

Full Scope of Scripture: The Foundation - Part 3b

Gen.1:1 *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

- ✓ From our last lesson, we saw that Elohiym (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit) created the heavens and the earth in a perfect condition (**Isaiah 45:18**). He brought the universe into existence and exercises absolute, sovereign control over the whole of His creation (**Dan. 4:17, 26, 32**).
- ✓ God placed angels, whom He had also previously created (cf. **Job 38:6, 7; Ezek. 28:14,15; Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2**), in appointed positions to exercise delegated power and authority within His government. That would not only be true of the province upon which man presently resides (**the earth**) but of innumerable other provinces in God's universal kingdom.

Psa.103:19 *The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all. 20 Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word. 21 Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure. 22 Bless the LORD, all His works, In all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!*

Rom. 13:1...*For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*

- ✓ God is the One Who places rulers in positions of power (**the power which emanates from Him**): God is also the One Who removes rulers from these same positions of power (**I Sam. 15:17, 23; 31:3-5; II Sam. 1:3-10; Dan. 4:17, 25, 32-36; 5:18-21; Luke 1:52**)
- ✓ Consequently, there is NO such thing as a ruler on this province (the earth) or on any other province in the universe exercising power within a governmental position apart from God.
- ✓ In relation to this earth and man on the earth, the ruler himself may or may not acknowledge this (in fact, he may not even acknowledge the existence of God); or he may be a rebellious ruler, seeking to rule apart from God. But the simple fact remains: ANY ruler on this earth, or ANY ruler anywhere in the universe, exercises power and authority within the position which he holds SOLELY because of DIVINE appointment to his position and DIVINE delegation of power and authority.
- ✓ Rulers exercising power and authority after this fashion actually govern, in numerous gradations of positions, within a chain of command which God has established under Himself. There are NO exceptions.
- ✓ **Isa. 14:13** tells us that God rules from His throne which is located "in the sides [lit., 'in the uttermost parts'] of the north"
- ✓ We also saw from **Ezek. 28:12-15** and **Isai.14:13-14**, that Lucifer (Satan) who had originally been placed to govern this earth rebelled against God's divine power and authority.

- ❖ As a result, man was brought into existence to replace this provincial ruler. Man was created for a revealed purpose, which had to do with regality.

Gen 1:26-28 *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion... (Heb., radah, 'let them rule). [same word translated "rule" in **Psa. 110:2**]*

- ❖ However, we know that Satan deceived the woman and got them disqualified to rule and that is why all the verses we looked at indicate that he still remains the incumbent ruler though still in his fallen condition.

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- ❖ **Note:** (A principle of Biblical government necessitates that an incumbent ruler, though disqualified, must continue holding the scepter until his replacement is not only on the scene but ready to ascend the throne [ref. the account of Saul and David in the Books of I, II Samuel])
- ❖ Then, man's subsequent fall, recorded in Genesis chapter three, was directly related to the PURPOSE for his creation. And, beyond that, God providing a means of salvation for fallen man was (and still remains today) also directly related to the PURPOSE for his creation
- ❖ That is to say, Satan's PURPOSE for bringing about man's fall had to do with man, through sin, being brought into a position in which he COULD NOT hold the scepter, allowing the incumbent ruler to continue on the throne; and God's PURPOSE for effecting man's redemption had to do with man being brought back into a position where he COULD ONE DAY realize the PURPOSE for his creation — hold the scepter and rule.
- ❖ The reason for and goal of salvation have to do with man one day occupying the position for which he was created.
- ❖ God rules over all, angels rule under God, man was created to replace a disqualified angelic ruler, and man's fall and redemption result from and have to do with the REASON for his creation.
- ❖ God is not going to change His mind concerning the REASON He called man into existence. Since the ultimate victory will be the Lord's, man WILL one day replace the disqualified, incumbent ruler. Man WILL one day rule the earth in the stead of angels, realizing the purpose for his creation in the beginning.
***Mat.25:21,23** His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'*

***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.*

***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. **22** And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, **23** which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

- ❖ As a result of Satan's rebellion we see a perfectly created earth being formless and void and completely engulfed in darkness. Note that Satan's fall resulted from his seeking a position of power above the other messianic angels, APART FROM Divine appointment. Actually, such an appointment would have been out of the question, for Satan sought the very position which God Himself occupied
***Gen.1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*
- ❖ First, God makes mention of the entire universe out in the heavens, separate from the earth; but then "the earth" is immediately singled out for special consideration.

