



BISHOP FELTON HAWKINS



KINGDOM COMMUNITY WITH POTENTIAL



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Genesis 1:24-30

24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

26 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.

Genesis 1:24-30

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

28 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.

29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.



Genesis 1:24-30

30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

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- It is so important for us to see ourselves out of the creator's perspective and knowledge of us.
 - Our world view is so important to our existence...what we know and feel about ourselves.
 - Just the fact that God made us in his image and likeness and breathed his substance into us is in itself enough for us to lock our faith into and believe that for us, we have the power to make our lives and community what we want them to be.
 - The great thing is that this means for us that we have unlimited possibilities because of who he is in us. On the other hand, it takes away many of the excuses that we use to live limited and mediocre lives.

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- The challenge in most communities is that we have so many people who feel that they are a victim of what someone else created for them. Even worse, this is the way it has to be; there really is not much we can do about it to change it.
 - If God gave us his status in the earth, his authority, and his character and we choose not to believe or accept it, then we automatically give it away to others who have no problem imposing their will on us for their benefit.

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- Our sovereignty and freedom are more precious than life itself. This is something we should treasure and protect with every fiber of our being because those two things will determine our ability to be good stewards over the life that we live and the communities we create.

Genesis 2:15

15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

- It is so important that we understand the significance of the garden in our lives, the fact that God gives us what we need to grow. Through that growth, we increase and expand the gift we have been given.
- The emphasis in the text is the seed, the potential, and opportunity in the face of challenges.

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- We see that God gave us all of this before sin became an issue. Before sin we had responsibility, before sin we had stewardship, before sin we had work, before sin we had the right to make choices.
 - Let's stop here and think about the fact that God put us in a position to grow and develop.
 - That does not happen unless we take total responsibility for what God has given us and the effort necessary to ensure that growth.
 - Sin happened when man gave away his rights, failed to take responsibility for his stewardship, and allowed someone else to deceive him about who he was.

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- Sin makes the challenges that we've already faced more complex but it does not remove God's original intention.
 - Sin has a way of perverting God's true purpose for our existence. The whole issue is the deception and deceit like that which Satan seduced.
 - This is why the Holy Spirit is so critical in our lives. He has been given to us to assist us with knowledge to understand our God-likeness so that we can evolve back to God's original intent.

Genesis 1:29

29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

- The source of abundance is the seed; the source of multiplication is seed, but seed not understood will be taken for granted.
- If we are not good stewards over seed, we won't be good stewards over the harvest because the harvest is in the seed.
- How do we manage our seed? Are we responsible over the seed? The answer to this question will bring clarity to the lack of resources that we possess.

Matthew 12:23

23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.

- The question is not where the blessings are, it is are we soil that is worthy of the investment.
- Jesus reveals just as Adam and Eve were placed in a garden, we ourselves are the soil in which seed is sown.
- The issue is not the seed it is the soil. Good seed in bad soil produces very little fruit.
- When we hear the word and seek to understand the word of God there is fruit produced at some level in our lives.