

## Word of the Kingdom Conference 2007

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### ‘In the Beginning Part Two’

1). As we continue to study scripture we eventually come to a place where we find ourselves having to keep retuning to the beginning, returning to the Book of beginnings – Genesis. And for our message for this session, this is exactly where we shall go again today.

2). To start once again where God started - Ge 1:1 ¶ *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

3). We will remember from our first session on Wednesday, that ‘in the beginning’ God had created the heavens, the place from which rulership takes place, and the earth, the place to be ruled over, in a perfect condition, as recorded in Genesis 1:1 (Repeat)

a). We had seen how God had created a magnificent messianic angel, along with an unspecified number of subordinate angels, to administer the earth on His behalf - Eze 28:12b..... *Thus says the Lord GOD: "You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.*

b). We know that this messianic angel and one third of the angels with him rebelled against God - Isa 14:14 *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'*

c). And that as a consequence of his rebellion a ruin of the creation took place - Eze 28:18 *"You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading;*

d). That which we see recorded in Genesis 1:2a (Repeat)

4). Now we will also remember I hope, that it was God’s purpose from eternity past that the earth should be ruled by His Son, with an unspecified number of specifically created beings – Man – to rule with Him – 2Ti 1:8.....*the power of God, 9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,*

a). In order for this purpose to be realized the ruined creation had to be restored so that it would be inhabitable, and Man had to be created according to God's plan for the ages.

b). So with this in view we find the Spirit of God in Genesis 1:2b, hovering or moving over the face of the waters – the raging torrents that covered the earth in a state of chaos as a result of Satan's sin.

5). Then comes that recorded in - Ge 1:3 ¶ *Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.*

a). The created earth is in complete darkness, hidden beneath the waters in the place of death. It is at this time lifeless and separated from God's purpose - 1Jo 1:5b...*God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.*

b). But then God – the plural pronoun 'Elohim' speaks, and by the word which God speaks, which of necessity would involve the exhalation of His breath, light shines in the darkness and a division occurs between that which emanates solely from God – the light, and the death that was already in place because of sin – the darkness.

c). Light and life now exist where there was once only darkness and death and having brought about this initial separation God then continues to work on the restoration of the earth over another five days.

d). And we should note that even though the process of restoration continues the darkness is not totally eliminated – it still exists alongside God's work, that which is connected to the light.

e). And we need to also note, because of the significance it has, that in each stage of God's restorative process over the next five days, each stage begins the same way - Ge 1:6 ¶ *Then God said,*

f). The Spirit of God continues to hover or to move – God speaks and His word, which contained in His breath, imparts more life over and above that which had already been given in the preceding day.

g). The ruined creation is in the place of death – God speaks and life is imparted to that which was dead – God then continues to speak, continuing to impart life – all of this moving to the concluding point for His work – the 7<sup>th</sup> Day, the Day of Rest.

h). We need to settle in our minds that all that God is doing through the days of the restoration is leading into the 7<sup>th</sup> day – the 7<sup>th</sup> Day is His focus and purpose - Ge 2:1 ¶ *Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work*

*which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.*

6). Now what we have seen here is fraught with significance and absolutely foundational to our understanding of God's dealings with Man.

7). We have see God working over six days to restore that which had been ruined by the action of Satan – and that this process is the work of all three persons of the Godhead.

8). And the final part of this process of restoration is the creation of Man, the one whom God intends to rule over that which has been newly restored during the 7<sup>th</sup> Day.

a). And that rulership is God's purpose for Man is very easy to see – Ge 1:26 ¶ *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; **have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

b). God states His purpose before He creates Man and repeats the same purpose immediately after He has created the Man and formed the Woman. And he has not changed His mind.

