



# A CONQUERING CHURCH

Preaching and Teaching Resources

ADRIAN ROGERS





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# A Conquering Church

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Genesis 1; Ephesians 1

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #2502

God made man and woman to have dominion, victory and mastery; it is the very reason we were created. Once we understand this, we can come together as a conquering church and take back what was lost by Adam and was restored by Jesus Christ, the Second Adam.

**According to Genesis 1:26, God gave dominion on earth to Adam.**

But Satan, a fallen angel who became the father of the night, lost the battle in Heaven and hopes to win the battle on Earth.

He came to the Garden of Eden as a serpent and tempted Adam and Eve to sin; therefore, they turned dominion over to him and became his slaves.

**But this dominion, legally lost by Adam, was righteously regained by Jesus Christ!**

Adrian Rogers says, "God owes Satan nothing, but God owes everything to His own justice. Jesus Christ came to this Earth as the second Adam, to gain back what the first Adam lost."

It was lost by a man, and it was legally restored by a man: "For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:21-22).

Satan tried to tempt Jesus to sin as he had tempted Adam (Luke 4), but Jesus defeated Him by the Word of God. At Calvary, when Jesus died and was buried, the devil believed he had won. But three days later, Jesus walked out of the grave and brought back dominion that had been lost.

**Finally, this dominion has been gloriously given to the Church.**

Ephesians 1:22-23 says, "And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."

When God raised Jesus Christ from the dead, He raised us up as well. The devil wants to keep us in the dark so that we never see the incredible power we've been given. But when we finally recognize it, all Heaven will break loose.

## Life Application

Adrian Rogers says, "The same weapons that belonged to Adam in the Garden of Eden were the weapons that Jesus Christ used in the wilderness." Spend some time in Scripture, dwell on the Word of God, exercising your dominion, rightfully restored by Jesus Christ.



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## 1) INTRODUCTION

- a) God's plan for us is that we be victorious day by day.
- b) God made man to have dominion, victory, and mastery.
  - i) Genesis 1:26
    - (1) When God made Adam and Eve, He made them king and queen of His domain.
    - (2) God gave them rule.
  - ii) Psalm 8:6
    - (1) This was God's plan.
- c) Man was designed for dominion, but is that still true today?
  - i) There are murders, wars, riots, famines, disasters, heartaches, and failures of mankind.
  - ii) Man was given dominion, but man has lost that dominion.
- d) Today's message will look at how man's dominion was lost, how the Lord bought it back for us, and how He has given it to every Bible-believing church and every Spirit-filled Christian so that we might live and walk in victory.

## 2) DOMINION WAS LEGALLY LOST BY ADAM (EPHESIANS 2:1-2)

- a) In this passage, the word "quickened" literally means "were made alive".
  - i) Notice that this passage mentions "the prince of the power of the air" and "the spirit that works in the children of disobedience".
    - (1) There is a dark, malevolent force at work in the world.
      - (a) It is the power of Satan.
- b) Satan is a created being.
  - i) He is not co-equal or co-eternal with God the Father.
  - ii) God created him as a perfect angel, the highest of the high.
    - (1) He was the vice regent in Heaven.
      - (a) He received worship and passed it on to the Father.
      - (b) He was like a high priest.
- c) The Bible says that Satan fell by the multitude of his merchandise.
  - i) Ezekiel 28:16
  - ii) What passed through his hands began to stick to his fingers.
    - (1) He took this praise, looked at it, and wanted it.
  - iii) He wanted to be like the Most High.
    - (1) Isaiah 14:12-14
  - iv) Lucifer, the Son of the Morning, became Satan, the Father of the Night.
  - v) Satan was banished from Heaven.
    - (1) He fell from Heaven.
      - (a) A third of the angels fell with him and became demon spirits.



- d) Having lost the battle in Heaven, Satan came to Earth hoping to win the battle on Earth.
  - i) Failing to enshrine himself in Heaven, he wants to enshrine himself on Earth and receive worship from humankind.
    - (1) It has always been his motive to be worshipped.
    - ii) And so, Adam was conned and seduced by Satan to turn dominion over to him.
- e) God gave to Adam dominion.
  - i) Just as Lucifer had a will, Adam had a will.
  - ii) Since dominion was given, it legally belonged to Adam.
    - (1) But Adam legally turned it over to Satan.
    - (2) Satan beguiled and tempted Adam, but Adam was guilty by turning the dominion, the rule, and the authority that God had given to him over to Satan.
  - iii) It was legally given, and it was legally lost.
- f) How did Adam turn it over to Satan?
  - i) Adam disobeyed God and began to obey Satan.
    - (1) When he did, Adam became Satan's slave.
      - (a) Roman 6:16
        - (i) The word "servants" here literally means "his slaves".
      - (2) When we obey the devil, we collect our wages.
        - (a) The devil becomes our master, and we become his slave.
    - ii) All of it was delivered to Satan by Adam.
- g) Some people say that God is still God of this world, but Satan now is called the god of this world.
  - i) 2 Corinthians 4:4
  - ii) Satan tempted Jesus to worship him.
    - (1) Luke 4:5-8
      - (a) He showed Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world.
      - (b) Satan said that he would give them all to Jesus if Jesus would bow down and worship him.
        - (i) Jesus didn't say that they were not Satan's to give.
        - (ii) Jesus recognized that it was dominion that was legally held by Satan.
    - (2) Satan had the dominion that Adam gave to him, and he offered to give it to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- h) Dominion was legally lost by Adam.

