

DOES SATAN HAVE DOMINION OVER THE EARTH?

Well, since we have a little time left tonight, I thought I would share something with you that is related to the study we have been doing. I listened to a message this week by a Bible teacher who was exposing the error of Dominionism. This Bible teacher quoted some statements by C. Peter Wagner to show how unbiblical his teachings really are. Much of what this Bible teacher said regarding Wagner's error, and the whole Dominionist error was true. Unfortunately, his main point was *just as false* as the error he was exposing. I've said this before and I'll say it again: when it comes to "Discernment Ministries", many of them continually use their own doctrinal errors to expose the more obvious errors of the current Apostasy. This is just one more example.

The main point of this Bible teacher was that Satan does *not* have dominion over the earth. He goes through many of the wrong ideas and doctrines people who believe Satan has dominion over the earth, teach. Since all these ideas are wrong, and since he exposes them very well, those who listen to him will assume the main point he is getting at must *also* be true—but it's not. I won't speculate as to why so many of these "Discernment Ministries" can see some errors very clearly but remain blind to their own errors. Only God knows the answer to that question. But the fact is, they are blind to many things.

The point of this Bible teachers is that there's *one* fundamental idea that unites all the errors that are being taught by today's Dominionists, and also by Word of Faith teachers, and that error is the idea that Adam was given dominion over the earth and he lost that dominion to Satan when he fell. First, this teacher read the passage in Genesis where the dominion mandate is given to Adam:

*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: 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. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, **and subdue it**: and have dominion over **the fish** of the sea, and over **the fowl** of the air, and over **every living thing** that moveth upon the earth.*

Genesis 1:26-28

Then he said that since all the things mentioned in this passage pertain to *the earth*, and since mankind still has dominion over all the creatures and the resources of this earth, Adam could not have possibly "lost" his dominion over the earth. All Adam lost was his spiritual and natural life.

Apparently, one of the false doctrines that's being taught in the Word of Faith cult, which is the movement this Bible teacher came out of, is that when Adam gave his dominion to Satan as a result of the fall, this "locked God out" of the earth. In other words, God gave dominion of the earth to Adam, and Adam transferred that dominion to Satan when he fell, and now God is locked out of the earth because it's now Satan's domain. Of course this is a stupid idea and it has no Scriptural support. Was God "locked out" of the earth after He gave *Adam* dominion over it? Did giving Adam dominion *over* the earth mean that God gave him the title deed to the earth? Did God have to ask Adam's permission to do anything He wanted to do in the earth before He could do it because Adam now had "dominion" over it? Of course not! All such ideas are absurd!

Well, the same applies to what happened to Adam after he fell. Whatever dominion Satan received as a result of Adam's fall changed nothing with regards to who *owns* this earth.

*Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: **for all the earth is mine:***
Exodus 19:5

*Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is **the LORD's** thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is.*

Deuteronomy 10:14

*"No one is so fierce that he dares to arouse him [Leviathan]; who then is he that can stand before me [the Lord]? "Who has given to me that I should repay {him?} **{Whatever} is under the whole heaven is Mine.***

Job 41:10-11 NAS

*The earth is **the LORD's**, and the fulness thereof: the world, and they that dwell therein.*

Psalms 24:1

*I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field **are mine.** If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for **the world is mine, and the fulness thereof.***

Psalms 50:11-12

*But if any man say unto you, This is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not for his sake that shewed it, and for conscience sake: for **the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof:***

I. Corinthians 10:28

The earth is the Lord's, my friends. It *never* belonged to Adam, it doesn't belong to Satan. However, the authority to *subdue* the earth, and to *use* the earth, and to *make kingdoms* upon the earth, was given to Adam. Also, a free will was given to Adam, as it was to all the angels of heaven. God's desire was that Adam would willingly submit to Him and follow His will as he subdued the earth and used the earth and built a righteous kingdom upon the earth.

The situation isn't one where God turned the title deed of the earth over to Adam, then Adam submitted to Satan and turned the title deed over to him, and now God is locked out of the earth because Satan now owns the title deed. The situation is more like God built a house, and He let a family named "*mankind*" come and live in that house for free and use it *as* their own. But God is still *the owner* of the house. He still retains the *title* to the house. Then, one day the family who was living in the house allowed an alien being to move in with them and take complete control of the everyday functions of the house and of the family as well. This alien overpowered them and made them slaves in the house where they lived. He established his own business (or kingdom) which he operated from that house and he made the family carry out the affairs of his business.

