

## The Word of God – 4

In beginning then God created the heavens and the earth in a perfect state and Satan was created as the ruler of this one province in God's universal kingdom and he was given an unspecified number of angels to assist him in his task. However, Satan's sin brought Divine intervention in the form of judgment resulting in the heavens and the earth becoming formless and void.

But knowing as we do the immutability of God, we will realize that His plan for the rulership of the earth was not going to change –  
*Ge 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.*

What we now see in these verses from Genesis Chapter 1, is the beginning of a process of restoration. The 6 days of work seen in Genesis Chapter 1 are not a description of how God created the earth, but an account of how He restored the creation that had been ruined as a result of Satan's rebellion.

And as we read through the account of this restoration it becomes clear that God restored the earth for a specific purpose - *Ge 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

People have often asked the question, 'Why did God create Man?' Which has given rise to all sorts of non-scriptural nonsense. Such as God wanted someone to have fellowship with because He was lonely. But if anyone

would read here in Genesis, it couldn't be stated any more clearly – Man was created to have dominion – a word that means to rule.

Man, then, has been created to rule in the place of Satan and his rebellious angels. This is something we also find in the Book of Hebrews 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.

And we need to keep what we see in Genesis 1:26-28 and Hebrews 2:5-8 within the context of what is said in - 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.*

Satan then, the one originally created for the purpose of ruling from the heavens over the earth, had been disqualified to do so because of his rebellion. However, it is a prerequisite of Biblical rulership that the one to replace the one disqualified must not only be present, but also be proven worthy to rule before the incumbent can be replaced. Saul and David provide our type for this.

So then, if Man has been created to rule the earth, which Scripture clearly states he has been, then he must be proven worthy to do so before Satan can be replaced.

And as Scripture also states that Christ is to rule, all things were created through Him and for Him, then, as God must remain true to His Word, the Christ would have to be found worthy as well.

And needless to say this is exactly what the Scripture teaches, as we shall see in the coming weeks.

