

New Covenant Principles: Lesson 5 – Dominion

Understanding the principle of dominion is vital to living in the fullness that God has provided for you. The reality of the New Covenant is that Jesus purchased your full deliverance from the curse when He gave up His life on the cross (Galatians 3:13). Unfortunately, very few of God’s children live in the fullness of that deliverance because of a lack of understanding on how to receive it in this natural world. The principle of dominion is key to activating your ability to receive God’s deliverance from the curse. Hence it is the subject of this lesson.

Write the following verses and answer the questions:

Genesis 1:27. _____

What does this verse tell you about the nature of man? _____

Since you are made in God’s image, it is good to start with looking at some aspects of the nature of God.

Hebrews 11:3. _____

What did God use to frame the worlds? _____

Let’s look at how Genesis describes this fact. What did God do to create the items listed in the following verses:

Genesis 1:3; 1:6; 1:9; 1:14; 1:20; 1:24; 1:26: _____

Since man is made in God’s image, we are also designed to create things and control life by what we say. This is why people speak to things, including inanimate objects. How many of us have spoken to our cars, clothes, plants, animals, and so on? This is because built into the nature of every man is the expectation that all created things should respond to the words we say. This is because we are made in the image of God.

Genesis 2:7. _____

Let’s look at the pictograms from the Hebrew for some key words in this verse.

Breath = neshmah which is four Hebrew letters: nun, shin, mem, heh.

Nun’s picture is a seed, which can be either Jesus or the believer

Shin’s picture is God, which is understood to be Father God.

Mem’s picture is water, which is the Holy Spirit.

Heh’s picture is breath, which is understood to be the Grace of God.

So the pictogram of 'breath' is 'the Triune God breathing Grace' – in this verse it's into the body of Adam.

Living = Chay which is two Hebrew letters: Kaph Heh.

Kaph's picture is a cupped hand, which indicates the blessing of God being placed on the head

So the pictogram of 'living' is 'God's blessing of Grace (divine favor)'.

Soul = nephesh which is three Hebrew letters: Nun, Pe and Shin.

Pe's picture is a mouth, which shows speaking or proclamation.

So the pictogram of 'soul' is 'the believer speaking like God'.

Putting it all together it says "the Triune God breathed Grace" into man and man became a being under the "hand of God's blessing that causes him to speak like God". Rabbinical tradition states that the words "living soul" (Hebrew - Chay Nephesh) is best translated into English as "Speaking Spirit". This underlines the truth that we are the same class of being as God. Therefore, we operate the same way he does – seeing things by faith and speaking them into being.

Having established that we create and direct things by our words, it is a fact that we are living today what we have been saying for years. It also helps explain why bad things happen – because Satan and his demons have got us talking death, destruction, disaster, accidents, fear and failure. If you start listening you will hear people saying things like "I'm dying for that piece of cake", "I'm dying to go...", "it kills me that ...", or "see you tomorrow, if I'm not hit by a bus before then"; but never "I'm living for that piece of cake", "I'm living to go...", or "it makes me live that...". Often the negative statements are made semi-jokingly, but when a human speaks them they are actionable by the forces of evil, whether they are a joke or not. So speaking the negative activates Satan's power to bring it to pass. Conversely, God wants us to think about and speak things that are true, pure, honest, just, of good report and so on (Philippians 4:8). As Christians, when we do that it enables God to release His power to bring the good to pass in your life – God watches over His word (when you speak it) to perform it.

Now let's dig into the reality of dominion and its role in our lives.

Read **Genesis 1:26**. What did God give man dominion over: _____

Read **Genesis 1:28**. What blessing did God give to man: _____

Read **Romans 11:29**. What does God say about what he gives: _____

Does this mean man still has dominion as stated in Genesis 1? _____

To understand how to exercise dominion, you need to know that dominion consists of two equally important aspects: AUTHORITY and POWER – i.e. DOMINION = AUTHORITY + POWER.

A simple illustration is a Traffic Officer. Answer the following questions for insight into this illustration.

How do you know a person is a traffic officer? _____

What does this uniform and vehicle give the officer regarding traffic? _____

Where does this authority over traffic come from? _____

Why does a driver stop his vehicle when a traffic officer tells him to? _____

What happens if the driver does not stop? _____

What enforces the Officer's authority? _____

The summary is that the Traffic Officer needs the delegated authority of the State to enforce the rules of the road and that the State's legal system must have and use its power to punish a driver if he doesn't obey the Officer's authority. This explains exactly how dominion works. First you must have authority over the domain given to you and secondly you must have the power to enforce that authority.

So when God gave man dominion over the earth, he gave him both aspects: authority to rule (i.e. be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it) and He gave man the power by the blessing He gave him. So man has the delegated authority backed up by God's power to exercise dominion over this natural world. Because man is made in the image of God, he exercises his authority by what he says. That is why we looked at the nature of a speaking spirit at the start of this lesson. To exercise authority in this earth a being must have a physical body that is able to speak in this natural world. The only such being is man. Authority in this natural created realm belongs to those who have a physical human body (i.e. have a "birth certificate").

The power component of dominion is a little different. It comes from the laws and enforcement of the spiritual realm – the greater power. When God delegated dominion to man, the power to enforce man's authority was provided by God – God's supernatural power operating at man's direction. Unfortunately, the day Adam ate of the fruit and submitted himself to the outlaw spirit Satan, he lost his connection to God's power (Genesis 2:17 - ... in the day you eat thereof you shall surely die). Man's source of power switched from God (and good) to Satan (and evil). That is what brought the curse into the earth. So after the fall, when man spoke, the only power available to enforce his dominion was that of Satan/evil.

Furthermore, since Satan and his demons have no authority on the earth (they are not of this physical world), they have to get a physical being to do it for them. That's why they go about looking for human beings that they can possess. If they can't find anyone who will allow them to possess him/her, their next best option is to influence the human to speak bad so that their evil power can make it come to pass. This explains why Satan has inserted death, failure, destruction, and disaster into the language of man. Satan has to have mankind use man's authority (speaking it) to destroy man. After 6,000 years of man's existence, our language has definitely become the language of the curse. Write out the following scriptures:

Job 1:12. _____

Job 2:6. _____

Ephesians 2:2. _____

Matthew 4:8-9. _____

Because of Adam’s failure, mankind was placed under the power of Satan. However, the good news is that Jesus destroyed Satan’s power over man and restored man’s connection to God’s power when He rose from the dead. Write out the following scriptures:

Matthew 28:18. _____

Luke 9:1. _____

Colossians 1:13. _____

Notice how this verse describes your new state as a believer. You are no longer under Satan’s power, you are connected to God’s power. This means when you speak, God’s power is released to operate on your behalf.

Colossians 2:15. _____

The first Greek word in this verse is ‘apekduomai’ which means to “strip away, put off or divest wholly”. It is in the Aorist tense which means it happened at a single point in time. When Jesus rose from the dead, he totally stripped Satan of his power over man and totally delivered us from the curse. Read Colossians 2:11-14. Meditate on how completely Jesus has delivered you. Accordingly you now have the right to exercise dominion again. Let’s look at how Jesus instructed the disciples to use their dominion. Write out the following verse:

Matthew 21:21. _____

Also read Mark **11:23-24**, **Matthew 16:19**, **Matthew 18:18**, **Ephesians 1:17-23**, **Ephesians 3:20**.

Notice how every believer has the fullness of God’s power available to them to enforce their authority. Now that you know this truth, it’s time to use your words to release God’s power to work for you – USE YOUR DOMINION.