

Lost & Found –
Reclaiming Spiritual Authority -
“Understanding Your Right to Rule”

How do we take dominion to rule in our world?

Gen 2:7-8 “The Lord God formed man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden toward the east in Eden; and there He placed the man who He had formed.”

Now creation of man has gone from the creation of a race in general to a man as an individual.

His name was “Adom – Adam”

- Adam refers “to that which comes from the ground.”

- God made man from the ground which he was to oversee.

- Adam would be like that which he was overseeing – made from its very content.

- God then placed the specific man – Adam in a Garden

This was the place where man's managerial responsibilities were to be executed.

In Genesis 1 – God gave the global role of mankind exercising dominion over the earth.

In Genesis 2 – God has a specific man in a specific role – The Garden of Eden, carrying out a specific ruler ship task.

Adam was a prototype – like a prototype car that one of the car manufacturers would create to show other cars to come – Adam was the prototype of the other humans that would come after him. “Be fruitful and multiply.”

Adam was the prototype of you and me as to what we are to be doing in the garden that God gives us.

People rationalize that “God created Adam for that purpose.”

Eph. 2:10- “We are God’s [own] handiwork [His workmanship] recreated in Christ Jesus, that we may do those good works which God predestined for us which He prepared ahead of time, that we should walk in them.”

Adam had a first creation; we have a recreation!

When we came to Christ, He recreated us for the garden of our own responsibility.

Eph. 2:10- “which He has prepared ahead of time that we should walk in them.”

God recreated you and I and created the garden of our responsibility – that we should carry out our responsibility in the context of that garden environment that God has created.

So – **“The worst thing in the world is to live your life but miss your garden!”**

Psa. 139:16 “Your eyes saw my unformed substance, and in our book all the days [of my life] were written before ever they took shape, when as yet there was none of them.”

- God has already scripted out your life in advance.
- Your job is not to create your life; your job is to walk in His pre-planned purpose for your life.
- Just as He preplanned and set this out for Adam, so it is set out for each of us.

God takes man and breathes into him the breath of life – something God does not do in any other part of creation – and puts into Adam the life of God.

- You are not a derivative from an ape or any other animal order; you are a person that has the Spirit of God breathed into you. You are unique.

- We mirror God's image because we were created in His image and His likeness!

Gen. 2 Adam is placed in his sphere of responsibility and he is supposed to rule.

He is supposed to call the shots.

Remember: the guideline is – “Let them rule!”

Point: To all the single folk here today-

- Adam is not married yet, there is no Eve yet!
- Adam is a successful single.

- The successful singles are those who are living out their purpose!
- Living in their garden, handling their sphere of calling & responsibility!
- This is where Adam was – in his garden.
- He is a man, by himself - doing fine because he has a garden to tend to.
- This garden is a divinely ordained responsibility from God for him.

So Adam is in the garden God has placed him in with a job description:

Gen. 2:15- “Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and to keep it.”

God is all involved in this:

v. 7 – God formed man.

v. 8 – God planted a garden.

v. 9 – God caused every plant and tree to grow in the garden.

v. 15- God took man and placed him in the garden.

“Placed man in the garden that He [God] made.”

God placing you in your calling or placing you in your purpose - destiny!

Two responsibilities:

1. “I want you to cultivate it.”
2. “I want you to keep it.”

These are the two responsibilities every Christian has in the sphere of living out the divine mandate to rule!

1. You are to cultivate your garden

“**Cultivate** it” means “to develop it.”

“To turn it into what it was designed to become.”

You are to cultivate what God gives you.

God doesn't do the work for you – God does the work with you!

God sets the stage, provides the natural resources for you to do the work!

Because He said and established: **“Let Them Rule!”**

God is waiting for you – and when God sees you do what you are supposed to do – then God joins you in making sure what you did becomes fruitful!

There is a participatory process in working with God:

He told Adam and Eve to multiply and fill the earth – that didn't happen by Adam and Eve standing on opposite sides of the room!

“Let Them Rule” means God will cooperate with you, but He will not replace you!

So if you are waiting on God without fulfilling your cultivating responsibility – you are waiting on God in vain!

Adam's job was to cultivate or develop what God had already set in motion:

God said: "You are to cultivate it."

2. The second job Adam was responsible for is
to Keep the Garden

The Hebrew word for "**Keep**" means = "**To guard or to protect.**"

"I want you to cultivate it/develop it; then I want you to guard or protect it."

The question is: What does the garden need protection from?

It is already a perfect environment.