### 3) DOMINION WAS RIGHTFULLY AND RIGHTEOUSLY REGAINED BY THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (1 CORINTHIANS 15:21-22)

- a) God's plan was to righteously and legally take back Adam's lost estate and give it to the sons and daughters of men.
- b) It was legally lost; it must be legally restored.
  - i) God is God; He can do anything He wishes to do.
    - (1) He could have just stepped in and told Satan to be gone.
    - (2) He could have taken back everything that Adam delivered to Satan and started all over.
      - (a) But God didn't do that because God is true to His own justice.



- ii) God owes Satan nothing, but God owes to Himself very much.
  - (1) God owes to Himself the sense of righteousness and justice.
- iii) If God had simply dismissed Satan, then sin would have ultimately won.
- c) God's plan is centered in a man.
  - i) Dominion was given to a man.
  - ii) Dominion was lost by a man.
  - iii) Dominion must be regained by a man.
- d) None of the sons of Adam could regain what Adam had lost.
  - i) All of the sons of Adam had the sinful nature of Adam.
    - (1) A sinner can redeem no one.
      - (a) He is a sinner himself.
      - (b) He can offer no innocent sacrifice.
  - ii) Since Adam, the men and women of this world have been born slaves of Satan.
    - (1) The sons and daughters of a slave are slaves themselves.
  - iii) No son of Adam could redeem mankind, and yet the redeemer must be a man.
- e) God became a man.
  - i) Jesus Christ, who had dwelt from all eternity in the bosom of the Father, stepped out of the ivory palaces and came into this world of woe.
  - ii) He became a man that He might redeem us.
- f) Jesus didn't redeem us as God; He redeemed us as man.
  - i) 1 Corinthians 15:21-22
    - (1) If there had been no Adam, then we would not be here.
      - (a) We are tied up in Adam.
      - (b) The Bible only recognizes two men:
        - (i) Adam and his progeny (those who are in Adam).
        - (ii) Jesus and His progeny (those who are in Christ).
    - (2) In Adam, all die.
    - (3) In Christ, all will be made alive.
  - ii) Hebrews 2:14
    - (1) In this verse, "children" refers to us, and "He" refers to Jesus.
    - (2) We are flesh and blood.
    - (3) God in Spirit-form could never die.
      - (a) In order for God to die, God must become a man.
    - (4) In order for Jesus to pay the full penalty of sin and nullify Satan's claim, there had to be a death of a sinless sacrifice.
      - (a) Jesus, through death, destroyed Satan, who had the power of death.
      - (b) In order to die, Jesus had to become a man.
  - iii) Galatians 4:3-5
    - (1) We were not made to be in bondage.
      - (a) We were made to be masters.
      - (b) But we were in bondage.
    - (2) Jesus had a human birth.



