From the HEY! Series because God would like to get our attention! HEY! Who Told You That? Who Told You Those Lies?

A Study by Marylynn G. Stults, Abraham Publishing, Spring 2014 Prayerfully you, the reader of this study, will examine the Scriptures referenced here in context in your Bible asking the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart and teach you to greatly increase your faith and empower, enhance, and improve your life. Amen in Jesus' name.

God's Word is TRUTH (John 17:17)

In the Beginning

Genesis 3: You shall not surely die, cried the tale-bearer in his lie.

Eve bit, Adam caved with full knowledge of consequences for how he behaved.

And that was the end of our beginning.

Ecclesiastes 7:12

12 For wisdom is a defense even as money is a defense, but the excellency of knowledge is that wisdom shields and preserves the life of him who has it.

Adam did not employ wisdom to his knowledge.

Proverbs 4:7 KJV

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

(Picture: Michelangelo Buonarroti: part of The Fall and Expulsion of Adam and Eve, 1510; Public Domain)

John 17:17

17 Sanctify them [purify, consecrate, separate them for Yourself, make them holy] by the Truth; Your Word is Truth.

Don't be deluded by a lie. One day, it will cost you something of value.

Don't succumb to that which is evil regardless of its beauty. One day, you will see it for what it is.

Pray to learn to love as God loves, and do it. It will destroy fear and bring you to eternal life.

Follow only the only One Who overcame death.

- M. G. Stults

For believing Satan and committing the act of disobedience, we received the death penalty; but Jesus made possible reconciliation for those who would believe and receive Him.

John 10:10

10 The thief (Satan) comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they (us) may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).

Wow! Let's get wisdom and understanding. Let's get a hold of the truth of the Word of God!

Since Jesus Came...

Have you ever heard people say any of these? "There is no God"

"The devil's not real"

"Jesus was just a prophet"

"There's no heaven or hell"

"Jesus didn't die on the Cross. He got married" or

"There is no absolute truth" (an absolute lie)

Hey! Who told you that? Who told you those LIES?

Only three things stand between us and abundance of life:

- 1. Lack of awareness of the truth of God's Word
- **2.** Lack of hunger in our hearts to seek it out
- **3.** Lack of belief in and obedience to Him (two sides of the same coin).

Neither this study nor anything else external can help your hunger for God, nor can it do anything about your belief and obedience, but call your friends and tell 'em to hurry on over because we *can* help your: (ta da da da) AWARENESS OF THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD! For thousands of years, man's been buying lies – hot air! – not knowing truth from a lie, which is a problem to be sure, but the bigger problem is we *don't know it's a problem!* Whew! Let's shine the light of truth on lies and get a hold of the TRUTH OF THE WORD OF GOD!

The Word calls Satan the father of the lie in John 8:44. Through his multitudes of lies, his purpose is to deceive and destroy us. A lie is a deliberate falsehood but sometimes man is unaware that he has bought into, is living, and/or is an actual conduit for Satan's lies, so some mistruths – while not *deliberate* deceptions by man – are vicariously lies from their originator, Satan.

"Lies are just words; what can they do to me?" you might ask. Well, consider this:

- God exalts His WORD even over His name which is exalted above ALL ELSE (Psalm 138:2)
- God spoke the world into existence with WORDS (Genesis 1; John 1)
- Jesus is THE WORD Who gave us THE Words the Father gave Him (John 1 and 17:17)
- There is absolute power in God's Words (Isaiah 55:11)

There's power in bad words, too: "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me" couldn't be further from the Truth because Death and life are in the power of the tongue (Proverbs 18:21a).

Lies impact the quality of our lives. Our thoughts, actions, motives, and decisions – as well as our perceptions – when colored by deceptions, delusions, and lies, put a lid on the fullness of God's plan for our lives. The plan of the enemy of our souls is underway until we understand and practice truth. You know how a light bulb pops on over a cartoon character's head when he has suddenly grasped a concept? He says "Duh!" or "Wow!" and his life is forever changed. We, too, are transformed as suddenly and inextricably, when we get a hold of a truth – and extricated from a hurtful lie – for the first time. The goal here is to teach the difference *between* truth and lies so you can **get a hold of the truth of the Word of God** for your life. Climb aboard! You are about to learn some things you may have never known before. I sure did!

Lies are so ingrained in human lives, we live in them. I came from a family with big talent that didn't make it big. Nothing clicked. I was sure we were perceived as failures. "You're a loser. Succeed? You can't do *that!*" That lying aura hung over us and stunted our growth.