9). Within this opening chapter of Genesis God does not provide us with detail concerning the Man's creation – this comes in Chapter 2 as God then gives commentary on that which has gone before – something you find in scripture over and over again.

a). Ge 2:7 *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.*

b). Now please note that when God formed the Man of the dust of the ground the Man was lifeless – he had form and shape, but was without life.

c). There was a subsequent act on God's part that imparted life to that which was dead – He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. Creation of itself did not produce life

d). Once again, God is the plural noun 'Elohim' – denoting all three members of the Godhead.

e). The Hebrew word for breath here is 'Neshamah' – which can be translated both breath and spirit – and really should be understood as synonymous.

f). This can be easily demonstrated by comparing scripture with scripture - Jas 2:26 *For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*

i/ Remember the lifeless condition of Adam's body before God breathed into him.

g). Joh 19:30 *So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.*

h). Lu 23:46 *And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'" Having said this, He breathed His last.*

(Teach these – leading into)

i). Lu 23:46 *and having cried with a loud voice, Jesus said, 'Father, to Thy hands I commit my spirit;' and these things having said, he breathed forth the spirit. (Youngs Literal Translation)*

j). Breath and spirit here are clearly one and the same – so to take this back to Genesis 2:7 it should be clear to us that God breathing into man the breath of life is the impartation of His Spirit.

k). Apart from the impartation of His Spirit there is no life.

l). And if we should take this back to our original type of the restoration of the ruined creation we will see in God's spoken commands the action of His Spirit – And it is the Holy Spirit through the spoken commands that imparts life to that which was dead on Day 1 and then continues to impart life through Days 2-6.

10). Now Adam and the Woman, although created to have dominion, did not exercise that authority.

a). The Woman was deceived by Satan and her husband of necessity entered into her sin with her thereby disqualifying them to rule, leaving the incumbent ruler, Satan holding the scepter even until the present day.

b). It is interesting to note that the sin entered into by the Man and the Woman is remarkably similar to that of Satan - Ge 3:5 *"For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

c). Isa 14:14b.... *I will be like the Most High.'*

11). Now because of entering into sin, as a result of the actions of Satan, Man became a ruined creation – lifeless and in a state of chaos, just as the

original heavens and earth had become as a result of Satan's actions previously.

a). Ge 5:3 *And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.*

b). Ro 5:12 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-*

c). Eph 2:1 ¶ *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,*

12). We were all born into this world 'dead in trespasses and sins' – we were in complete darkness just as creation was in Genesis 1:2a. We were procreated but without life, just as the body of Adam when he was formed from the dust of the ground. Now clearly we were eating and drinking and moving around, but dead in respect of the Spirit.

a). We were in darkness, separated from the life that only the Spirit can give, separated from God's plans and purposes for us which we saw in Genesis 1:26-28.

13). Now God had already set the pattern for the restoration of a ruined creation in our foundational type in Genesis 1:2bff – six days of work for the purpose of leading into a seventh day of rest.

a). We saw God speaking and the work of the Spirit following that which was said.

b). And in Genesis 2:7 this process was further clarified as we saw the 'Neshamah', the Spirit of God being that instrument by which life was imparted to the lifeless Adam.

14). And this is exactly what happens at our new birth – God breathes into us the breath, the 'Neshamah' of life - Joh 3:6 *"That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

a). Our new birth is a spiritual birth, brought about by salvation by grace through faith – it is the free gift of eternal life, the salvation of our spirit based on the finished work of Christ at Calvary.

b). This is the fulfillment of the picture given to us in Day 1 of the restoration in Genesis, where light shines into that where there was previously only darkness - 2Co 4:6 *For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

15). Unfortunately this is the point where most Christians and most Christian teaching stops – seeing salvation by grace as the end rather than seeing it in the light of foundational scripture in Genesis, that clearly makes it not the end, but the beginning.

a). Just as in Day 1 of the restoration in Genesis, that which was dead, by the work of the Spirit has become alive - Joh 5:24 *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.*

b). Subsequent to this point of the redemption of the spirit, God places the new Christian 'in Christ' performing a creative act that makes the Christian a son of God - 2Co 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

c). The old things that have passed away, contrary to popular belief have nothing to do with our sin nature – what has passed away is our previous condition - Eph 2:12 *that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

d). Just as is pictured for us in Day 1 in Genesis – the light shines, but the darkness remains. We now have a spirit alive to God, but we still retain our old sin nature - Ga 5:16 *I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.*