- (a) God was going to legally regain what Adam had legally turned over.
- (b) Jesus was born of a virgin that we might be born again.
- g) When Satan saw the second Adam come, he realized that his kingdom was threatened.
  - i) The second Adam had come to undo and buy back what the first Adam did and lost.
  - ii) Satan gathered all of the artillery of Hell to aim on this second man, the Lord from Heaven, to get Him to sin.
    - (1) If Satan could get Him to sin, then Satan would win the victory.
- h) When Satan came against Jesus, Jesus could not defeat Satan as God and be true to His own law.
  - i) He had to defeat Satan as a man and be true to His justice.
  - ii) It was given to a man, it was lost by a man, and it must be regained by a man.
- i) When Lord Jesus Christ came to this Earth, there was a battle to get Him into sin.
  - i) There was the wilderness temptation.
    - (1) Luke 4:1-12
      - (a) Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted, or tested, by Satan.
        - (i) This was part of God's plan.
        - (ii) Jesus didn't run from the battle.
      - (b) Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, and Satan came to Him in this weakened condition.
      - (c) Each time Satan came with a temptation, Jesus unsheathed the sword of the Word of God in response.
    - (2) We need to understand the following:
      - (a) Jesus was led of the Spirit, filled with the Spirit, and anointed by the Spirit in the wilderness.
        - (i) Luke 4:1
      - (b) Jesus used the Word of God over and over again.
        - (i) Jesus didn't defeat Satan as God would defeat Satan.
        - (ii) He defeated Satan as a man should defeat Satan.
      - (c) The weapons that Jesus used in the wilderness were the same weapons that were available to Adam in the garden.
        - (i) The Spirit of God
        - (ii) The Word of God
    - (3) Jesus, filled with the Spirit and taking the Word of God, won the victory over Satan.
    - (4) The Bible says that Satan withdrew for a more opportune time.
      - (a) Luke 4:13
      - (b) The battle was not over, and Satan did not give up easily.
  - ii) The most opportune time that Satan saw next was Gethsemane.
    - (1) There was blood before the cross.
      - (a) Jesus was in such agony in Gethsemane that His sweat came as great drops of blood.
        - (i) Luke 22:44
    - (2) We will not understand Gethsemane unless we understand the humanity of Jesus.
      - (a) Jesus prayed in agony.
        - (i) Luke 22:44



- (ii) In Bible times, the “agon” was a battle.
      - 1. It is where we get the word “agony” from.
  - (3) All of the forces of Hell battered against the Lord Jesus in Gethsemane.
  - (4) Metaphorically, there was a cup that was pressed to the lips of the Lord Jesus for Him to drink.
    - (a) Luke 22:42
    - (b) Sin was in that cup.
      - (i) Murder, perversion, pillage, arson, blasphemy, idolatry, rebellion, etc.
      - (ii) All of our sins were in that cup.
      - (iii) All the sins that ever have been, and all the sins that ever will be were in that cup.
    - (c) Jesus was to drink that cup because God had made Him to be sin for us (not a sinner) that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.
    - (d) It was God’s plan that Jesus would take our sin and carry it to the cross.
      - (i) With His blood, Jesus would pay the penalty for our sin.
        - 1. Hebrews 9:22
      - (ii) The first Adam got us into a mess; the second Adam came to get us out.
    - (e) Matthew 26:39
      - (i) Jesus would not only be taking our sin, but He would also become the object of the Father’s wrath.
        - 1. The punishment for sin would be on Jesus.
      - (ii) “Let this cup pass from Me” shows Jesus’ humanity.
        - 1. Don’t get the idea that this was easy.
      - (iii) The silence from Heaven said that there was no other way.
      - (iv) Jesus said, “Nevertheless...”
    - (f) Luke 22:42
      - (i) Our destiny hangs on the word “nevertheless”.
  - (5) Satan was defeated again.
- iii) Calvary was the third round in this battle.
  - (1) Jesus could have called twelve legions of angels to save Him.
    - (a) Matthew 26:53
  - (2) They laughed at Jesus when He was on the cross and said that He could save others, but He could not save Himself.
    - (a) Matthew 27:42
    - (b) But they were wrong; it was Himself that He would not save.
      - (i) John 10:18
      - (ii) The only man that Jesus ever refused to save was Himself.
  - (3) In agony and blood, Jesus bowed His head and paid the price.
    - (a) John 19:30
    - (b) It was paid in full.
  - (4) Satan’s back was broken, but he didn’t give up yet.
- iv) They took the Lord Jesus Christ and put Him in the grave.
  - (1) Pilate said to make it as sure as they could.
    - (a) Matthew 27:62-66





- (b) They put the seal of the Roman government on it.
  - (c) They rolled a stone in front of it.
    - (i) Nature made it as sure as she could.
- (2) Death wrapped the Son of God in the chains of death and made it as sure as death could.
  - (a) The proud Pharisees said that He was dead.
  - (b) The sneering Sadducees said that He was dead.
  - (c) The delighted demons said that He was dead.
- (3) But three days later, the Son of God woke up.
  - (a) He pulled the sting out of death.
  - (b) He took the crown of death, put it on His head, and walked out of that grave.
- v) It was not over yet.
  - (1) Jesus went down into the netherworld to declare that the battle had been won.
    - (a) The grave could not hold Him; the netherworld could not keep Him.
  - (2) Jesus ascended the high hills of Glory.
    - (a) There in the tabernacle, not pitched by men but by God, He took the precious blood and offered it and sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
      - (i) Hebrews 8:2
      - (ii) Matthew 26:64
- j) How did Jesus do this?
  - i) He did this as a sinless man.
    - (1) He was God, but be careful not to diminish His humanity.
    - (2) As a man, He bought back what a man had lost.
  - ii) Now, He is seated in the heavens.
  - iii) When He comes again, we will see the nail prints in His hands.
    - (1) Once He became a man, He is forever man.
      - (a) He didn't become a man and then lay it aside.
  - iv) What love that He became one like us that He might redeem us.