All of my life, I've heard money is the root of all evil, another lie. That taleteller left out the condition: "For the love of money is the root of all evil" said Paul to Timothy as recorded in the Bible in 1 Timothy 6:10. It's not the dough, it's kneading it – playing with it, coveting it, stealing it, idolizing it – that's the problem, the sin.

All of my life, I've heard you had to take pain relievers for headaches, antibiotics for infections, that diseases run in families, and that cures for AIDS, heart disease, et al, aren't yet possible. "Terminal cancer? There's no hope for that!" And, how about "I'll always be fat," "I'll die from a stroke just like my dad," or "I'll never have love in my life"? They don't tell you there IS hope, blessed hope, in the Word of God.

Well, who told you those lies? "Who told you that ... ?" the LORD God asked Adam after he'd told Him he was hiding because he was naked. You see, the serpent, Satan, had told Adam's bride their eyes would be opened so they would know the difference between good and evil if they ate the forbidden fruit, which was true. Good lies have elements of truth in them; better lies are mostly true. Here was a great one! That "You shall not surely die" line and the bit about being like God were twists on the truth - deceptions - as was the unspoken part, the aspect of the consequences of disobeying God. Satan didn't mention we would always reap what we sow and that

WHEN WE SIN, WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE HAVE SET INTO MOTION.

Yes, somebody's been lying to us. This is a study about truth and lies... or, like the old TV show was so aptly named, "Truth or Consequences," something many don't know anything about. Many people today do not realize the profundities of simple *natural* laws:

- For every action there is a reaction
- What we sow, we shall reap

Yes, all actions have consequences and we don't plant peas and get potatoes or popcorn. We could be living life abundantly, but only if and when we get a hold of the truth of the Word of God. To do that, we need an understanding of what lies are. Here is a unique way to portray them. First, though, I am compelled to ask, "Had any problems lately?" Who hasn't! Got any guesses who's behind them? Is somebody - anybody - sick and tired or the devil making you sick and tired? of him stealing lives and limbs, houses and property? destroying marriages and work? trying to kill you and your loves ones? and making you to believe lies about your health and wealth, lives and wives, and everything else under the sun that matters to you??

Ah oh. Perhaps you don't think there's a real Satan behind all that's wrong. Maybe he's just a myth or an exaggeration or a fabrication just like a God who's behind all that's right. I ask you to shelve your preconceptions for a short journey and read on. We're going for a life-changing experience here whether you're a sold-out born-again believer in Christ Jesus or you're off on some detour somewhere. Yes, this is a journey, so buckle up. You need a road map – your Bible - on this trip because that's the Source of this study. This is an accompaniment to it, using my experiences as they relate to His Word which is ever at work in our daily lives.

Lies Exposed



Basketball is my life. I'm M. G. Stults, the Indiana Pacers new seven foot center. When I was two, I shot wads of paper into the wastebasket in my daddy's office. One day I dunked his paycheck so he got *me* one of those Fisher Price basketball hoops and *himself* a lock for his office. I still got in trouble for dribbling, but eventually I stopped and started dribbling for profit. Here's a picture of me. I don't look old enough yet to play pro ball, do I, but... What? I don't look like a Pacer?

Oh fine, I'm *really* Marylynn G. Stults, mother, grandmother, author, and college course writer and old enough to *own* the Pacers. Now, that's the truth; the basketball thing, though, is a whopper. But if you hadn't

seen the photograph, you might have believed it for a moment; might just have bought the lie.

So, what does it mean? What *is* a lie? When you scrutinize it, you find NOTHING; a lie generally has no substance, at least no *positive* substance. You'll never see five foot female me working out with those big male Pacers, or collecting big checks as a Pacer, or signing big commercial contracts to do big commercials or big movies as a big pro basketball star. You see, there ain't *nothing* about a lie – *any* lie – to hang your hat on; nothing to bank. That's the thing about it:

A LIE IS NOTHING. ZILCH. NADA. NUTTIN. We lost our dominion on Planet Earth, folks, for a big fat ZERO.

Now, I'm not being a hypocrite when I speak of how shortsighted we – the human race – are as we live and perpetuate lies. Over the years, I, myself, have lost nearly everything at one time or another: parents, uncles, aunts, cousins, my brother, and my husband; also businesses and, subsequently and as a direct result, money, homes, cars – the stuff! – and, all too often, my good nature and common sense! But... FOR WHAT? For lies that are ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. This is so simple it is hard to grasp. A lie is something... that is nothing, something that isn't...BE? Whoa. Pause a moment and think on that one!