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- ❖ And continuing from this point, Scripture, completely apart from any additional revelation concerning God's activity in the previously mentioned "heavens," begins to deal specifically with the earth. He centers His revelation to man on one province in that kingdom – the earth.
- ❖ Note that Satan's fall resulted from his seeking a position of power above the other angels, APART FROM Divine appointment. Actually, such an appointment would have been out of the question, for Satan sought the very position which God Himself occupied.
- ✓ He became dissatisfied with the governmental position which he occupied (a ruler over only one province in the kingdom, having equals who ruled other provinces in the kingdom)
- ✓ In so doing, Satan said: **Isa. 14:13-14** *"I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God [the other ruling angels]: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation [the meeting place where the kings of the kingdom (the sons) met in God's presence as we saw in Job 1:6ff and 2:1ff], in the sides of the north [lit., 'in the uttermost parts of the north']:* *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the most High"*
- ✓ And he sought to ELEVATE his throne ABOVE ALL the others and occupy either the very place which God Himself occupied or be equal with God as a/the supreme ruler of the entire universe. As a consequence, God not only REJECTED him as the appointed ruler over the earth but God reduced the province over which he ruled to a RUIN.
- ✓ The Hebrew words translated "without form and void" (tohu wavohu) in **Gen. 1:2a** are used together only two other places throughout all of the Old Testament — in **Isa. 34:11** and **Jer. 4:23**. And both of these passages present a ruin of that previously seen existing in an orderly state. In **Isa. 34:11**, Edom [v. 6], used as a representative of all the Gentile nations in the chapter, was destined to become tohu wavohu (translated "confusion" and "emptiness" [KJV], "desolation" and "emptiness" [NASB]).

And in **Jer. 4:23-28**, there is a comparison of that which had previously occurred relative to the earth in **Gen. 1:2a** to that which was about to occur relative to the land of Israel. The land of Israel was about to become tohu wavohu. That is, as seen in **Jer. 4:23-28**, God was about to do the same thing to the land of Israel (**cf. vv. 14-22**) that He had previously done to the earth in **Gen. 1:2a**. And the reason for God's actions, in both that which He had done and that which He was about to do, was the same — the entrance of sin (sin on the part of Satan in the former, and sin on the part of the Jewish people in the latter).

And, in complete keeping with this type understanding of the use of tohu wavohu in **Isa. 34:11** and **Jer. 4:23**, **Isa. 45:18** (where the Hebrew word tohu is used) clearly states that God did not create the earth (in **Gen. 1:1**) in the manner described in **Gen. 1:2a**. **Isaiah 45:18** clearly states that God "created it [the earth] not in vain [not tohu]." Thus, if **Gen. 1:2a** is to be understood in the light of related Scripture bearing on the subject, there can be only one possible interpretation — the ruin of a prior existing creation (from v. 1), because of sin. And the ruin seen in **Gen. 1:2a**, **Isa. 34:11**, and **Jer. 4:23** — ruined for a purpose — is with a view to eventual restoration

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- ✓ AT this point in Scripture where we come to Gen. 1:2.

Gen 1:2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

- ❖ However, Satan continued to rule — though over a ruined province in God's overall kingdom — for a principle of Biblical government necessitates that an incumbent ruler hold his appointed position until he is actually replaced by another appointed ruler.
- ❖ Though Satan's fall and disqualification to rule resulted in a portion of God's kingdom being reduced to a ruin, God had plans for the earth as a province within His kingdom which would far exceed anything seen during Satan's rule.
- ❖ This province would be the place where an individual created in the image and likeness of God would one day rule. Further, and foremost as the rulership relates to man, this province would be the place where God's Son (as the second Man, the last Adam, the Head of a new order of Sons) would likewise one day rule.
- ❖ To realize all of this though, the earth MUST first be restored and a new ruler brought forth. And that's what the opening two chapters of **Genesis** are about — the restoration of the earth (**1:2b-25**), the creation of man as the earth's new ruler (**1:26-28; 2:7**), along with the removal of the woman from the man to reign with him (**2:21-25**).
- ❖ What we have seen so far is;
 - ✓ The creation of all that exists. (**Gen.1:1**).
 - ✓ The ruin of one part of that creation (**Gen.1:2a**).
- ❖ What we will see next is;
 - ✓ The restoration of that one part (**1:2b-25**).
 - ✓ The creation of man to rule the restored domain (**1:26-31**).
 - ✓ The Seventy Day: God then rested "from all His work" that He had "created and made" (**2:1-3**).
- ❖ God had already set in place an unchangeable pattern for the restoration of His fallen creation – **6 days of work leading to a 7th day of rest.**
- **DAY ONE - **Gen 1:3** Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. **4** And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.**

Questions:

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1. What does **Ezek.28:15** tell us about any of God's creative work?
 - a. What was the iniquity that was found in Lucifer? Please give a scripture reference.
2. Please read **Psa.103:19, Rom. 13:1 and Dan. 4:17, 25- 26**. How do we understand how ruler ship over this earth takes place?
3. What was the purpose for man's creation? Scriptures please?
 - a. Was man created above or lower than the angels? Has that situation changed?
4. Did the purpose for man's creation in Q3 materialize? What scriptures did we look at?
 - a. So, was God's plan thwarted and how do we know?
5. Due to the entrance of sin, we find the perfectly created earth "without form and void" in Gen. 1:2a. What other passages did we look at that utilize the same Hebrew words and how do we understand those verses.
6. How do we understand the principle of Biblical governance in relation to Satan?
 - a. What examples did we look at? Please provide scriptures.
7. How well do we now understand **Luke 4:5-8**?
 - Brethren, may the "*Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*"(2Pet.1:3-4).
AMEN!!!!