#### 4) DOMINION THAT IS NOW GLORIOUSLY GIVEN TO THE CHURCH (EPHESIANS 1:17-23)

- a) Ephesians 2:6
  - i) When we are in Christ Jesus, we are seated in heavenly places.
    - (1) When God raised up Christ, He raised us up.
- b) Jesus, by death, destroyed him that had the power of death.
  - i) Now, He is seated in the heavenlies, far above all principalities and powers that ever were.
    - (1) He is there; living, risen, and victorious.
    - (2) Who is there with Him?
      - (a) We (those who are saved) are there with Him.
- c) Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection had our names on it.
  - i) Jesus ascended.
    - (1) We have ascended.
  - ii) Jesus has all power.
    - (1) We have all power.
    - (2) The word "power" means "authority".



- iii) Demons were subject to Jesus.
  - (l) They are subject to us.
- iv) The devil does not want us to learn this.
- d) We have been co-crucified, co-buried, co-raised, co-ascended, and co-seated with Jesus in the heavenlies.
  - i) Dominion has been given back.
- e) If you are not living in dominion, then it is not because the devil is so powerful.
  - i) Satan has no power over you.
  - ii) Jesus gave us authority over all the power of the enemy.
    - (l) Luke 9:1
- f) The Apostle Paul pleaded that God would open our eyes and give us the wisdom of understanding that we might know what we have in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) Ephesians 1:17-23
- g) God wants us to be victorious, not stampeded by the devil.
  - i) The worst is yet to come for Satan.
    - (l) The next time he reminds you of your past, remind him of his future.

## 5) CONCLUSION

- a) Adam lost dominion.
- b) Jesus, as a man, bought dominion back.
- c) Jesus has given it back to us through the cross.
- d) If you are not saved and have not been living in victory, then confess it.
  - i) That does not mean that you will not have pain, sickness, sorrow, or disappointment.
    - (l) You are not to be victorious from these things but in these things.
      - (a) We are still awaiting the redemption of the body.
      - (b) But Satan has no power over you.
- e) If you are living in failure, then it is either because there is willful sin or terrible ignorance.
  - i) Ask God to help you to be victorious.
- f) If you are not saved, then aren't you tired of being a slave to Satan when Jesus has set you free?
- g) The fact that Jesus undid what Adam did does you no good unless you believe it, receive it, and take a new master, the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) Either you are in Adam (a slave of Satan), or you are in Christ.
- h) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- i) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16



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SERMON REFERENCE: Genesis 1; Ephesians 1

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Take God's Word and turn to Ephesians chapter 1 and also to Genesis chapter 1. We've been talking about the kind of a church that my heart beats for, that I dream for, that I wish and look to God for, the kind of a church that I have tried to lead you to be in these past 32 years. We've talked about such things as a unified church. We've talked about a militant church. We've talked about a steadfast church. We have talked about a praying church. Today, I want to speak to you about a conquering church.

Now, when God made you, God designed you for dominion. God made you, listen, God made you for mastering. You were not designed to fail. You were designed to have dominion. When you were born again, you were born to win. Look, if you will, here in the Book of Genesis, chapter 1 and verse 26. Here's why God made you, at least one of His purposes. "And God said, 'Let us make man in our image.'" That's God the Son, God the Spirit, God the Father speaking. "And God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness,'" now, look at this, "'and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the Earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth.'" Now, if black print on white paper means anything, it means that man, as God designed him and created him, was given rule to control and master the Earth and its resources. Man was to be king of the Earth. An ancillary verse that you might want to jot in your margin is Psalm chapter 8 and verse 6. The Psalmist is speaking about man, and it says, "Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put," now, listen to this, "all things under his feet."

Well, look at today's newspaper, or any newspaper. Friend, it is obvious that man does not have dominion. It is obvious that all things are not under his feet. Look around, there's death, disease, hate, war, crime, lust, sorrow, disappointment, despair: they're everywhere, and yet man is supposed to have dominion. Something has gone wrong, and thank God, God has done something about it.

Now, there are three things I want to lay on your heart as we think about a conquering church. The first thing is this: that this dominion that man was supposed to have, and was given, **man's dominion was legally lost by Adam**. Key words: legally and Adam. Man's dominion was legally lost by Adam. Now, who was Adam? You say, "Well, I didn't vote for Adam." It doesn't make any difference. You were in Adam. You say, "Adam didn't have anything to do with me." Friend, had there been no Adam, there'd have been no you; you're connected to Adam. You say, "Well, I don't believe that people ought to be lost because of one man." Well, friend, you ought to be glad that a person can be lost by one man because also somebody can be saved by one man. So don't, don't rebel against this.

