

Who Rules the Earth?

1. God is the Creator and so has inalienable rights over all of creation. (Psalm 24:1-10)
 - a. He is the King.
 - b. God sets the boundaries and limitations of the natural order.
 - c. He sovereign and His plans always come to pass.
 - d. However, not every action of man is a direct representation of God's rule and reign. Meaning that not everything which happens on the face of the Earth is a direct out working of God's will.
 - e. The lost-ness of man, sickness, the heartaches which we are so often familiar with are not God's design for us. They are the manifestation of man's choice to separate from God's perfect plan and will for humanity.
 - f. If God is absolutely sovereign, then why is something that is not His plan or desire for us manifest? Because He has given us a freewill. In a very real sense God's will is being fulfilled when man has the ability to choose against God's design.
 - g. Why? God's perfect will is being done when man is allowed to choose to reject God Himself and the goodness of His will.
 - h. Acceptance without the right to choose is not love. It is reduced to a mechanism.
2. One purpose for which God created man is so that He would have someone to enter into a love relationship with. Man is God's highest earthly creature and has been given rule of this earthly domain. (Genesis 1:26-27, 31)
 - a. (Psalm 8:5-8) David magnifies the honor of God by describing the honors that God has set on man, especially the man Christ Jesus. And now as vested (fully and unconditionally guaranteed as a legal right, benefit, or privilege) disciples in Christ Jesus we are to rule over this earthly domain.
 - b. Hebrews 2:6-8; 1 Corinthians 15:27-28
3. By tempting man, Satan was able to pervert this order in the natural realm when man chose to sin.
 - a. This sets the order that Satan was not able to touch the ruler-ship of the natural realm except through the manipulation of man.
 - b. God chooses to work in the natural realm in the same manor. He works in this world by His Holy Spirit within those who willing receive His gift!
 - c. This pattern has not changed since the beginning! In Genesis God working through man said to subdue the earth and spread the knowledge of His glory through the universe.
 - d. God works through mankind to bring Himself glory!
4. In Adam's disobedience he surrendered, for all of mankind: the right to rule over a yielded earth and made Satan a god or prince of the power of the air.
 - a. God never fashioned nor enthroned Satan as a god or a prince. That was Adam's doing!

- b. How is a god or a prince made?
 - i. By worshipping them
 - ii. By submitting to them
 - iii. By yielding to them
 - iv. And so, giving them power and authority.
- c. Satan is not all powerful. He, in fact, is only the absence of God's power.
 - i. On a side note: To operate in fear is a horrible way to live life.
- 5. The consequences of Adam's failure were and are far reaching.
 - a. All of nature is subject to the spiritual condition of man, its rightful ruler.
 - b. Apart from restoration all of eternity is lost.
 - c. Devoid of a living relationship with God it is impossible for man to subdue the earth and cause it to produce as God intended.
 - d. In both the Old and New Covenant commissioning's of man to subdue the earth and fill it with the glory of God.
 - e. Jesus Christ, is the best example of man's right ruler-ship over the natural order.
 - i. In the many miracles which Jesus preformed, He displayed time and again that He had authority over the fallen order of nature.
 - ii. In His death on the cross the natural world reacted!
 - f. In Jesus Christ ruler-ship and authority were restored.
 - i. Hosea 6:7 speaks of a covenant which men (in Hebrew Adam) broke. Jesus is the Second (Last)-Adam Who restored covenant relationship. (See Romans 5:12-19).
 - ii. Jesus satisfied the debt of all mankind and as the second Adam (I Corinthians 15:45) or the second federal head of the human race opened the door of reconciliation with the Father.
 - iii. It is up to us as disciples vested with the power of Jesus Christ to cast down and out the work of Satan.
- 6. God's own and only provision, Jesus Christ, satisfied His righteous wrath and demand for justice.
 - a. Therefore: Accepting God's only provision by faith in Jesus we are in the position to experience His love, forgiveness, acceptance, healing and deliverance.
 - b. There are no other satisfactory provisions for mankind apart from Jesus Christ.
 - c. SOZO – Salvation, deliverance, healing, provision. HUGEAS (hü-gē-ās) – sound in body, restored to health. Mark 5 Women with the issue of blood. Vs 34 Your faith has SOZO healed, saved, made you well... go your way and be HUGEAS.

Who Rules the Earth? Ultimately, God. But He has granted rulership over the created order to be in the purview of man, lost at the fall, but restored and vested into disciples of Jesus Christ.