

In the Beginning – Part 2

- We saw in Gen. 1:1 that, ‘**Elohiym**’, the **Triune God** created the heavens and the earth.
I would like us to note that when God speaks of ‘the heavens’, He is referring to the invisible heavens connected with the earth from which ruler ship over the earth takes place;
Dan 4:26 “.....the heavens do rule”.

- Elohiym** - God the Father, God the Son and God, the Holy Spirit are always working together in harmony and cannot be separated. **2 Timothy 3:16, John 1:1 and John 4:24** show us clearly that all scripture, the Word (Genesis to Revelation) who was **God** in beginning, is the Breath of God. Breath and spirit have the same Greek work- Pneuma.
- We therefore cannot separate the Spirit of God, His Word (who became flesh and dwelt among us), which is His breath and God the Father Himself.

- Is this not profound to see and can it get any clearer than this? Here is the list of those verses again;
 - **In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God and the Word was God (John 1:1)**
 - **God is Spirit and those who worship Him...(John 4:24)**
 - **All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching...(2Tim.3:16 - NIV)**
 - **All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. ...(2Tim.3:16,17 - NKJV)**
 - **1John5:7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.**
 - **Deut. 6:4"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!"**

- We had seen last time that the eternal God, the One who has no beginning and no end, has an eternal purpose and this purpose He Himself accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord –
Eph 3:11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- And in order to make His eternal purpose known God has spoken, and that which He has said has been recorded by a variety of individuals over a complete period of time and given to us in written form in that which we know as the Bible.
- To accomplish His eternal purpose in Christ Jesus, God in beginning, created the heavens and the earth and all things in heaven and on earth;

Col 1:16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. **17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. **18** And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. **19** For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, **20** and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.
- ✓ From these verses;
 - What did God create in the heavens?
 - What did He create on the earth?
 - According to vs. 20, what needed to be reconciled through the blood of Jesus on the cross?
 - Why would reconciliation be needed?
- The following will help us in answering our questions and will also help us to understand why the serpent deceived Eve and caused them to be disqualified to rule.

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- Sometime in the pre- Adamic age, Lucifer, the beautifully created angelic being was given jurisdiction over the original creation.
(Note Job 38:4-7 — the earth’s creation, with its rulers [cf. Job 1:6-2:7],
- Satan (then Lucifer) and a third of the angels given to him rebelled against God by wanting to exalt his throne above the stars of God, above the heights of the clouds and be like the Most High and that brought about his fall. As the Scriptures state, his sanctuaries (plural) became profaned, or desecrated, which would refer to both the earth and the heavens that surround the earth (**Ezek. 28:18**)
- **Ezek. 28:12...***You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. 14 “You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. 15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you. 16 “By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing Out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones. 17 “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, That they might gaze at you. 18 “You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading;”*
- **Isa 14:12***“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! 13 For you have said in your heart: 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; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.”*
- This rebellion was about ruler ship and as a result of this rebellion the material creation of **Genesis 1:1**, the province given into Satan’s charge, became ruined bringing us to;
Gen. 1:2 *the earth was (literally became), without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.*
- It’s important to note that Satan, insofar as we know or can know, was the only angel in the universe that sought to move outside of God’s established laws relative to his assigned position. And, apart from the one province over which he was placed in the beginning, Satan has had NOTHING to do with God’s universal government (though at a time in the distant past, he sought universal power and authority [Ezek. 28:12-19], resulting in the destruction of the province over which he ruled).
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- As a result of his rebellion, he was disqualified to rule and God needed a replacement.
- Then in the process that follows, God spends six days restoring the ruined material creation, so as to establish it in preparation for an entirely new set of rulers who would be created for that specific purpose (*please revisit the Septenary arrangement of scripture lesson*).
- That restoration is covered in **Gen 1:3 -31** and in **Gen 1:26-28**, God stated the purpose for creating man.
- The man created to rule and reign did not pass the test of obedience, which led God to curse the serpent, the earth, the woman and the man (**Gen 3:1-24**). The serpent deceived the woman and disqualified them, therefore leaving the scepter of authority in the hands of the devil, until another man is tested, and found worthy to take over.

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- Meanwhile as the process of reconciliation continues, the devil is in charge of this world up to date, ruling from the heavens above, and the manifestation of the same is seen here on earth (**Dan.10:10-14**).
- Note: Even though the devil as the original ruler rebelled, he still continues to rule but as a rebellious ruler! God's principle of Biblical governance requires that an incumbent ruler continues to be in authority until another is found worthy to replace him. (See the example of Saul and David)
- **John 14:30** *I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in me (Jesus is speaking)*
- **2 Corinthians 4** *"In whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."*
- **Ephe.6:12** *"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places".*
- **Ephe. 2** *"...the prince of the power of the air..."*
- **1John 5:19** *We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one..*
- **Luke 4:5** *Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. 7 Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours." 8 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.*
- **John18:36** *"Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."*
- He deceived the one who was to replace him and so disqualified the first man, the first Adam from the purpose for which he was created for, but thank God:
 - Jesus Christ the second man, the last Adam came and was tested, found worthy, and is currently sitting at the right hand of the father as our High Priest with the role of cleansing the one to rule with.
 - Man is going through the test of obedience so as to qualify to rule and reign with Christ in a time yet future. At that time, the purpose for creating man as stated in **Gen 1:26-28** will be realized and man will no longer be lower than the angels. **Hallelujah!!!!**
- For man to attain the position for which he was created, and be elevated 'above the angels';
 - He must prove himself worthy to replace the incumbent ruler.
 - His experience must parallel that seen in days 1 through 6 in Genesis Chapter 1 – there is no other way
 - That pattern that has already been set, is a process brought about by the work of the Spirit over a time frame pictured in the six days of work given to the restoration of the material creation, culminating in a seventh day of rest.