What happened? Well, let me go back and give you some Scripture now. We're, we're in Ephesians chapter, well, let's look in Ephesians chapter 2 verses 1 and 2. Now, here's how God describes us today, "And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience."



Who is the prince of the power of the air? Who is the spirit that walks within the children and rules over the children of disobedience? He is the devil himself. Now, God created a perfect being. God did not create a devil. God created a perfect being, but He gave that perfect being the power of choice, and Satan chose to rebel against God. And his original name was Lucifer, which means light bearer. Satan means adversary. Lucifer, the light bearer, became Satan. The bearer of light became the master of darkness.

Now, what happened is this: that Satan had in his heart and in his heart pride. He thought to himself, "I'm too great, I'm too wise, I'm too wonderful to be anything less than God." Isaiah chapter 14 and verse 14 tells us he said, "I will be like the Most High." But no sooner had he unsheathed his sword of rebellion than the thunders of God rolled down through the corridors of Heaven, and Satan was banished from Heaven down to the Earth. And the rebellion that would not work in Heaven was turned to Earth, and Satan now turns his attention to man; man that was given dominion here on the Earth. Now, Satan was dethroned in Heaven, but Satan came to this Earth to enthrone himself in the heart and mind of man. You see, Satan lost the throne in Heaven, but he gained a throne, listen carefully, in the heart of man. The victory that he lost in Heaven was a victory that he gained on Earth.

Now, how did this happen? Notice I said in this heading that dominion was legally lost. I thought about that word. I want you to think about it because the entire universe is run by law, God's law. God created these laws and God keeps these laws. And when God gave Adam dominion, it was a legal gift. God gave it to him. Now, if I give something to Mark Dougherty over here, it's his if I give it to him. He now becomes the legal possessor of it. And once I give it to him, he's free to do with it as he wills. God gave Adam dominion. It was legally given to him. And Adam forfeited it. Adam gave it away. Adam turned it over to Satan.

I have a dear friend whose father bought me a brand new automobile when he was in college. You know, these kids think they have to have something new, a new automobile when he get in college. One kid said to his dad, he said, "Dad, all the kids have new cars, all of them!" Dad said, "Well, all right." He bought his son a new car and then went to visit him in college. And he saw some old cars sitting out there in the parking lot. He said, "Son, what about these old cars?" "Oh," he said, "they belong to the professors." I had a friend whose father gave him a brand new car. Do you know what he did? He gave it away. He gave it to another student. Now, if you were that boy's father, what would you say, what would you think, what would you do if you gave your son a brand new car and he gave it to another student? Well, I'll tell you one thing. That father could not go and take it away from that student. The dad gave it to his son, and his son gave it to another. It was legally given. It was legally lost. You see, Adam willfully turned his dominion over to the devil. He chose to obey Satan. And when he chose to obey Satan and ate of the forbidden fruit, then he turned his dominion over to Adam.

Let me give you a couple of Scripture that bear that out. Romans chapter 6 and verse 16, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, His servants ye are to obey." Adam yielded himself to Satan. Adam obeyed Satan. And when Adam obeyed Satan, he became the servant of Satan. Listen to it again, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, His servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death or obedience unto righteousness?" Now, Adam chose to obey Satan. And when he did, he turned it all over to Satan.

There's an interesting thing in the Bible in Luke chapter 4, that the devil is tempting Jesus. And he takes Jesus up to a high mountain and he says, "You see all of this? Look at the kingdoms of the world." He



showed Him the kingdoms of the world, the Bible says in Romans 4 verse 5, “in a moment”. He saw it all: all of the empires that had been and ever will be. And Satan said to the Son of God. I want you to see how much audacity that devil had. He said to the Son of God in verses 6 and 7, “Look. You see all of this? I will give it to You, for it has been delivered unto me. And I will give it to you, for it’s mine to give to whomsoever I will. It was given to me. I’ll give it to You if You’ll bow down and worship me.” Now, you see, Satan has always wanted to be worshipped, but that’s not the point in this particular passage. The point I’m trying to make right now is that Satan said, “The kingdoms of this world were delivered to me.” Who delivered them to Satan? Adam himself. And so what I’m trying to say is this: that when Adam, who was given legal dominion, made for dominion, turned it over to Satan, he lost all of his legal rights and Satan has become the legal possessor of Adam’s dominion. And now, Adam, meant to have dominion, is spiritually dead and legally dethroned and Satan is now called in Second Corinthians 4:4, listen, “the god of this world”.