Why does the garden need a guard?

Why aren't Adam and Eve not surprised there is a snake in the garden?

Adam, you have a job – cultivate the garden and guard the garden by keeping the snake out.

Cultivate the garden and keep the devil out.

The devil is already on the earth by this time due to his rebellion in heaven.

In order to cultivate your garden and fulfill God's purpose for your life – you must keep the devil out of your garden.

The Key to Ruling Your World:

Gen. 2:16- “The Lord God commanded the man saying, from any tree of this garden you may eat freely...”

God told man that all of the garden was available to him, he could enjoy it all; **BUT**-

V.17- “From the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it, you will surely die.”

God says: “I have a calling for you; it is a **fulfilling** calling; it is an **enjoyable** calling; you are to cultivate the garden – the calling.

“But from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; you shall not eat!”

This raises a question: Why would God give them a garden and put a restriction in the middle of the garden?

If it's in the middle of the garden – they were seeing it all the time.

No matter which direction you go, you have to go through down town and see this tree in the middle of the garden that they couldn't have.

- There was only one tree they couldn't have; they could enjoy all the rest. But not this one.
- The enemy wants us to focus on the one thing we can't do, rather than focus on all the things God has given us to enjoy!
- The enemy wants to keep us thinking: "But why can't I have just that one?"
- Our flesh always wants that one thing we are not supposed to have.

Why didn't God want them to cross the line?

There had to be a test to determine if they would trust and obey God and acknowledge Him as their Creator.

There had to be a permanent distinction that they were the created and He was Creator.

We are not an independent living in a garden that HE had made!

There must be a reminder that there is answerability to someone else!

Here is how ALL of creation works:

- Man is subordinate to God
- Nature is subordinate to man
- Even Christ was subordinate to God the Father as well as angels are subordinate to God's bidding.

The way God enforced the subordination of man to Him was with a restriction that included a consequence!

“Don't eat it or it will kill you!”

What is this thing of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

- It was knowledge – data was associated with it.
- It involved good and evil – both.
- It had to do with the knowledge base –

The key to you developing your life in My garden and ruling My garden as I created you to rule it is to run your life by revelation [that understanding which I give] and not by human determination [your own thinking].

God is saying: “I don’t want you to use YOUR information or knowledge to make a determination about what is good and what is evil.

You don’t know enough to make those decisions.”

God wants us to operate by REVELATION & not by our own information that leads us to make a determination about what’s good and what’s not good.

So God put a tree there and He puts a test for us to see by whose standard we will choose to use in our life!

The decision or choice to be made is:

Are you going to use your own standard – or as Prov. 3:5 says: “Are you going to lean to your own understanding?”

Are you going to operate by your own frame of reference, by your own determinative ability to decide what’s right and what’s wrong?

Science has become so educated that they have determined that God does not exist

They have made a determination outside of revelation over things that nobody can ever observe by putting it in a test tube; but they think the puny mind of man can discover the purposes of God without God revealing to them the truth.

Revelation is supposed to enter into everything you do if you want God involved in your garden:

- Enter into politics, sociology, education, in science, in medical fields, into personal living, family.
- It's supposed to be life by revelation, not life by human determination!

God is saying to you: “You haven’t been here that long!”

•You don’t know enough!

We are not designed to learn by our own experiences,
but to:

Prov. 3:5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all your hearts, and
lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways
acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.”

Duet. 30:19

“...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; **therefore choose life**, that both you and your seed may live.”

A lot of the things God says to us don't make sense to the natural mind:

- When He said to Martha: “Move the stone from Lazarus' tomb.”
- It didn't make sense – he'd been stinking dead for four days now!
- God said: “I didn't ask you to understand it, I asked you to move it!”
- I didn't even ask you to agree with it; I just asked you to move it!

It wasn't until she responded to it – did she see the miracle take place!

- Some of us would spend time and energy discussing why the stone shouldn't be moved and waste 15 years while God is waiting for us to obey so He could accomplish what He wants to do in our lives.

God is calling on us to choose life in every area of our lives

- If you go by how you feel – with the knowledge of what you think is best - somebody is going to die!
- Somebody is going to miss God's plan for their life, marriage, children, and career.

God is calling for us to choose life:

I have a lot of freedom in the garden for you.

There is plenty of fruit in that garden for you.

There is a tree you can't touch in that garden; but there is life in your garden.

**It's time to go to the Lost and Found and RECLAIM
your Spiritual Authority –**

God has a garden with your name on it!