16). We are saved unto eternity and this can never be reversed, but we will remember from Genesis that God's focus for the restoration of the earth was not eternity but the 7<sup>th</sup> Day, the Day of Rest. With Man exercising dominion.

a). This is how He dealt with a ruined creation in the past and how He continues to deal with a ruined creation today.

b). His focus in respect of the eternally saved is not eternity but the 7<sup>th</sup> Day, the Day of Rest, the Millennial Kingdom - Heb 4:1 ¶ *Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it.*

c). If rest and eternity were one and the same there would be no need of a promise of entering it as it would already be secure. And if we could come short of eternal salvation this would put the salvation of the spirit into

a realm over which we had control, something that is blatantly unscriptural - Eph 2:8 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

d). No, we must understand that if we are going to realize God's purpose for us in the 7<sup>th</sup> Day there will need to be a continuing work of the Spirit in our lives subsequent to our new birth, represented in that pictured in days 2-6 in Genesis. And that this work of the Spirit may either be received or rejected resulting in either our participation in or exclusion from the coming Kingdom.

e). Ro 12:2 *And do not be conformed to this world, [Patterning your life after that which is darkness and death] but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, [Allow the Spirit to change you from the inside] that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

f). Here is the promise for those who will choose the way of the Spirit Php 1:6 *being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;*

g). For those who choose the way of the flesh however, there is an equally secure promise - Ga 5:19 *Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

17). In the Genesis account we saw the Spirit of God continuing to hover and God continuing to speak – and this being the pattern this is what must happen in respect of ourselves.

a). And it will not surprise you to know that this is exactly the way it is.

b). At our new birth we are indwelt by the Spirit, pictured for us in the Spirit hovering - 1Co 6:19 *Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?*

c). And God continues to speak, continues to impart His breath, His Spirit into us through His word - 2Ti 3:16 *All Scripture is given by inspiration [is God breathed – lit. translation] of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

i/ Joh 6:63 *"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*

d). The word of God we hold in our hands is not just a book, it is the living breath, the living Spirit of God - Heb 4:12 *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

e). And the commandment given to us by God in Ephesians is – Eph 5:18 *And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; [Lit. Unsavedness] but be [Continually] filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

f). Now to understand what being filled with the Spirit looks like we need to go to scripture and let scripture interpret itself. Let's look at a companion scripture to the one here in Ephesians, found in - Col 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

g). Being filled with the Spirit is not a Charismatic experience, it happens on a continual basis by allowing the word of Christ to dwell in us richly in all wisdom.

h). And please note it is the word of Christ that is to dwell in us – the word concerning the Christ. That very thing that Peter received from above at Caesarea Philippi - Mt 16:13 ¶ *When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" 14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.*

(Teach this)

i). 2Sa 7:12 *"When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 "I will be his Father, and he shall be My son.*

j). Ps 2:6 *"Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion." 7 ¶ "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.*

k). Heb 1:1 ¶ *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;*

l). And let's remember that which God spoke by the prophets and by His Son is presented in 7 Messianic quotations from the OT. All of which focus on God's Son ruling with His companions during the 7<sup>th</sup> Millennium, the Messianic Era, the Day of the Lord, the literal Kingdom which is to come.

18). Remember there were ten virgins – five of them were wise and five of them were morons – but they were all born again believers.

a). The only thing that distinguished the wise from the moronic was the wise having an extra supply of oil – they had been continually filled with the Spirit after the fashion we have just described.

b). The five who had been continually filled with the Spirit went in to the wedding feast with the Bridegroom when He came – the five foolish didn't - Mt 25:10 *"And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. 11 "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' 12 "But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' 13 "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.*

19). Let me encourage us all today to be the wise virgins – we have seen from the beginning how God has set out His plans and purposes. He has not left us in ignorance of what He is doing or how He is doing it.

i/ Am 3:7 *Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.*

a). Look to the beginning and you will see the end clearly and unequivocally and you will see what lies between those two places.

*i/ Re 10:7 but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.*

b). And be assured that even if you had spent 60 years without knowing this, today is the day when all that can change.

c). And if you have known it, but been too lazy to study it, today is the day when all that can change.

d). And if you have known it and ignored it – then you know what.