I cannot be seven feet tall if I'm fully-grown and only five feet no matter how convincingly I say it. I cannot be a Pacer because I am a female (which I choose to remain), no matter how well I interview with them, play or pray, beg and plead, or even if I bought them! And then, if all obstacles were out of the way, I still wouldn't be young enough to be a Pacer.

Yes, a lie is something that *isn't***,** so I again propose to you this provocative question:

HOW CAN SOMETHING THAT ISN'T... BE?

Lies are a waste of valuable time. They are everywhere causing catastrophic problems throughout the world. Truth, however, has substance. Truth is in the Word of God; in fact, the Word *is* Truth (John 17:17). That is what this teaching is based on. His Word says His name is "I AM," therefore He *is*. The Word *is* Jesus Who became flesh and lived among us (John 1:14). Isn't that amazing?

So Truth = Jesus = The Word = I AM = Truth.

It goes full circle.

The interconnection is without precedent. The beloved disciple John tells us there isn't enough room in the whole world to contain the books that would be written about what Jesus did, but let's choose *one* thing from his compatriot's book, Matthew.

<u> Matthew 8:17</u>

17 And thus He fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, He Himself took [in order to carry away] our weaknesses and infirmities and bore away our diseases.

JESUS CARRIED THEM OUTTA HERE. HMMM. HOW, THEN, THE QUESTION ARISES AGAIN, CAN SOMETHING THAT ISN'T... BE?

They're gone. Sickness and disease cannot be... but... tell that to my brother, Jerry, who was an insulin-dependent diabetic with a brain tumor called a "bleeder." He had to move into a home for care. How can that be when Jesus carried all that away. And tell that to my cousin, Patty, who had a malignant brain tumor... that could not be. They both, since, have *gone* home to Jesus. Thank God they were Christians! But, how could they *have* something – indeed, die from something – that isn't?

Well, you can write the whole Bible off right now, say it's a lie, bunch of fables, or hogwash then, and go on about your monkey business believing man instead of God... or, you can dig deeper with me here, and pray, and read, and study more.

What I discovered was that Jerry *bought* the lie. Patty *bought* the lie. We *ALL* buy lies. Why? 85% (+/-) of Americans claim to be Christians, depending on your source. How many, though, actually have daily fellowship with Christ, with the Holy Spirit? How many *know* Jesus, not as a religious or historical figure whose artist rendering one can identify in a book or who go to church on Christmas and Easter, but as one who knows Him as their personal Maker, Friend, Brother, Helper, Intercessor, LORD, and Savior? How many of us walk and talk and **listen** to His Holy Spirit as their daily Guide?

How many of us have actually gotten a hold of the Truth – and the fullness – of the Word of God?

Lies and More Lies

Let's study lies a little further. A lie (which we saw illustrated and showed it for what it is: NOthing) becomes the APPEARANCE of SOMEthing to the extent that we – consciously or subconsciously – **allow it to affect us;** allow it in to our lives. (The lie still *is* NOthing; note that it simply has the "appearance" of being something.) It all boils down to *awareness*, the realization of Truth and how to distinguish it from lies; in other words, what *do* we allow/permit.

(There is one other aspect and that is what does God allow to edify us, but that's another teaching where we won't go for now.)

So, why do we buy lies? I asked the LORD. He began teaching me a lot. I had been (admittedly, yet generally unwittingly) a pretty big liar myself.

Let's begin again at the beginning in The Book. Take a look at the first lie recorded in the Holy Bible in Genesis 3.

Genesis 3:1-7

- 1 Now the serpent was more subtle and crafty than any living creature of the field which the Lord God had made. And he [Satan] said to the woman, Can it really be that God has said, You shall not eat from every tree of the garden?
- 2 And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat the fruit from the trees of the garden,
- 3 Except the fruit from the tree which is in the middle of the garden. God has said, You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.
- 4 But the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die,
- 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing the difference between good and evil and blessing and calamity.
- 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good (suitable, pleasant) for food and that it was delightful to look at, and a tree to be desired in order to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she gave some also to her husband, and he ate.
- 7 Then the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves apronlike girdles.

