**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Conquering Christ |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Ephesians 1:15-23 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1879 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. There was a truth that the apostle Paul wanted the church at Ephesus to know, and it is a truth for the church around the world to know today.
      1. This truth motivated Paul to pray for the saints at Ephesus.
         1. Ephesians 1:15-16
            1. In this passage, Paul was talking about his prayer life for the Ephesians.
         2. Ephesians 1:17-23
            1. Paul was praying that God would open their hearts to something incredibly wonderful.
   2. God made Adam and Eve, put them upon this Earth, and because He loved them, He gave them dominion over it.
      1. Genesis 1:26
         1. “Dominion” means “to rule”.
      2. Man was given rule over the Earth.
         1. He was to control and master its resources.
         2. Man was designed for dominion, he was made for mastery.
      3. Psalm 8:6
      4. Adam was king of the Earth.
   3. Today, man does not have dominion.
      1. Satan is in control and not man.
   4. If God made man to have dominion, then what has gone wrong and what can be done about it?
      1. Through our conquering Christ, we can retrieve and have restored what Adam sold and signed over to Satan long ago.
      2. In order for us to get back to where we ought to be and to have what God desires for us to have, then we have to know the truth.
         1. This is why the apostle Paul prayed for the Ephesians.
            1. He did not pray for them to be wealthier, healthier, or happier.

He prayed for them to understand what God has for them.

* 1. In this message, we will discuss three truths of how dominion was legally lost, recovered, and gloriously given.

1. dominion was legally lost (ephesians 2:1-3)
   1. The apostle Paul talks of those of us who were once lost.
      1. “The prince of the power of the air” is Satan.
   2. Satan was an angel who rebelled against God.
      1. Satan’s name was Lucifer.
         1. “Lucifer” means “light bearer”.
      2. He was indescribably beautiful and incredibly powerful.
         1. The Bible says of him that he filled up the sun.
      3. One day pride rose up in this creature, and he said that he was too beautiful, too wise, and too powerful to be anything less than God.
         1. Isaiah 14:13
      4. He led a rebellion of the angels against God.
         1. A third of the angels followed Satan in this rebellion.
         2. Lucifer, the son of the morning, became Satan, the father of the night.
      5. No sooner had he rebelled than God banished him.
         1. Luke 10:18
         2. The angels that followed him became demon spirits.
   3. Satan went to Earth to achieve what he failed to achieve in Heaven.
      1. He lied to and tempted Adam and Eve.
         1. Genesis 3:1-6
         2. Adam and Eve believed him.
            1. They signed over their dominion to him.
      2. God was dethroned in Adam’s and Eve’s hearts.
         1. But Adam did not enthrone himself.
            1. He enthroned Satan.
      3. Satan lost the war in Heaven, but he gained a victory on Earth.
   4. God does not just step in and take dominion back because He is not only Almighty, but He is holy.
      1. He runs the universe by His own righteous and holy laws.
      2. Dominion was legally lost.
         1. It must be legally regained.
   5. When Adam chose to follow Satan, he became Satan’s slave.
      1. Romans 6:16
      2. We have the right to turn ourselves over to someone else.
         1. Adam had the right to yield himself to Satan, and he did.
            1. Rather than yielding in obedience to righteousness, he yielded to sin unto death.
   6. When Jesus was being tempted by Satan in the wilderness, the devil showed Jesus all of the kingdoms of this world.
      1. Luke 4:5-7
         1. The devil said that it all had been delivered to him.
         2. Jesus never disputed Satan because he knew that Adam had yielded over the domain to Satan.
            1. Adam lost all of his legal rights to rule.
   7. Satan now has dominion, but God is over all and ultimately all things belong to Him.
      1. But understand these Scriptures:
         1. 2 Corinthians 4:4
            1. Satan is the blinder.
         2. Ephesians 6:12
            1. Our enemy does not have hide or hair.
            2. Our enemy is sinister and spiritual.
   8. Satan is in power on Earth because God made Adam to have dominion.
      1. Adam willfully and sinfully turned it over to Satan.
         1. Man’s dominion was legally lost.
2. dominion was rightfully recovered (ephesians 1:17-18, 20, 22)
   1. If dominion was legally lost, then it had to be legally recovered.
      1. This was God’s plan.
   2. Ephesians 1:17-18, 20, 22
      1. This passage of Scripture tells how Jesus got dominion back.
   3. The Son of God stepped out of Heaven, came to Earth, and died in agony to rightfully regain what Adam had given away.
   4. If God had just taken it back and given it to Adam, then it would have made a farce out of divine judgment and divine justice.
      1. God owes Satan nothing, but God owes His own righteousness everything.
      2. God is going to be true to His principles of righteousness and justice.
      3. If God had just taken dominion back and given it to Adam, then sin would have ultimately won.
   5. Dominion was given to a man, and it was lost by a man; therefore, it must be regained by a man.
      1. A member of Adam’s race must gain it back, but someone on whom Satan has no claim.
         1. Adam became a slave of Satan.
            1. The sons and daughters of a slave are also slaves.
            2. He must be of Adam’s race, but He could not be a son of Adam.
         2. This is the reason for the incarnation.
            1. God became a man.
            2. God stepped out of Heaven and walked this Earth in sandaled feet.
   6. 1 Corinthians 15:21
   7. Hebrews 2:14
      1. Satan has so much dominion that he holds the power of death.
         1. He holds life and death over his slaves.
      2. Jesus, in order that He might destroy him who had the power of death, had to become flesh and blood.
         1. God could not take dominion away from Satan as God.
            1. He had to do it as man, but He had to be a perfect man.
   8. Galatians 4:3-5
      1. In order for God to redeem us, He had to have a man redeem us.
         1. He could not be a fallen son of Adam because then he would have been a slave.
      2. He had to be made of a woman to be a member of the human race.
      3. There stepped into history the Second Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ, who was perfectly human, yet He was the Son of God.
         1. He was not a descendant of Adam, though He was born of a woman.
         2. Satan had no claim upon Him.
            1. He was totally righteous.
            2. He inherited no sin from Adam.
         3. He was truly human and unquestionably divine at the same time.
            1. This is the miracle of the incarnation.
   9. It would be a hollow victory if God had just taken the dominion back from Satan, or if Jesus had used weapons that were not available to Adam.
      1. When Jesus defeated Satan, He used the very weapons that were available to Adam, had Adam used them.
         1. God anointed Jesus Christ of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power.
            1. Luke 4:1
            2. Jesus did not defeat Satan as God, but He defeated Satan as a man who was anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power.
            3. This is the same anointing that Adam could have had.
         2. When Satan came against Jesus with temptations, Jesus defeated him with the Word of God, the sword of the Spirit.
            1. Matthew 4:1-11
         3. Jesus had two things as a man:
            1. The anointing of the Spirit.
            2. The authority of the Word.

