

## The Word of God – 14

*Mt 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

*Heb 4:3 For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: "So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest,'" although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.*

*Re 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

So what do we see here? We see the Kingdom of Christ, the rule over the earth that God had purposed for His Son from eternity past, being given as an inheritance to Man – and that this inheritance was planned for Man, ‘from the foundation of the world’ – even before man as a created being existed.

We see in our Hebrews scripture that God’s works, all that was necessary for the fulfillment of His purpose for His Son and Man, with respect to rulership over the earth, were complete and absolute before the heavens and the earth were created – in effect then, from eternity past.

And we see in Revelation Christ as a Lamb offered as a sacrifice, also in God’s economy, from the foundation of the world – although the event itself was not manifest in time until some 4000 years after the restoration of the ruined creation, and an unspecified length of time from the original creation of the heavens and the earth.

We can understand then that from, ‘In the beginning’, with regards to the rulership of this earth God has always intended that Man would rule with His Son for a period of 1000 years.

*2Ti 1:8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, 9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,*

*Tit 1:1 ¶ Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal[Age lasting] life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,*

*Heb 2:1 ¶ Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will? 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.*

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.

Neither at any time in the past or indeed in the present has this scenario existed – if it remains God’s purpose, which it is, and if it has not happened yet, which it hasn’t – then it must remain yet future, which it does.

Keeping all this in mind it seems fairly obvious that the completion of God’s plans and purposes, as they relate to this earth, would not be instantaneous, but would rather follow form and process – a process, the reasons for which we may not grasp with our finite minds, but a process nonetheless that is perfect to bring about God’s purpose.

However, we need to note that although God created Man with the specifically stated purpose of having dominion, and although, as we have seen, this is God’s intention from eternity past, we have also seen in our scripture from Hebrews 2:7 that man was made a little lower than the angels. With respect to rulership over the earth, below the authority of the ruling fallen angels.

Before the authority set in place before the foundation of the world can be realized, Man must prove himself worthy to replace the incumbent ruler.

And following the pattern that has already been set, this 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.

For man to attain the position for which he was created and be elevated ‘above the angels’ – seen in the 7<sup>th</sup> Day – his experience must parallel that seen in days 1 through 6 in Genesis Chapter 1 – there is no other way.

More next time – if the Lord is willing.