The only lie the serpent told is "**Ye shall not surely die.**" He put just a little "spin" on the truth. The first couple went spinning, all right, from paradise to the pits in one fell swoop. Verse 5 was accurate and that was what came to pass. Only verse 4 was the lie; subsequently, man did – and continues to – die. The resultant substance of that lie was the exact **OPPOSITE** of what he spoke.

In John 14:30, Jesus called Satan the prince of this world, so the present ruler of this world is a liar and a murderer. He blinds minds to the truth (2 Corinthians 4:4). But Jesus came... and *over*came, so what's happening? After we buy lies – I call them lying **seeds**; we buy them by the bushel – we

plant them by scattering them in our own hearts and in others' minds... and, there, they take root for the are **SEEDS FOR WEEDS**, toxic, deadly weeds, covering the planet. I'll show you what I mean.

Today, Jesus has given us all of His authority in His name, according to the Word. He is our Shepherd. But who is this little imp? Unbelievably, we dress our kids up as devils for Halloween... so many gullible, not knowing the real chief of devils may have actually been photographed.

I saw this CNN shot myself live - The Signature of Satan? - on 9-11. My cousin Patty (who was still alive then) called from Cape Cod screaming to see if I was watching. The other shot (below) is from AP, another point-of-view.





Who knows if these genuinely represent the face of Satan, but the pictures are certainly compelling and illustrative of the first part of this important Scripture:

John 10:10a

10 The thief (Satan) comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy.

The fruit of his work - his lying seeds - take root and grow into true Weapons of Mass Destruction named lust, hatred, bigotry, murder, abortion, pornography, selfishness, AIDS, pride, pedophilia, envy, and terrorism, just to name a few. Lust might start as a little crush on another's spouse; hatred as mistreatment by a school bully; bigotry when parents or peers speak disparagingly of those different; porn as a few peeks at sites; pedophilia or rebellion or fear or distrust of authority when fondled by a mentor or trusted teacher; and murder, abortion, selfishness, AIDS, pride, envy, terrorism, and God knows what all else as the culture in which we (unwittingly) grew up that downplayed the value and honor of life. So how can we walk in the truth in the midst of such prevalent perversion of it by those who surround us?

For me, my eyes opened as I saw pain; unnecessary pain. Then I realized there was great and palpable ignorance (mine and others), both willful and completely unintentional (and everything in between). God moved in my heart. I saw there was only one way – a narrow path – to walk in the truth in this present world: a full-time relationship with Jesus. I think I speak for many.

We start by being born again (John 3). The baptism of the Holy Spirit is essential (Acts 2:17, 2:35, and 5:32; also see the Abraham Publishing study) for He is our means to Jesus. God present with us on earth to correct, direct, protect, and resurrect us as needed (John chapters 14 through 16). Psalm 91 is a spiritual insurance policy. Jesus is our Daily Bread (Matthew 6:11 and John 6:35). As we commune with Him in His Word, we get to know Him personally (Luke 24:30-32) and, then, the veil (2 Corinthians 4:4) begins to be removed and the cobwebs of our mind swept away. At last, we can embark on our journey to the kingdom of God! Yes, this is just the beginning, for us all.

Dominion In Your Life

Genesis 1:26-28

26 God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air. the [tame] beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth. 27 So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 And God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it [using all its vast resources in the service of God and man]; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and over every living creature that moves upon the earth.

At the beginning, man was blessed and given dominion – rule; reign – over every creature on the earth. As recorded in Genesis 3, after the fall, he was ousted from Eden and his dominion diminished. He began to die. The ground was cursed and he would now labor intensively; woman would labor, as well, bringing forth children in sorrow (no pun intended), and submitting to her husband. We do not see God handing dominion over to Satan, however Jesus' numerous remarks concerning his reign on earth indicate he has ruled with a degree of permission here.

For clarity with regard to the reign of evil over earth, please visit the link for my Kindle book A Christian Study of Evil, www.achristianstudy.com/index.php/evil.

The fullness of dominion restoration will occur when Christ returns, hallelujah; however, in the meantime, you can take dominion over evil and your own life in the name of Jesus now as you begin to grasp the truth of the Word of God. It begins here:

Do you truly love God and fellow man – desiring ALL that God has for you? Do you hate all evil – desiring NOTHING of what the devil has for you.. because

MAN CANNOT HAVE DOMINION OVER SOMEONE WHO **CONTROLS SOMETHING HE WANTS.** (See 2 Peter 2:19.)