Who is the god of this world? You say Almighty God. Well, let me give you a Scripture. Second Corinthians chapter 4 verse 4. The apostle Paul is talking about the mayhem and the disillusionment and the deadness and the darkness that’s in the hearts and minds of men, and he says, “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not.” The god of this world. Who is the god of this world? Satan. God gave Adam dominion. Adam turned it over to Satan. And now Satan is the god of this world. No wonder in Ephesians 6:12 the Bible says, “We’re not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers and spiritual wickedness in high places.” First thing, get it down in your heart. Dominion was legally given to Adam; it was legally lost by Adam.

Now, here’s the second thing. We’re talking a church that has conquest, a conquering church. This dominion that was legally lost by Adam was **rightfully recovered by Jesus, rightfully and righteously recovered by Jesus**. Now, the word rightfully is very important. Jesus did not just walk in and kick Satan out. He didn’t say, “I don’t care what Adam did. I’m taking it back.” He didn’t do that. It was legally lost. It must be legally regained.

You’re in Ephesians chapter 1, look, if you will, now in verses 17 through 21. Paul is praying, “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you,” now, he’s talking about you right now, as well as the Ephesians, “may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.” I’m telling you, that’s my prayer for you today is that you will have the spirit of wisdom and revelation. You will open your heart. Church, listen, open your heart to this truth. “The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding,” this language, listen, “what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and set Him at His own right hand in heavenly places,” now, watch this, “far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in the world to come.” Now, what does all of that mean? Paul says, “O God, open their eyes. O God, help them to understand that when Jesus died, rose again, ascended to the high hills of glory, He has now decimated Satan’s kingdom, and He is above all powers and principalities.” Remember Paul said in Ephesians chapter 6 that, “We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers”? Now, what the Bible is saying now is that Jesus is high above all of these things. What was legally lost in Adam was rightfully and righteously regained in Christ through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. I’ll show you why in just a moment.



But, suppose God had just stepped in, and said, "I'm God. Out of here, Satan! I banish you! Be gone! I'm going to go back to the beginning and start all over again." Well, as God, He could do whatever He wanted, I suppose. Well, I don't suppose; I know He could. But He would have broken His own law. Law would have become a farce if God had failed to keep His own law. Now, God owes the devil nothing, nothing at all, but God owes something to His own righteousness. God owes something to His own principle of justice. If God had overlooked the legality in this matter, then God Himself would have participated in a legality. God Himself would have to admit that sin has ultimately won. Even though God had stepped in by divine power and set Satan aside, the law still would have been there.

So, what is God going to do? Dominion was lost by a man. Now, you must understand this. It must rightfully be won back by a man. No angel could do it. A man must do it. It was legally lost by a man; it must be legally recovered by a man. Now, there's no member of Adam's race that can be found who could undo what Adam had done; none, because all were the sons of Adam. And the Bible says in First Corinthians 15:22, "In Adam all die." Now, you see, Adam did not enthrone himself when he obeyed Satan; he enthroned Satan. And Adam, therefore, became a slave of Satan. And the sons of slaves are slaves themselves because the slave master owns the slave and all of his children and his children's children. There's none among the sons of men that can redeem because they themselves are slaves. And yet, it was lost by a man; it must be redeemed by a man. God's answer is found in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who stepped out of Heaven and Himself became a man. It's very important that you understand this, that God defeated Satan with a man, with a man, the second Adam.

Put these verses down. First Corinthians chapter 15 beginning in verse 21, "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Now, notice the emphasis here. By man came death and by man comes the resurrection.

Then Hebrews chapter 2 verse 14, put that down, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood," there he's talking about the children of God; that's us, "He also Himself took part of the same," the He refers to Jesus. We're flesh and blood. Jesus took upon Him flesh and blood. Now, watch this, "That through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." The devil had the power of death. Jesus became a man so He could die and destroy him that had the power of death at Calvary. The full penalty of sin was paid. Satan's contract was annulled, and Satan's back was broken at Calvary.

Put this Scripture down, Galatians 4 verses 3 through 5, "Even so we, when we were children in bondage." Let me read that again, "Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of this world." In bondage! And yet God said, "I give them dominion." And yet they were in bondage. But notice verse 4, "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son," now, underscore this, "made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." God did it all legally. He sent forth His Son, made of a woman, the virgin-born Son of God, to redeem us that we might receive the adoption of sons. This is the reason for Christmas. This is the reason that the Son of God, who had existed always in the bosom of the Father, stepped out of the glory of Heaven and came down to this wicked, sinful Earth, and born through the portals of a virgin's womb, God became a man. Why? By a man it was lost; by a man it must be recovered. He was made of a woman. He was a true member of the human race.



