

The Role of the Church in the Community – Part 2

Restoring Dominion

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an exciting series of studies on The Role of the Church in the Community. Our topic today: Restoring dominion.

Scripture Theme Song: It is good to give thanks (Ps. 92:1-4)

- 1) Given dominion over the earth
 - a) Genesis 1:26-28
 - b) Psalm 8:3-8
 - c) What is the difference between dominion and domination?
 - d) How was that dominion over the earth expressed even in the Garden of Eden? Genesis 2:18-20
- 2) Asked to care for the earth
 - a) Genesis 2:15 With dominion comes responsibility. What lessons can we learn from the instructions given to Adam regarding the care of the garden?
 - b) How was this care for the earth different before the curse of sin?
 - c) Do Christians still have an obligation to care for the earth?
 - d) How would you respond to someone who said, "This world is going to be destroyed by fire (2 Peter 3:10-13). God is going to create a new heavens and a new earth, so we don't need to worry about caring for this one"?
- 3) Dominion lost
 - a) What event caused our first parents to lose the dominion given to them by their Creator?
 - i) Genesis 3:1-8
 - b) What activities of Satan recorded in Scripture demonstrate his claim to have dominion over the earth?
 - i) Job 1:6-7
 - ii) Matthew 4:8-9—Jesus referred to Satan as “the prince of the world” Jn 12:31, 14:30, 16:11)
 - iii) 1 Peter 5:8
 - c) What promises of Scripture assure us that we can dwell in safety and peace even while inhabiting a planet where Satan claims to have dominion?
 - i) Ephesians 6:10-13
 - ii) Isaiah 26:3
 - iii) Isaiah 41:10
 - iv) Other promises?
- 4) Helping others to find freedom from Satan's dominion
 - a) What aspects of the ministry of Jesus demonstrate that Satan's dominion over this earth is being dismantled?
 - i) Luke 4:18-19
 - ii) Luke 13:10-17
 - iii) Matthew 12:22-30
 - b) Share a time when you were under the dominion of Satan. How did Jesus set you free?
 - c) Do you know people who are still under the dominion of Satan? How should we relate to them?