If we think we can sneak a peek at porn (well, it's soft...), hate the mother-in-law (well, she is hateful), use occasional illegal drugs (it's just pot), cheat a little on our taxes or our honey or our boss or with our money, we are just kidding ourselves. These are the devil's seeds and the Bible is clear:

Ephesians 4:26-27

26 When angry, do not sin; do not ever let your wrath (your exasperation, your fury or indignation) last until the sun goes down.

27 Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him].

Here, in a nutshell, is the reason rotten seeds get sown:

People, in general, don't hate the sin, just the price they have to pay for it like hangovers, headaches, and hallucinations from drugs and alcohol rather than the addiction itself. We hate the jail time, not the crime; getting caught with the twins, not the sin. It's not the cause but the effect, not the abomination but the outcome we hate; yes, it's not the devil, but the dues we pay for dancing with him that gall us so.

In His wilderness experience with the devil (Matthew 4, Luke 4), Jesus showed him he had nothing for Him, nothing He wanted.

- 1. So the first step to our Dominion Restored is awareness that we need to know and desire greatly to become like Jesus – our Example – in order to have it.
- 2. Next, we need to get rid of sin and disobedience in our lives and our hearts right. EVERYTHING hangs on Jesus' command to love God with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:27-40).

The state of our 🕚 is the foundation of Dominion Restored. Furthermore, we cannot be in dominion if we are in disobedience. Dominion is ours from God, not over Him.

We must know our enemies. Is it/are they you yourself? Demonic? From the outside? From the inside? All of the above? Jesus said to repent because the kingdom was at hand in Matthew 4:17. The lusts of the world do not come from the Father but are from the world itself (1 John 2:16). To walk in Dominion Restored, we must have had our fill of Satan's cruel and devious devices.

<u>Greg</u>

I've told you a little about my brother, Jerry, and my cousin, Patty. Now, I'd like to tell you the tiny condensed version about my son, Greg. While the *HEY!* Series is not generally about personal testimony; these stories are directly relevant to lessons laid down here. Like so many parents, I didn't know the truth about Satan and his influence in our personal lives. I, too, perceived the devil much in the same way as the little imp you saw, if I ever thought of him at all. I simply did not have a clue that he came, quite literally, to steal, and to kill, and to destroy (John 10:10), and his intention is to do that to **everyone** he can get his mitts on. If you think you're exempt, you are deceived by **the** great deceiver, the evil one, himself.

Satan started trying to destroy Greg at a very early age with repeated "accidents" that injured his head (he climbed and fell about 20' out of a tree; he fell off of a carport roof; his head went through the windshield in a car accident) until the climax in 1984 at age 14 when he had a moped accident that resulted in his actual physical death that necessitated a bilateral frontal craniotomy (removal of substantial portions of both frontal lobes of his brain) to save his life. (This photograph is from the Public Domain.)



Against all odds, Greg lived and began life again with mom's help. Well, my heart was in the right place, but my methods were New Agey. I did my best to help Jesus help Greg! Such audacity! He only wants us to pray, have faith, and be do what the Word says. His precious blood *already* covered everybody who will receive and believe.

Greg had to start over again as though he were an infant. After a period of extensive rehabilitation, he began recovery.

Satan's subsequent attempts to destroy him continued, however, including a grand mal seizure in 1991 so powerful, that it broke his back. The final seizure, though, occurred

September 25, 1998. Early that morning, I found Greg comatose on his bedroom floor and screamed for my husband, Michael, who came running and held Greg in his arms while I got an ambulance. Michael began to pray, led by the Holy Spirit. We were babes in Christ, but God led him to command Satan's demons to come out of Greg in the name of Jesus. Although Greg was severely comatose, a beast-like creature began growling from deep inside of him. Twice more, Michael continued the command at God's directive, until Greg regurgitated and collapsed, silent and stiff. After this, he was life-lined to the hospital.

My son is not an animal, however he had one in him: a demonic one. A vicious beast. An evil spirit. Whatever name you want to assign it, it wasn't in there to upset his day or cause him momentary consternation. Its purpose was to take his life.

Adequate words do not exist to relate how a mother feels when she learns something is in her son *other than her son* trying to kill him. Pure hatred for the evil one is the result. Look at –

Genesis 3:15

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her Offspring; He will bruise and tread your head underfoot, and you will lie in wait and bruise His heel.

