God focuses on God’s rulership within the heart of a converted man while the Kingdom of Heaven is when God impacts the converted man’s external environment upon the earth.

As we transform our mind away from thinking the same way as the kingdom of darkness toward the kingdom of light we are better able to perform the will of God upon the earth. It is as if there are three different components to God’s will, “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is (1) that *good*, and (2) *acceptable*, and (3) *perfect, will of God*” (Rom 12:2). We must completely change our thinking before we can accomplish that “perfect will of God” in our lives. To get to the perfect will of God we must renew our thinking so that we continually remain in the kingdom of light!

Adam actually fell from his responsibility of performing proper dominion. Mankind still maintains dominion; however, he is not fulfilling the original intent of God, which is to rule the earth from the Kingdom of God. Instead, mankind is ruling from the kingdom of darkness and the result has produced a long history of death, destruction and sorrow!

In essence Jesus had two major mandates when he came to the earth. First, He came to reintroduce the kingdom of God to man on the earth, the dominion of which Adam had failed to bring. At the beginning of Jesus’ ministry we read, “*The people which sat in darkness saw great light*; and to them which sat *in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up*. 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, *Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*” (Matt 4:16-17). His primary teaching was “repentance.”

Repentance means to transform one’s thinking! Before we can become fully functioning sons in this reintroduced Kingdom of God, we must first have renewed or transformed our thinking. Secondly, Jesus came to restore righteousness to mankind. Through Him we are



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a new creation! We are different from what we were while existing in the kingdom of darkness, “For 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).

In order to be “Righteous,” one does not need concern themselves with any of the following “religious” conditions: (1) you must not wear makeup or jewelry; (2) you must wear some special clothes to worship God; (3) you must not eat any unclean foods; (4) you must attend church services on a special day and place; etc. Quite the contrary, the word “righteous” is not a “religious” term at all! Rather, “righteous” is a legal term which means to position oneself in a proper setting. It literally means “right positioning.” Jesus came to put us back in “right positioning” with respect to the Father! Of our own selves we could never have achieved that original “right positioning!” “Righteousness” is what qualifies us to receive the promises of God!

In the Kingdom of Heaven or the earth’s governing rulership of the Almighty King, we are in His domain. It is His rulership over us, which gives us impact upon the earth; that is the essence of the Kingdom of Heaven. When Adam sinned he became “unrighteous.” This means that all of the rights of the kingdom were revoked from Adam. He went out of right standing with the kingdom of God and thereby lost his kingdom rights in relation to the government.

When one goes to prison they must give up their governmental papers such as a passport. In essence when incarcerated one becomes an “uncitizen.” They remain under the control of the government; however, they are neither considered in the category of citizens nor non-citizens. Rather, they are under complete judgment of the government; yet have no rights as a citizen. In essence, they are out of “right position” in relation to the government. While under government one has the right to vote, buy property, travel into any state they please, drive wherever they wish, etc. However, while in prison they loose all rights! They do not even have the rights to: go to bed when they want, nor to vote as they choose, nor to drive where they wish, nor to eat what they want, nor to sleep when they choose. Instead they are under the control of judgment!

Losing right positioning with the government is exactly what occurred in Adam and therefore in his progeny, too. When he disobeyed the Government of God he went out of right positioning with the kingdom of God! He became a prisoner to darkness. Figuratively, he lost “government documents of his rights” along with all other rights as a Son of God! As a result, he was placed under a warden named satan and was imprisoned in a penal institution known as sin, “ye were **the servants of sin**” (Rom 6:17). Even worse than the detention of sin’s grip, he and his children were bound to death, “Nevertheless **death reigned** from Adam to Moses, **even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression**” (Rom 5:14).

The Good News (*Gospel*) is that Jesus came to set the prisoners free, “to preach **deliverance to the captives**, and recovering of sight to the blind, to **set at liberty them that are bruised**” (Luke 4:18). He came to restore our right positioning with the government of God. We were born into that prison of sin! He came so we could reclaim our original



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citizen rights! We were unrighteous from our very beginning, “I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me” (Ps 51:5).