Now, Jesus, the Son of God, was different from every other man that Satan had ever dealt with, except for Adam. This difference was that Jesus was sinless. So was Adam. So Satan has another sinless being that he must deal with because, you see, Jesus, born of a virgin, had inherited none of Adam's sin. Jesus is not the son of Adam; He's the Son of God. He's not a slave. He's not born a slave. He has no sinful nature like you and I do. Oh yes, He was God of very God. I'm not taking away from His deity, but I am reminding you of His humanity. He had always been deity, but He became human that He might legally take back the lost estate that we lost. Jesus had inherited none of Adam's sin and Adam's slavery. He was truly human, truly human.

Now, Jesus could have defeated Satan as very God of very God, but He is defeating Satan as very man of very man. It would have been a very hollow victory if Jesus, as God, were to decimate Satan, if Jesus, as God, were to say, "Satan, be gone to the pit! I'm taking it all back." Suppose He had done that. What kind of an example could He be to me? I'm not God. No. I want you to see, friend, that Jesus defeated Satan as man, not as God. He did not fight against Satan as God, but fought against Satan as sinless man. Satan, when he sees Jesus now on the scene, knows he must have another battle. He must defeat the last Adam as he defeated the first Adam, so a battle begins between Satan and the second Adam whose name is Jesus. And Satan knows if his kingdom is to survive, he must get the second Adam to sin as he got the first one to sin. "Just one sin! If I can get this Son of God to sin, I'm still the master. But if I cannot, He will undo my kingdom." So we see the battle as it ensues in Luke chapter 4 I've already referred to.

Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit, begins His public ministry. He goes out into the wilderness to fast for forty days and forty nights. The Bible says in Matthew 4:2, "And afterwards He was hungry." I think that's probably the greatest understatement in the Bible; He was hungry. That time Satan comes to Him and says, "Now, He's, He's weakened. He's, He's not as strong as He ought to be. I think I can overcome Him." He says, "Look, if You're the Son of God," notice the if, what a sneer, "If You're the Son of God, command these stones they be made bread." Matthew 4 verse 3. I've seen the stones in Israel. They look like brown loaves of bread. "Turn them into bread." And Jesus said in verse 4, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes out of the mouth of God." What is Jesus saying? He's using the sword. He's using the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, and He runs Satan through. There's one thrust. Satan, staggering, comes back again and he takes Jesus up to this high mountain and shows Him all the kingdoms of the world, and says, "All this I'll give you if you'll bow down and worship me." Jesus unsheathes the sword and runs him through again in verse 10, "It is written thou shalt worship the Lord God, and him only." Satan recoils. He comes back one more time and says in verses 5 and 6, "Look, go to the pinnacle of the temple and cast Yourself down. And the angels will bear You up, and You'll just come floating down, and everybody will know You're the Messiah." Jesus said in verse 7, "It is written thou shalt not put the Lord your God to the test." Three times Jesus came against Satan.

Now, the thing I want you to understand, precious friend, is that Jesus used the same weapons that Adam had, the Word of God and the Spirit of God; the same weapons. He did not pull rank on Adam. And what Adam lost in the Garden, Jesus overcame in a wilderness. Jesus, the Son of God, was tempted to sin, but Jesus had no itch the devil could scratch.

The battle moves on. Satan withdraws for a while, the Bible says, for a more opportune time. That more opportune time came at dark Gethsemane. Jesus, knowing that He's facing the cross, goes to pray, and the Bible calls it an agony. The "agon" was the place of warfare or the place of a contest, the place of





a battle. It was agony, agony. Jesus is there praying. His face is on the ground. The black dirt and the red blood mingled together because His sweat becomes as blood. And He says in Matthew 26:39, "Father, Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me." What was in that cup? Your sin, my sin, our sin, their sin, the sin of all the world, the sin that ever will be. Every rape, every murder, every brutality, every blasphemy, every sexual perversion was in that cup. Second Corinthians 5:21 says, "And Him, who knew no sin, God was making to be sin for us." He never sinned, but He had to take our sin upon Himself. And He took that bitter cup and in Luke 22:42 said, "O God, let this cup pass; nevertheless, not my will, but yours be done." Well, you say, "He was God." Yes, but He was man also. As a man, He's saying, "O God, I don't want to do this." Does that bother you that Jesus shrank from the cross?" I'm glad He did because it shows His humanity. He didn't just go swaggering up to the cross and say, "I'm God. This can't hurt Me." Oh, the agony. "God, O God, let it pass; nevertheless." Friend, your destiny hangs on that word. "Nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done." Satan is defeated again. He's still looking for a more opportune time.