This Scripture is prophetic of the birth of Jesus through Mary; however many Scriptures have more than one meaning and I claim this for myself because the enmity – unbridled hatred – I have for him is palpable. I am doing everything I can to get a hold of the truth of the Word of

God for it is the LORD and His Word that have already defeated Satan and provided the necessary means for us to do the same in Jesus' name.

To reiterate, the

- **1.** The first step to our Dominion Restored is awareness that we need to know and desire greatly to become like Jesus our Example in order to have it.
- **2.** Next, we need to get rid of sin and disobedience in our lives and our hearts right. EVERYTHING hangs on Jesus' command to love God with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:27-40).

And now, drum roll please,

3. We need to grasp what Jesus already did for us to actually, factually get a hold of the Truth of the Word of God!

Adam sold us out; our dominion was arrested. Jesus bought us back; our dominion was restored.

Quit Waging and Start Taking

The Spirit of the Lord led me to a misnomer that the born-again believer has bought: We have been waging spiritual warfare when we could be taking spiritual authority – the complete dominion that was restored to us – in the name of Jesus.

While reading the Bible several years ago, early in my Christian walk, I approached Matthew 12:29 and Jesus said to my spirit, "This is why I came." I realized that Jesus had spoken **directly** to my spirit. I read and reread the verse with new enthusiasm!

Matthew 12:29 Amplified

29 ...how can a person go into a strong man's house and carry off his goods (the entire equipment of his house) without first binding the strong man? Then, indeed, he may plunder his house."

Jesus came to tie up Satan and to untie us.

He came to set us free!

In John 10:10 where Jesus defines Satan's job description, He defines part of His own, as well: Jesus came for our lives to be more abundant! A study of the original Greek text reveals that means for our lives to be superabundant in quantity and superior in quality.

I've told you about my brother Jerry, my cousin Patty, and my son Greg; next, I'd like to tell you about my dog, Al, my little Yorkie who lived 14 years.

My husband Mick and I had been to Cape Cod for my cousin Patty's funeral. As we returned to Indianapolis, we stopped outside Columbus, Ohio to visit Mick's mom. We had had a lovely, long-awaited visit, when the three of us – Mom, Mick, and I – were outside packing up the car to leave. Suddenly, a Dalmatian pranced up to me and pranced around like he knew me. Mom remarked she had no idea who he was, so I ignored him as he ran back and forth between the door and me. Finally, I gave in to his bugging and bent to check his tag, then went in to call the clinic that had registered him... only to get just inside the door to catch Al scarfing down rat poison. I hurried to get Mom and Mick for help, but noticed the Dalmatian had left. (Neither she nor we have seen him since.) I called the clinic, all right, and took Al in after administering the initial antidote they recommended. She had eaten the whole box! The vet said if we'd not realized she'd eaten the poison, she'd have died a slow, painful death of internal bleeding without us knowing what was going on.

Indeed, the Lord had sent a **Salvation Dalmatian** for Al! If He cares enough to save our dog from a horrible death, WHAT WILL HE DO TO SAVE *US* FROM ONE?

What has Jesus already done for our lives?

On the cross, Jesus cried, "Now it's your turn, folks! I did *My* part; now, you get to go to war with the devil, too!" No? Oh, that's right, He said, "It is finished" (John 19:30). Yet, Satan has continued to hold most of us bound with his lies and perversion of the holy Word of God. We need to realize these truths:

- Binding has already been done by Jesus, otherwise it wouldn't work and He wouldn't have referenced it three times (Matthew 12:29, 16:19, 18:18)
- All forces of darkness work for and are subject to Satan (Matthew 3:22-23)
- Satan and, therefore, all forces of darkness are subject to Jesus (Matthew 28:18) and, subsequently, to us (Luke 10:19-20)

We have overcome. At the Cross, it was finished for us, too,

to the extent we can believe and receive.

Certainly, there are battles, **but why start a war that Jesus has already won?** Enter in knowing that you, too, in His name, already have victory!

This teaching flies in the face of natural man's belief; natural man simply does not understand the things of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:14) and I assure you that lies happen naturally, lies are accepted naturally, and lies are under the reign of the evil prince.

To reiterate, the

- **1.**The first step to our Dominion Restored is awareness that we need to know and desire greatly to become like Jesus our Example in order to have it.
- **2.** Next, we need to get rid of sin and disobedience in our lives and our hearts right. EVERYTHING hangs on Jesus' command to love God with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:27-40).
- **3.** We need to grasp what Jesus already did for us to actually, factually get a hold of the Truth of the Word of God!