Comparing Genesis and John

- Genesis, in the opening two chapters, begins with:
 - A creation at a beginning point (1:1).
 - A subsequent ruin of the creation (1:2a).

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- A restoration of the ruined creation (material creation), through Divine intervention, over six days time (1:2b-25).
 - Man created on the sixth day, following all of God's restorative work, for a revealed purpose having to do with the seventh day (1:26-31).
 - God resting on the seventh day, following all of His work (2:1-3).

 - John, in the opening two chapters, begins with:
 - A creation at a beginning point (1:1-3).
 - A subsequent ruin of the creation (1:4, 5).
 - A restoration of the ruined creation (ruined man), through Divine intervention over six days time (1:6-2:1 [1:29, 35, 43; 2:1]).
 - Man seen as redeemed at the end of six days, following all of God's restorative work for a revealed purpose having to do with the seventh day (2:1-10).
 - God resting on the seventh day, following all of His work (a manifestation of His Glory, belief [2:11]).

 - In Genesis, the restoration is that of the ruined material creation, foreshadowing the restoration of man even before his creation and fall.
 - In John, the restoration is that of ruined man, foreshadowed in the Genesis account.

 - In BOTH, the purpose is the SAME — placing restored man (redeemed man) on a restored earth (a redeemed earth), in a regal position, on the seventh day.
- The following verses show us what the ending will be and we ought to rejoice.
- **Rev. 11:15** *"Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!'"*
 - **Rev. 19:7** *"Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*
9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."
 - **Rev. 20:6** *"Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."*
- After the 1000 years are finished, we will enter into the endless ages and continue reigning with Him. Ruler ship taking place during the millennium and thereafter will fulfill the purpose for man's creation.
- **Rev. 22:5** *"There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever."*
- When man fell, resulting in their disqualification to rule, they became separated from the purpose that God had stated in Gen. 1:26-28; not having dominion, nor power and authority.
- **Psalms 8:4** *"What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? 5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor"*

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6 *You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands;
You have put all things under his feet,”*

- This same Psalm is quoted by the author of the Book of Hebrews as he was inspired to write about the coming Messianic Era (Millennial Kingdom). The text reveals that the “world [Lit., the inhabited earth] to come will no longer be subjected to the angels who presently rule over the earth.
- **Heb. 2:5** *“For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels 6 But one testified in a certain place, saying: “What is man that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him? 7 You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. 8 You have 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 do not yet see all things put under him. 9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone”.*
- After the suffering even to death of the cross, He was given the name above all other names, and seated at the Father’s right hand far above all principality and power and might and dominion. Note; not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
 - **Eph. 1:20** *“which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His 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 age but also in that which is to come.”*
 - **Phil. 2:9** *“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth...”*
- From our scripture here in Hebrews it is quite clear that God has set man over the works of His hands and that God has put all things – remember the all things from Colossians Chapter 1 – under man’s feet. Yet we do not see all things put under man.
- What I would like us to see is that the plan and purpose that God had for man which He stated when He was creating man will still come to pass as no one can thwart it. This scripture in Isaiah states exactly that;
 - **Isaiah 46:9** *“Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,”*
- Therefore, since God’s eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus before time began cannot be thwarted, how do we see the nation of Israel (our focus) in all this?
Note: The age to come will not be in subjection to angels – It will be in subjection to Christ and His joint Heirs ruling over this earth from the heavenly Jerusalem. What about the nation of Israel?

QUESTIONS

1. Ephe.3:11 show us that God has an eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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- a. What was the beginning point in accomplishing it?
2. Please read Isaiah 45:18. How does it help us to understand Gen.1:1?
3. From Col 1:16-20, what did God create and how do we understand verse 20?
4. From what we see in Ezek.28 and Isaiah 14, what was Lucifer's rebellion all about?
 - a. From what we see in the previous question, is there any similarity to the deception introduced in Gen 3?
5. Read Genesis 1:2a – What condition was the material creation in at this point and how did it get to be in this condition?
6. Dan 4:26 – The heavens do rule. What scriptures did we look at to show who the incumbent ruler is?
7. What was the purpose for man's creation and what are the scripture references?
8. What was the purpose for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?
9. In the Hebrews 2 passage, what did Jesus receive after the suffering of death?
 - a. What other scriptures did we look at?
 - b. What do we learn from His example (not in the notes)
10. From our study, we know that man did not get to rule. Was God's plan and purpose for him thwarted?
 - a. what is our encouragement in all this?
11. What is the most significant thing you have seen through this study?

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