The hounds of Hell are baying after the Lord driving Him to Calvary. Satan has the idea that perhaps, when faced with the cross, that Jesus will turn away from the battle. The demonic pressure is indescribable. Jesus could have stepped out of the whole thing and said, "That's enough. That's enough." You know, in Matthew 27 verse 42, they said of Him when He was on the cross, "He saved others; Himself He could not save." That's wrong! Himself He would not save! He wasn't held to the cross by those searing nails, but by the golden bonds of love. He, the Lord Jesus Christ, went to bloody Calvary. Jesus bowed His head and He said in John 19:30, "It is finished!" That means it's paid in full. All of Satan's legal claims are now nullified. What was lost by man is regained by a Man. Legally lost and legally regained.

But it's not over now, yet. After the death there's the glorious resurrection. After the resurrection there is the magnificent ascension. And after the ascension now, here's where you come in, there is the enthronement of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Now, let me give you the third and final thing very quickly because our time is gone. Dominion was legally lost by Adam. Dominion was righteously regained by Jesus. Now, listen, church, **dominion is gloriously given to the church**. Now, whether you want to say "Amen" or not, I want you to say it. Dominion is now gloriously given to the church. Now, if you don't understand this, you don't understand what Paul was praying. In Ephesians 1:18, he said, "O God, open their eyes. Lord, give them the spirit of understanding. Help them to know what they have in Jesus." One demon said to another demon, "If those liberal theologians ever really admit that Jesus has been raised from the dead and ascended and is over all, Hell help me; all Heaven will break loose." And it will break loose when we understand this.

Look in Ephesians chapter 1 verses 22 and 23. It speaks about, well, let's go to verse 21, "Jesus is now far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in the world to come: now, and hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all." He's talking now about us; the church is His body. The church is not an organization with Jesus as the president; it is an organism with Jesus as the head. And we are one with the Lord Jesus Christ. He took our sins that we might take His innocency. Friend, He took our guilt that we might be acquitted. He took our despair that we might have His joy. He took our shame that we might know His glory. He took the pains of Hell for us that we might know the glories of Heaven. We are now in Him and we are His body. He is seated far above





all of these things, and He says to us as He sends us out, "All authority is given unto me. Go ye, therefore." Matthew 28 verse 18.

Does Jesus, listen carefully, and I'm finished, does Jesus have authority over Satan? Then so do you. Let me ask you another question. Does Jesus have constant victory? So do you. Satan hopes that you never learn this lesson, that He has given you authority over all the power of the enemy. The dominion that Adam lost was won back by the Lord Jesus Christ and given to the church! Would to God that we can understand this. The Lamb has prevailed. His conquest is complete. He conquered on the tree, and He conquered in the tomb, and now He sits upon the throne.

Now, here's the thing. Ephesians says that we sit together with Him in heavenly places, that God raised Him up and God puts us with Him in the heavenly places. I got a letter from a friend. He signed it, "Keep looking down." Most people say, "Keep looking up." No, we look down. All things are under His feet; therefore, they're under our feet.

You say, "Pastor, why don't I practice it? Why is my life so miserable, so defeated?" I'll tell you why. Because you fail to understand and put into practice what I've just preached. God's plan for you, for this church is constant, continual, conspicuous victory. Jesus said in Luke 10:19, "I give you authority over all the power of the devil." Satan has no power over you: none, none, none, none, none, nada, none, none! You need to understand that. Don't say, "The devil made me do it." He can't. The only power he has over you is what you yield to him by unbelief. "Living He loved me, dying He saved me, buried He carried my sins far away. Rising He justified freely forever, and one day He's coming, O glorious day." Science can't explain it, history cannot repeat it, and time will never blot it out. Thank God for our victory.

Bow your heads in prayer. If you're a Christian and haven't been living in victory, would you confess your sin? I meant that word, your sin; the sin of unbelief, the sin of not yielding, perhaps the willful sin of ignorance. Say, "God, have mercy upon me. I want to live according to my throne rights in Jesus."

Now, those of you who are not saved, aren't you tired of being Satan's slave? You see, you're going to be a slave to someone, either to God or Satan. Nature abhors a vacuum. When you try and enthrone yourself, you only enthrone Satan. If you're tired of being Satan's dirty plaything, if you're tired of being Satan's slave, and if you want to live a life of liberty and dominion and share Heaven with our Lord forever, would you pray a prayer like this, "O God, I'm a sinner, and I'm lost, and I deserve Hell, but I want to be saved. Jesus, You died to save me. You promised to save me if I would trust You. I do trust You. I receive now the gift of Calvary, which is eternal life. Come into my life. And begin now to make me the person You want me to be, and help me never to be ashamed of You. In Your name I pray. Amen.



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