And now, the big question,

4. Do you have FAITH to walk in Dominion Restored?

Faith

Hebrews 11:1

1 Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

Faith, adapted from this Scripture, is the

- **❖ SUBSTANCE OF THE AUTHORITY HOPED FOR**
- ❖ THE EVIDENCE OF THE DOMINION NOT SEEN

UNTIL NOW, WE HAVEN'T *LIVED* IN VICTORY

BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T TAKEN THE VICTORY.

WE HAVEN'T TAKEN THE VICTORY

• BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T YET PERCEIVED THE VICTORY.

WE HAVEN'T YET PERCEIVED THE VICTORY,

• BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T YET PERCEIVED (we've not yet gotten a hold of) THE FULL TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD.

It is the Truth that shows

- * We essentially lost our dominion on Planet Earth for a big fat ZERO
- * Jesus *already* carried off our sin and sickness
- * Jesus *already* bound the strong man
- * Jesus already gave us full authority over him... so what are we waiting for?

AHA! Here is the root of the problem:

We cannot be in dominion and disobedience

- and -

We cannot be in dominion and disbelief

Truths or Lies

Here it is folks, what we may be doing wrong:

Mark 7:13

13 Thus you are nullifying and making void and of no effect [the authority of] the Word of God through your tradition, which you [in turn] hand down. And many things of this kind you are doing.

Yes, we continue to make the Word of God of no effect through the tradition of not really reading and, hence, receiving, what He has said.

Then, we scatter those seeds for weeds all over ourselves and God's creation. Why *do* we drag sin and sickness back from the grave where Jesus delivered it? Paul wrote:

Colossians 1:13-14

13 [The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness (YES, OUT OF IT, FOLKS!) and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

14 In Whom we have our redemption through His blood, [which means] the forgiveness of our sins.

Which do you want? Glorious Truths or foul, deadly lies? Old traditions or the fullness of the New Covenant with Jesus? Yes, He has already given it to us! God has already given us:

- * Love instead of the devil's never-fulfilling lust
- * Great marital sex instead of Satan's endless, deviant, never-satisfying porn and perversions
- * Fine Wine instead of evil, addictive, never-quenching and deadly tobacco, drugs, and alcohol
- * Joyous eternal Life instead of everlasting torment
- * Truth instead of empty lies
- * Parental love instead of sick pedophilia
- * Health instead of sickness
- * Blessings instead of curses
- * Dominion restored, power, authority, and a relationship with God instead of the bondage, futility, and death of life without Jesus

But, let anyone who thinks he stands TAKE HEED in case he might fall into sin himself (1 Corinthians 10:12). Jesus came to earth as the suffering Servant for all mankind; we are certainly no better and He is our role model. **Love and humility are key.**

There is so much more to Dominion Restored and our need to Get a Hold of the Truth of the Word of God –

- like the realization of our utter dependency upon God for, literally, our every breath. He *is* the air we breathe!
- our complete insufficiency apart from God

- and the realization that EVERY aspect of Dominion Restored is
 - * BECAUSE of Jesus
 - * IN THE NAME of Jesus
 - * AS A RESULT OF THE BLOOD of Jesus
 - * AS WRITTEN IN THE WORD which is the Book of Jesus and, then,
 - * IT IS NOT BY MIGHT, NOT BY POWER, BUT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT OF TRUTH (as Jesus calls Him in three chapters in succession, John 14, 15, and 16).

And there, in John chapter 16, verse 11, we read that the Holy Spirit will convict the world **about judgment**, **because the ruler (evil genius, prince) of this world (Satan) IS judged AND condemned AND sentence ALREADY is passed upon him.** The Truth of the Word of God is all that is effectual against Satan. Simply put, he is powerless to the Truth.

We could have a billion bucks in the bank but starve to death if we didn't tap into our accounts and buy food. (That happened to a grocery heiress in Indiana several years ago.) We have all we need in the Word but unless we tap into it, it's useless to us. Let me be even more clear. These Truths are all from Scriptures in the Bible:

- Jesus already carried off our sins
- Jesus already carried off our sicknesses, too!
- Jesus already found the strongman
- Jesus already bound the strongman
- Jesus already loosed us and gave us the keys to bind and to loose
- Jesus already gave us the full authority of His name
- Jesus *already* rose from the dead and the Father has sent us the same Holy Spirit to give life to our mortal bodies
- So we have *already* been delivered out of the kingdom of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's Son!

