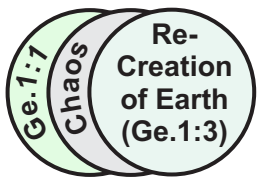


DOMINION OVER THE EARTH

CREATION

- Adam was given both dominion over God's creation and the responsibility to care for it (**Ge.1:26,28**).
- Let them have dominion over fish, birds, cattle, creeping thing, over all the earth (**v.26**). Subdue the earth and have dominion over every thing that moves on the earth (**v.28**).
- Man was created in the image of God to rule this earth.
- Later, we will see that this is a will or title deed to the earth (**Da.7; Rv.4-5**). Both Daniel and John see the same divine courtroom scene.



FALL

- When man yielded to Satan, he forfeited some of his control over the earth. Satan now has at least the power of influence over the earth (**Ep.2:2; 1Jn.5:19**).
- Satan currently has rights to the title deed of the earth.
- In the book of Job it describes Satan's activities in the earth. Twice Satan was "going to and fro in the earth... walking up and down in it..." (**Jb.1:6-7; 2:1-2**). Walking denotes ownership.
- At the temptation of Jesus, Satan offered the kingdoms of the world to Him (**Lk.4:5-7**). Satan said, "All this authority I will give You... this has been delivered to me" (**Lk.4:6**).
- Jesus repeatedly referred to Satan as "the ruler of this world" (**Jn.12:31; 14:30; 16:11**).
- Satan's influence in the world is powerful, especially among unbelievers (**2Co.4:4; Ep.2:2**).



CROSS

- Christ has already defeated the powers of evil at the cross (**Ci.1:16-20; 2:15**).
- Christ is the mediator of the New Covenant by means of His death (**He.9:15-16**). The testator must die before the title deed (will) can be opened.
- Jesus died which gives Him authority to open the deed to the earth (**Rv.5:9-10**).
- Jesus has delayed opening the will until He comes back (**Rv.4-5**) to give time for those that will be saved to be saved.
- That victory was won when Christ rose from the dead. We are now awaiting its culmination at Christ's Return.



RETURN

- Christ Himself will return to regain that dominion and establish Himself as the ruler of this world. He will share the reign once again with mankind through believing saints.
- The will or inheritance is seen as the 7-sealed scroll (**Rv.4-5**). Because of Christ's death and resurrection, He alone is worthy to open the scroll.
- When the 7-Sealed scroll is opened Jesus will end the delay and begin the latter days process to take control over the earth. The scroll or deed results in man's inheritance.
- It is at the 7th trumpet that the kingdom is transferred to Christ (**Rv.11:15**).
- "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" (**Rv.11:15**)
- John cried and was afraid that the kingdom, Jesus won on the cross, would not be transferred from Satan to Jesus and the saints.
- Whatever Satan throws at the world to try to stop this transfer, war, famine, death, martyrdom, the results are worth it. Jesus is crowned King.



There's only one supreme Lord over all the world, and that's God. At Creation God gave dominion to Adam. When Adam trusted Satan at the Fall (**Ge.3**), he handed the rights of authority to Satan. Satan has temporary influence over the earth until Christ Returns to reclaim the authority.