This was all possible because the Creator gave the family free wills. They had a choice to freely submit to the One who built the house and let them live there rent-free; or freely submit to the alien intruder and become slaves to his business as he took control of them and the house. Now, God could *forcefully* put a stop to this whole situation anytime He wanted to, for you see, the house belongs to him. But God had a program that He conceived in His mind, wherein He provided a way for each one of the members of that family to escape the bondage the family is in. If they will freely choose to yield to Him and serve him, He will save them from the dominion of the alien. They will be able to live in that same house, right alongside the rest of the family, but they will no longer be under the authority of the alien who is ruling the house.

Satan does NOT have dominion over the earth in the sense that he now *owns* the earth and can legally stop God from *intervening* in the affairs of the earth. This is a lie that is propagated in the Dominionist camp and in the Word of Faith camp. But the answer to that lie is not the lie that Satan has *no* dominion over the earth at all. That's not only stupid and unscriptural, it doesn't match the realities of life. You have to be living in some kind of religious fantasy world to think that Satan doesn't rule the kingdoms of this world.

I'd like to ask this Bible teacher—or any other Discernment Ministry who denies that Satan has dominion over the earth—to explain just *how* Lucifer became the “prince of this world” (*John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11*) and the god of this world” (*II. Cor. 4:4*). Did God make him the prince and the god of this world?

And let me digress here for a minute to show you just how hypocritical these Bible teachers can be. Here you have a guy who is exposing how C. Peter Wagner twists and distorts the Scripture to fit his own error, yet he is doing the same thing. At one point he says he realizes Satan is referred to the “prince of this world”. But according to him, that term doesn't really mean what we might think it does at first glance.

The term “prince”—he says—doesn't really mean a “ruler over a kingdom”. Prince simply means a “leader” or “commander” in the Greek. Also, the term “world” simply means “cosmos” or the world system, in the Greek. So he tries to *reduce* the impact of the term “prince of this world” from meaning Satan is the *ruler of this world* to the idea that Satan is simply the *a leader of the world system*. In other words, this Bible teacher is trying to say that Satan only has “influence” over the world through unsaved people. Satan doesn't actually have his own authority to rule over the earth or over any of the earth's kingdoms. Man is still in control of everything.

*And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every **kingdom** divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then **his kingdom** stand?*

Matthew 12:25-26

The idea that Satan is just an “influencer” over the world system through people, but that the earth is really still under the dominion of Adam, is a lie. The Scripture clearly states that Satan has a KINGDOM. He is the RULER of that kingdom—and that *invisible* kingdom is being *manifested* all around you, on this planet, every day. Oh, and by the way, Mr Bible Teacher: Satan is also called “the god of this world”. In case the reality of that term doesn't hit you, maybe this will. The term “god” (with a small “g”) in II. Corinthians 4:4 is “*theos*”. It's the same exact Greek term that is used for “God” throughout the New Testament. Satan is more than an influencer of men. He's the *ruler* of his own kingdom, and that kingdom *rules over* the kingdoms of this earth!

Satan is the ruler—not just the leader; not just an influencer—of this present world and this earth because the dominion of this world and this earth was given to Adam, and Adam voluntarily delivered that dominion over to him. Unfortunately this Bible Teacher tries to twist the Greek to support his error, just like C. Peter Wagner tries to twist the English to support his error.

Do you think God is really pleased when, in the name of exposing error, ministers use *the same tactics* all these false apostles and prophets do? Personally, I think many of these “Discernment Ministries” are in for a very rude awakening when they stand before the Lord. But I’m getting off the track. My question is really this: who delivered the kingdoms of this world over to Satan to begin with? Do you realize the Scripture says the kingdoms of this world were delivered to him?

And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Luke 4:4-8

Of course, Satan doesn’t “own” this planet any more than Adam owned it. But Satan has *power over* all the kingdoms that exist *on* this planet. All those kingdoms are HIS because they were “delivered unto” him by someone! Now, either the kingdoms of this world were delivered unto Satan by God, or the kingdoms of this world were delivered to Satan by Adam. Regardless of who you believe delivered the kingdoms of the world to Satan, you cannot (honestly) deny that those kingdoms *were* delivered to him by someone. That’s *how* he became the “god”(or the *ruler*) of this world!

*Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever **committeth sin** is **the servant of sin**.*

John 8:34

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 of obedience unto righteousness?

Romans 6:16

You see, the issue of dominion has to do with authority. Who has the authority? According to Jesus and Paul, the one we obey is the one who has authority over us. They said very clearly that you and I are the “servants” of that which we obey. This is a kingdom law my friends, and it applies to everyone, sinner and saint alike. The one you are obeying is the one you are serving; and the one you are serving is the one who has authority or DOMINION over you.