JESUS MEANT IT WHEN HE SAID, "IT IS FINISHED" (John 19:30).



(The Resurrection of Christ by Tintoretto 1579 and 1581, Public Domain)

In Conclusion

This teaching is clearly not for everybody, although it surely should and could be. I pray you were led to it by the Spirit of God.

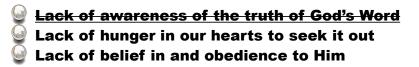
Dirt happens. The evil genius hasn't been put away yet. We are called to be ambassadors for Christ, therefore our hope and prayers for the lost (from ourselves due to any of our unbeliefs and inadequacies, as well as others) are found in 2 Timothy 2:24-26 where, in essence, Paul said he hopes that God may grant that those who are opponents of the Word repent and come to know the TRUTH and come to their senses and escape OUT OF THE SNARE OF THE DEVIL, having been held CAPTIVE BY HIM. He is the formidable foe whose purpose is to trip up any/everyone he can. He doesn't have to work particularly hard on unbelievers; they're already his! He's constantly looking for *new* recruits; where do you suppose he finds them?

Pray and ask God if I've been truthful with you and given you a study of substance, to see if I've shown you the Truth about lies, and to see if you think now you might have more abundant life, no more to be led astray, deceived, and seduced by death and destruction. Hear the Word of Truth! Jesus *is* coming again.

Revelation 20:1-3

- 1 Then I saw an angel descending from heaven; he was holding the key of the Abyss (the bottomless pit) and a great chain was in his hand.
- 2 And he gripped and overpowered the dragon, that old serpent [of primeval times], who is the devil and Satan, and [securely] bound him for a thousand years.
- 3 Then he hurled him into the Abyss (the bottomless pit) and closed it and sealed it above him, so that he should no longer lead astray and deceive and seduce the nations until the thousand years were at an end. After that he must be liberated for a short time.

Earlier, we showed you that only three things stood between us and abundance of life:



Perhaps, after much prayer, study, and reflection of the Bible using the principles set forth here, only the latter two remain. God has provided the knowledge so that we are no longer destroyed. The rest is up to us.

Throughout the millennia, lies have been the job of the father of the lie. May the LORD protect us from him and seal us with God's Holy Spirit of Covenant, the Holy Spirit of Truth, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Jesus is coming; will you be ready?

May God bless you abundantly, His will being perfected in your life. Amen in Jesus' name.

Long and Allefan

Important Notes:

While we greatly use the King James Version of the Bible, for the purposes of this Study, Scripture references are from the Amplified Bible unless other noted. It often gives us a greater understanding of the words used; other versions, such as the NIV (New International Version), New King James Version (NKJV), and New Living Bible (NLB) can help us to have greater understanding by simplifying the English; and the Strong's Concordance has assigned a number that provides the definition of the original Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament) words.

Receiving Christ as your Savior and becoming a Christian – one born of God – doesn't lessen life's trials; it opens your eyes to realize what Jesus has done to help you overcome them even while you are a mortal being, as your faith grows through prayer, reading the Bible, and fellowship. As you mature in Christ, you begin to love as He loves and to see beyond the material realm; you commune with the Holy Spirit, God present both in and with you, Who teaches you, and even empowers you, when you are willing and desirous; hungry for God and the Love only He represents.

There are allegedly as many as 41,000 Christian denominations – mind boggling, huh? – so there are at least that many ways man has found to present God's word. Many are, by their sheer volume, alone, in great conflict with others, yet each believes theirs is the correct interpretation. My point is that you may or may not agree with my studies which most certainly is your prerogative, but they are predicated entirely upon the Written Word of God and, prayerfully, without man's doctrines interjected. I offer these studies to you free, without obligation, and in love and prayerful hope that they are beneficial to you in your Salvation walk. Should you have any problem or disagreement with them, I am even further excited for you should take it to the throne of God and ask Him to clarify what He meant. Proverbs 25:2 says, "2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing, but the glory of kings is to search out a thing." Be the king God has called you to be!

If, through this website, only one person comes to know Jesus as their LORD and Savior, my life and this effort will have been worthwhile.

I believe The Apostle's Creed which states: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and only Savior, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy universal church that Jesus Christ established through the Apostles and Disciples; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Love in Christ and Amen in the name of Jesus,

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