

## The Word of God

1). 1 Th 2:13 *For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it **not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God**, which also effectively works in you who believe.*

And when God gave His Word to us, where did He choose to begin?

Was this random or deliberate?

Ge 1:1 *In [the] beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

What is it then that God wants us to know from this very simple statement? And what He wants us to know can only be found by comparing Scripture with Scripture, to find God's own commentary on His opening statement that begins His revelation to us.

Jn 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*

Eph 3:9 *and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in **God who created all things through Jesus Christ;***

Heb 1:1 *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;*

We see then that 'in beginning' God created – God = 'Elohim', plural. And from John we see the 'Word' being with God and the 'Word' also being

God. And we know – Jn 1:14 *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory,*

The ‘Word’ is the Lord Jesus Christ. The ‘Word’ literally is the breath of God, God’s Spirit. So, in beginning the indivisible Trinity created the heavens and the earth and through John we see that the emphasis is on Jesus, the Christ, without whom, nothing was made that was made.

Eph 3:9 gives us further commentary on this and introduces the phrase ‘all things’. And then in Heb 1:2 we are told that God’s Son, the same Word made flesh who created all things is also ‘heir’ of all things.

To be an heir is to have an inheritance.

So, ‘all things’ is this talking about the heavens and the earth, created in beginning? Or is there something more? We don’t have to guess as the Scripture tells us – 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.*

According to v16 ‘all things’ were created by Him, the Lord Jesus, which is exactly what we have seen from John 1:3 and Eph 3:9. What Colossians tells us though is that the ‘all things’ is not referring to the heavens and the earth of themselves as it talks about the ‘all things’ that are created IN heaven and ON the earth. And what these things are that were created in heaven and on earth is clearly stated – thrones, dominions, principalities, powers – which are said to be both visible and invisible. Literally that which can be seen with the natural eye and that which can’t.

And the words themselves, thrones, dominions, principalities, powers, are all words that speak of rulership, of governance.

So then, there is visible rulership that we can see with our natural eye – monarchs, presidents, parliaments, military dictators, and these are on

the earth. And then there is invisible rulership, which we can't see with the natural eye that are in heaven.

And we are told that 'all things', visible and invisible rulership were created through Him and for Him – just as we have seen in John, Ephesians and Hebrews.

When Scripture uses the word 'heaven' in relation to the earth and rulership, what is this word referring to?

Is it the sky that we see when we look up? Is it the 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven from where God rules the universe? Or are we dealing with something else?

Well clearly not the sky, because we can see that whereas the heavens where rulership is found is said to invisible.

Nor can it be the 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven from where God rules the universe because that of necessity would have been in existence before God created the heavens and the earth.

We are then talking about an invisible realm, called the heavens, that has an exclusive association with the earth for the purpose of rulership – Dan 4:26...*the heavens do rule.*

And we are told about this invisible rulership from the heavens in – Eph 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.*

Notice the words, principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age.

This is a spiritual host, angels, and they are to be found in heavenly places. In the invisible heavens associated with the rulership of the earth.

Let's back track a little bit – in beginning then when God, through and by the 'Word' created the heavens and the earth, He also set in place the governance of the earth. This was not an afterthought as we see from the verses we have looked at, but the primary thought. The earth was created to be ruled from the heavens.

And according to what we have seen in Colossians and Hebrews it is the Christ who is to do this.

So, let's ask ourselves the question, if the heavens and the earth were created by Christ with the intent that He would rule the earth from the heavens, then why do we have a spiritual host of wickedness in the heavenly places, almost 6000 years on from the creation of the heavens and the earth, ruling this age of spiritual darkness?

A good question, which will have to wait until next time.