Whatever dominion God gave Adam, it became Satan's as well, once Adam obeyed Satan instead of God. Technically speaking, Adam didn't "lose" his dominion because mankind still exercises dominion over the earth. We still exercise our dominion over the resources of the earth and the animal creation. But mankind no longer exercises that dominion *alone*. Mankind is a *slave* to an *alien force* who has taken control of this planet. We don't call shots—the god of this world calls the shots and we follow his orders. We have become something akin to a political figure-head, like the Queen of England. It's not the Queen who exercises daily authority or dominion over that kingdom. It's not the Queen who makes the decisions and the laws. She's just a figure head.

That's the way it's been with us. In the beginning, mankind was given authority over the earth—not ownership, but authority—and that authority *included* dominion over any *kingdoms* that would be built by mankind. Once Adam submitted to Satan, the authority regarding all *future kingdoms* was co-opted. Satan remains the god of this world, and denying this reality won't help anyone. Denying it won't help people stay away from the error of Dominionism or the Word of Faith cult because anyone who really knows the Scripture (and who isn't already one of this guy's groupies) will ignore what he says because he's teaching something that goes against the evident meaning of the Written Word. Those who really love the truth will discern that denying that Satan is the *god* (ruler) of this world is just as much an error as the garbage C. Peter Wagner propagates.

Even the Lord Jesus, who thoroughly defeated Satan at the Cross, did not put an end to Satan's dominion as the god of this world. Satan's dominion over *this* earth remains unshakable and unmoveable and there is *nothing* anyone can do to overthrow it—until the time appointed by God. But the good news is time is fast approaching. Soon, Satan's dominion over this earth will be broken once and for all.

*The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly. And **the seventh angel sounded**; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.***

Revelation 11:14-15

The Scripture is very clear when it comes to the "kingdoms of this world". The kingdoms of this world do *not* yet belong to God or to His Messiah—at least not in the sense that they want them to belong to them. The kingdoms of this world, the people on the planet, and the planet itself, belong to God in the sense that God owns whatever He creates; and since He created everything from nothing, He owns everything. But He has never forcefully exercised that kind of ownership on anyone. He has never forced His ownership of us, or His authority over us, on us. Instead, He gently works with us and leads us to a place where we will voluntarily give our lives over to Him and this is the way it must be because He has given us a free will.

God is still waiting for the day when the kingdoms of this world will become His kingdoms, and the kingdoms of His Messiah—and one of these days they will. One of these days, Jesus is going to return and enforce God's ownership of this planet! This is what John is describing when he recorded these words: "...*We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned*" (Rev.11:17).

The fact that Satan rules the kingdoms of the earth can be seen in the book of Daniel, when God gives him a vision of the Day of the Lord.

Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.

*I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; **Until the Ancient of days came**, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; **and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom**. Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and **another** shall rise after them; and **he** shall be diverse from the first, and **he** shall subdue three kings. And **he** shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into **his** hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.*

*But the judgment shall sit, and **they shall take away his dominion**, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And **the kingdom and dominion**, and the greatness of the kingdom **under the whole heaven**, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.*

Daniel 7:19-27

Right now, God is still pleading with us to voluntarily leave the kingdoms of this world, which are currently be ruled over by Satan. But soon the dominion of Satan over this earth is going to be broken and taken away—and it will happen at the sound of the seventh (ie: last) trumpet, when Jesus personally returns to this earth. The Lord’s return is seen by Daniel in the above vision, which he calls the coming of the “*Ancient of days*”. When the Ancient of days comes, at that time—and not one second before—the dominion of Satan over this planet will be broken and taken from him. It will be given to “the saints”.

Therefore, people like C. Peter Wagner—who say it’s possible to *end* Satan’s dominion over the earth *before* Antichrist comes to full power, and before the Ancient of days returns—are walking in religious delusion. But the answer to Wagner’s error is certainly not the error *this* Bible teacher propagates, which is that Satan really isn’t the “god” of this world after all; that he’s just a “leader” who “influences” the people of the world.

Sorry Mr. Bible Teacher, Satan is much more than a “leader” who “influences” people. He is a RULER over his own kingdom, and also over the kingdoms of *this* earth. Regarding the earth, somebody DELIVERED all that power and authority to him, and that someone was Adam. Satan could never have taken this earth on his own, by force! The fact that “the earth and all that is therein” belongs to God because He is its Creator will never change or hide what the Scripture says about Satan and his power. So all attempts to downplay his power or his capabilities in the name of exposing some error isn’t helping the cause of truth. You don’t help the cause of truth by replacing one error with another error!