

2022: Perfecting Life

2 Peter 3:18
Hebrews 6:1

STEWARDS OF SOULS Dominion Responsibility Sunday 4th December 2022

Foundation Scriptures:

Genesis 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."

Matthew 28:19: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"

Introduction

Dominion over something means to have authority, command, control, jurisdiction, and power over something (see **Genesis 1:26**).

The kind of dominion that God has in mind is that of a deep, sustainable, caring sense of service and protection to one's fellow creatures.

This is the type of dominion that takes on the responsibility of stewardship of everything under that dominion.

For more context, see **Matthew 28:19**.

The Greatest Gift and The Perfect Present

As believers, we are blessed to be alive, and blessed again, to have an enlivening spirit as we live on this earth, knowing the certainty of our eternity with Jesus in Heaven.

We get to Heaven by:

1. The Greatest Gift and
2. The Perfect Present.

The 'Greatest Gift' is Jesus Christ, who brings the assurance of Heaven in eternity.

Reflect on this: what do you want for Christmas? Are you thinking about the **Kingdom** or about the '**blingdom**'?

For many people, 'Christmas' has become 'giftmas', caused by the incessant worrying about what presents to give and receive; whilst missing out on the 'Greatest Gift' and the 'Perfect Present'.

For more context, see **John 14:27**.

Let us share Jesus, the Greatest Gift and the Perfect Present, with others.

The Need for Evangelism

When evangelising about Jesus, it is like advertising: trying to sell something they didn't know they needed.

As a result, the listener is often sceptical about their need for Jesus. Therefore, we need to show them the benefits of a life in Christ, with access to the promises and blessings of God.

Examples of God's blessings include:

1. A life of God-given strength to have the perseverance and endurance to overcome tribulation.
2. A Christ-centred life of inner peace and outer calmness.
3. A life guided and guarded by the inner presence of the Holy Spirit.
4. An eternity in Heaven.

Jesus died for all mankind, not some.

Therefore, for us that are blessed with God's grace to do His will and His good pleasure, we have a responsibility for the stewardship of the souls that we meet in life.

God's Love and Justice

God's love for many is misunderstood. Many people believe that since God loves them, He won't judge them.

However, God's love for us does not negate the fact that He is also just (see **Isaiah 59:2** and **1 Peter 3:12**).

Therefore, our sins must be dealt with. For us that have believed into Christ, our sins have been forgiven, and our salvation is assured.

For those who haven't accepted Jesus as God's gift, God's judgement is certain (see **Revelation 20:11-15**).

God is as loving as He is just. He doesn't want anyone to go to hell, and He earnestly desires that we spend our eternity with Him, in heaven, by believing in Him and repentance.

Lastly...

We are meant to be God's stewards of souls on earth, but are we really doing His will on earth? Are we truly making His Kingdom come on earth, by saving the lost?

If we can't answer an emphatic 'yes' to the above questions, we should repent and start sharing the gospel with others.

Let us not be 'tight with our time' as we tithe for God with evangelism. Instead, let us be good stewards of souls.