

Masters of the Universe!

- Bearing the Image -

I. In this World (Age), we are LIKE Him

1 **John 4:14 NIV** And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. **15** If anyone **confesses** *acknowledges* that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. **17** In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because **in this world we are like him.** ...as He is, so are we in this world.

1 **John 4:14 MESSAGE** Also, we've seen for ourselves and continue to state openly that the Father sent his Son as Savior of the world. **15** Everyone who confesses that Jesus is God's Son participates continuously in an intimate relationship with God.

16 We know it so well, we've embraced it heart and soul, this love that comes from God.

God is love. When we take up permanent residence in a life of love, we live in God and God lives in us. **17** This way, love has the run of the house, becomes at home and mature in us, so that we're free of worry on Judgment Day—our standing in the world is identical with Christ's.

The **First Greatest Commandment** - results in total participation & possession in & by Divine Nature

The **Second** is Like it. -- the application of Divinity into the world around us, our neighbor, all that we influence.

II. The structure of the Universe a gift to us & Our True Nature is a gift to the physical creation

Ps 8:3–9 NKJV

- 3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,
4 What is man that You are mindful of him,
And the son of man that You visit him?
5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels,
And **You have crowned him** with glory and honor.
6 **You have made him to have dominion** over the works of Your
hands;
You have put all *things* under his feet,
7 All sheep and oxen—
Even the beasts of the field,
8 The birds of the air,
And the fish of the sea
That pass through the paths of the seas.

Ps 19:1–6 NKJ

- 1 The heavens **declare** the glory of God;
And the firmament shows His handiwork.
2 Day unto day utters speech,
And night unto night reveals knowledge.
3 *There is no speech nor language
Where their voice is not heard.*

****Show Brian Doerksen film... 6 minutes****

Ps 50:23 NIV He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he **prepares the way so that I may show him the *salvation* of God.**"

III. Implications of Stewardship of the Creation:

Prov 12:10 NIV A righteous man cares for the needs of his animal,
but the kindest acts of the wicked are cruel.

11 He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment.

This is both common sense and deep spiritual insight.

KINDNESS: If a person cares for their resources, the resources will function at their optimal level. Not just animals, tools, vehicles, property, employees, colleagues, clients, customers.

DILIGENCE: If a person is diligent and works with purpose, there is an abundance stored in the physical universe, which humans can unleash and which is a blessing to us and to others. Not just land, but any opportunity, any potential, any job, any list of prospects, any course of study.

IMAGE & LIKENESS: All this is instructive to our true identity, we are the bearers of His image and likeness. We carry His heart and presence into all our activity. All nature is waiting in eager expectation for the unveiling of the sons of God, to release it from the bondage of decay into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Prov 12:12 NKJ The wicked covet the catch of evil *men*,
But **the root of the righteous yields fruit.**

The longing and delight of the wicked is in the “hunt or prey” of evil ones. In contrast, **the very root of the righteous ones is a gift, a giving** rather than a taking.

MORE ON DILIGENCE: Diligence springs from duty and reinforces joy. It is key to the release of abundance, resources and the joyful purpose of creation. The importance of joy.

Prov 12:24 NKJ The hand of **the diligent will rule**,
But the lazy *man* will be put to forced labor.

Here is more of the same practical/deep wisdom”

The **joy and vigor of our work is a practical manifestation of our faith** in our Father's great wisdom in designing the Universe for His Pleasure and our delight!

The opposite of faith is fear. Low grade fear manifests as worry or anxiety:

Prov 12:25 ESV Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down,
but a good word makes him glad.

DABAR TOV!

Prov 12:27 NKJV The lazy *man* does not roast what he took in
hunting,
But ***diligence*** *is* man's precious possession.

28 In the way of righteousness ***is life***,
And in *its* pathway ***there is no death.***

And one more gem from this treasury of goodness! The significance of diligence and the glory of righteous living — No death! This sounds a lot like life, and life more abundantly!

Prov 13:2 ESV From the fruit of his mouth a man eats what is good,
but the desire of the treacherous is for violence.

3 Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life;
he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Here is the effect of the **Royal Decree** by the ones created to rule. It's the two edged sword of stewarding more than we can comprehend.

THERE'S A MIRACLE IN MY MOUTH!

Prov 14:23 HCSB There is profit in all hard work,
but endless talk leads only to poverty.

24 The crown of the wise is their wealth,
but the foolishness of fools produces foolishness.

The principles of diligence, stewardship and reward are built into the universe.

Mark 4:22–25 NKJV 22 For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light. 23 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.”

24 Then He said to them, “Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. 25 For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.”

STEWARDSHIP — A SUB-REGENCY

GENEROSITY & KINDNESS

DILIGENCE & JOY

ABUNDANCE

Prayer for “MARKETPLACE GLORY”

A good daily confession

“I confess with my mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead, therefore I am saved (see Romans 10:9).

“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Corinthians 5:17). I am in Christ. I am a NEW CREATURE! Old things have passed away and all things have become new.

“I have a new Father in heaven!

I have new life—everlasting life!

I have new citizenship in heaven!

I have been delivered out of the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of His dear Son! (see Colossians 1:13).

I am accepted in the BELOVED! (Ephesians 1:6).

My name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life! (Philippians 4:3).

"I have power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over ALL THE POWER of the enemy: AND NOTHING SHALL BY ANY MEANS HURT [ME] (Luke 10:19).

I have power over all demons to cast them out! I can Lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover (Mark 16:18).

I am more than a conqueror through Jesus Christ (see Romans 8:37).

I can do all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13).

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his BENEFITS: Who forgives ALL your iniquities; who heals ALL your diseases; Who redeems your life from destruction; who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies; Who satisfies your mouth with good things; so that your youth is renewed (Psalm 103:2-5)

All my sins are forgiven! All my diseases are healed! My life is preserved and strong in God! I am crowned with His mercy!

"I confess that I am not afraid!

"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL (Psalm 23:4).

I fear not, for YOU ARE WITH ME. I am not dismayed, for you are my God. You are helping me! You are strengthening me! You are upholding me with the right hand of your righteousness (Isaiah 41:10).

“For God has not given me the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

I have the SPIRIT OF POWER IN ME! I have the SPIRIT OF LOVE IN ME! I have the SPIRIT OF A SOUND MIND IN ME!

“The blood of the Lamb is over me! The Lord goes before me! Jesus is in me! The angel of the Lord encamps AROUND me (Psalm 34:7).

UNDERNEATH me are the everlasting arms of God (DEUTERONOMY 33:27).

Surely goodness and mercy shall FOLLOW me all the days of my life (psalm 23:6).

Hallelujah! FEAR HAS NO PLACE IN MY LIFE!

“I confess that this is a good day!”

“I am healed today. I am filled with the love of God today. I am filled with the joy of the Lord TODAY! I am filled with the peace of God today. I am filled with the wisdom of God today. I am filled with the Holy Spirit today. These are mine TODAY!

“I confess that TODAY I will help someone find the grace and mercy of God. I will rejoice today that heaven is my home. I will rejoice today that all of my family are coming into the fold of the Lord (Acts 16:31).

“This is my confession. I boldly say it in front of the devil, angels, the Lord Jesus, and God my Father. I thank You, Father, in Jesus’

name, that I HAVE WHAT I SAY! MY CONFESSION RISES BEFORE
YOU BASED UPON YOUR WORD!

Jesus is the High Priest of my confession. He makes it good TODAY.