With these, He went against Satan.

These were the same weapons that Adam should have used.

* 1. For a while, it looked like everything was going Satan’s way, but something happened.
     1. A child was born of a virgin.
        1. He has no sinful nature.
           1. Satan could not get Him to sin.
     2. A warfare began.
        1. On one side there was Satan.
        2. On the other side was the Son of God and the Son of Man who had come to redeem Adam’s lost dominion.
  2. The first battle took place in the wilderness.
     1. Matthew 4:1-11
     2. Jesus never questioned Satan’s right to give dominion.
        1. Jesus knew that if He ever yielded to that, then He would become a slave of Satan just like Adam had.
           1. Such a thing was impossible.
     3. The first Adam lost it all in a garden, the last Adam won it all back in the wilderness.
  3. The second battle was in Gethsemane.
     1. Mark 14:32-42
        1. In the cup was all of the sin of Adam and of all of the sons of Adam.
        2. Jesus did not want to drink from the cup, but the silence of Heaven said that there was no other way.
        3. Mark 14:36
           1. “Nevertheless” is the word that changed our destinies.
     2. Luke 22:44 tells us that Jesus was in “agony”.
        1. This is a Greek word which means “a battle”.
           1. He was in a war, and He won.
     3. Jesus’ soul was sorrowful unto death.
        1. Mark 14:34
  4. The third battle is Calvary.
     1. He thought that Jesus would not go to the cross.
     2. On the cross, not only was Jesus separated from the Father, but Jesus became the object of the Father’s loathing.
        1. Satan thought that surely Jesus, knowing this about the cross, would refuse to go to the cross.
     3. Satan made a tactical error, because the Bible says that, “*He through death would destroy him who had the power of death*.”
        1. Hebrews 2:14
     4. The crucifixion of Jesus was no ordinary crucifixion.
        1. The sins of the world were upon the Lord Jesus.
           1. There was no sorrow like His sorrow.

Lamentations 1:12

* + - 1. He took our Hell, shame, blame, suffering, and separation.
    1. Then Jesus said, “*Tetalesti*”, translated, “*It is finished*.”
       1. John 19:30
       2. It was paid in full.
          1. Jesus had bought dominion back.
          2. Satan has no mortgage against our inheritance.
  1. The Bible says that it was impossible that death could hold Him.
     1. Acts 2:24
     2. On the third day, Jesus Christ arose from the grave.
        1. For the first time, death had the look of terror on its face.
     3. Jesus, with a nail-pierced hand, pulled death from his throne.
     4. Jesus pulled the sting out of death, put the crown on His own head, took the keys from death, and walked out of the grave.
        1. 1 Corinthians 15:55
        2. Revelations 1:18
     5. He arose for us.
  2. The battle was not over yet.
     1. The Lord Jesus ascended for us.
  3. Ephesians 1:19-21
     1. This passage speaks of the resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus.

1. dominion is gloriously given (ephesians 2:6, 4:8, 5:30)
   1. God gives dominion back to those who will receive it.
   2. Ephesians 2:6
   3. Ephesians 4:8
      1. Satan was taken captive.
   4. A new thing has happened.
      1. Ephesians 5:30
      2. We have something that Adam never had.
         1. Adam was innocent, but we are righteous.
         2. Adam walked with God in the Garden, but we have the Lord Jesus Christ as a part of us.
      3. Don’t think of the church as an organization with Christ as the president.
         1. The church is an organism.
            1. It is a body with Christ as the head.
      4. What is true about the Lord Jesus is true about us.
   5. Jesus did not defeat Satan on His behalf.
      1. He defeated Satan on our behalf.
         1. We have been co-executed, co-risen, co-exalted, and co-enthroned with the Lord Jesus.
   6. The Lord Jesus became a Son of Man that we might become sons of God.
      1. He took our sins that we might be innocent.
      2. He became guilty that we might be acquitted.
      3. He was filled with despair that we might be filled with joy.
      4. He took our shame that we might take His glory.
      5. He endured the pains of Hell that we might have the blessings of Heaven.
   7. The Lamb has triumphed; He has prevailed.
   8. Matthew 28:18-19
   9. Jesus has authority over Satan.
      1. And so do we.
   10. Demons are subject to Jesus.
       1. They are subject to us.
          1. Satan hopes we never learn this.
   11. Ephesians 1:21-23
2. CONCLUSION
   1. Your dominion that was legally lost was rightfully regained and has been gloriously given.
   2. The Lamb has prevailed.
      1. Jesus as a man has triumphed.
      2. Jesus, the second Adam from above, has reinstated you in His love.
         1. What a mighty God we serve.
   3. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   4. 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.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16