God entered into a covenant with our father Abraham long before He gave Moses the law. Regarding that covenant, James sheds some important light, “And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and *it was imputed unto him for righteousness*: (right positioning) and he was called the Friend of God” (James 2:23). Since Abraham was in covenant with God, he had authority to Adam’s original rights. Those governmental rights that were lost in Adam were restored through the covenant on Abraham. He realized how powerful these rights were! Indeed, through faith, “he considered not his own body now *dead, when he was about an hundred years old*” (Rom 4:19). Yet, through the promises, he fathered twelve sons who became princes after 120 years of age! However, he knew that his “covenant children” through Isaac would lose his rights for a period of time. God told Abram on the same day that he entered into covenant with him, “when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him. 13 And he said unto Abram, *Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years*; 14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance” (Gen 15:12-14). In any case Abraham became a qualified citizen of the Kingdom of God as a result of becoming “righteous!”

By the time that the children of Israel came out of their bondage they had obviously lapsed back into satan’s prison. That is exactly why Pharaoh is considered to be a type of satan. The children of Israel temporarily needed the law of God in order to point them back into right positioning (*righteousness*) with God. However, Abraham’s promises came before the law therefore his promises have preeminence. Jesus restored those promises! Notice that when Jesus came to reintroduce the Kingdom of God to man on the earth, He worked out our condition back to Abraham’s covenant of promises and not to Moses’ laws, “to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. 17 And this I say, that *the covenant, that was confirmed before* of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, *cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect*. 18 For *if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise*” (Gal 3:16-18).

You may remember just a few days before Bill Clinton left the presidency he pardoned many controversial individuals! This caused quite a stir in political circles. Some of the people were still in jail while others were fugitives on the run. When he pardoned these people the law of the land guaranteed that their entire citizenship rights were completely restored. It was as if they had never been out of favor with the United States





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Government! The president restored their full governmental rights.

Do you realize what Jesus did for us upon the cross? He pardoned all of our sins: past, present, and future! Therefore you have full rights restored! You are in right position (*righteousness*) with the Kingdom of God!

While Jesus was still on the earth he ran into a woman who was infirm and bent-over. We pick-up the story when, “he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11 And, behold, there was **a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself**” (Luke 13:10-11). Essentially, this woman had a “righteousness” problem; she was out of right position with the Kingdom of God. Jesus was about to address her problem of righteousness. However, the religious people did not appreciate that Jesus would break Moses’ law and heal her on the Sabbath. Their religious attitude did not please Jesus who said, “**ought not** this woman, **being a daughter of Abraham**, (a daughter in right positioning would have Abraham’s rights) whom **Satan hath bound**, (clearly, this daughter was not in right positioning in the sight of God) lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?” (Luke 13:16). Jesus essentially “said, woman, I give back to you your citizenship rights and place you in “right positioning” with the Kingdom of God!” So too, we believers are operating under the conditions of a different kingdom!

That woman received a new passport from the Kingdom of God and therefore she had the right to healing, “**ought not** this woman, **being a daughter of Abraham**, whom **Satan hath bound**, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?”

Ought not you be healed from all of your illnesses? Ought not your business flourish? Ought not your finances be repaired? These are blessings that you should begin to claim! Why can you expect these blessings, “For **ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus**. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And **if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise**” (Gal 3:26-29).

Jesus eagerly wants the complete establishment of the Kingdom of God upon the earth; indeed, He died for it, “Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. **The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this**” (Isa 9:7). Out of His zeal, Jesus plans that those who come under His authority will rule and share dominion with Him, “...**the upright (righteousness) shall have dominion** over them in the morning” (Ps 49:14). It is with our feet that we will subdue the earth, “I give unto you (*righteousness*) **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). Treading on the government of darkness is the reason that the scripture says, “How **beautiful upon the mountains** are the **feet of him (righteousness) that bringeth good tidings**, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!” (Isa 52:7). With power we will establish the Kingdom of Heaven, “For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King



The Dominion Mandate!

“...and let them have dominion”(Gen 1:26)

over all the earth. **He shall subdue the people under us, (righteousness) and the nations under our feet” (Ps 47:2-**

3). How do images relate to kings, kingdoms, dominion and rule? Because we are made in His image, we will rule with God Almighty over this earth!

Jesus is our King and Lord over all. His kingdom will spread throughout the world and bring all into captivity under Him, “For **God is my King** of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. 13 Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: **thou brakest the heads of the dragons** in the waters. 14 **Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces**, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness” (Ps 74:12-14).



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