

## THE RULER OF THIS WORLD

Hebrews 2:8 ... “You [the Father] have put all things in subjection under his [Christ’s] feet.’ For in that He [the Father] put all in subjection under him [Christ], He [the Father] left nothing that is not put under him [Christ].”

I added bracketed comments to today’s verse because it might be hard to understand when we read it out of context. So, I added the clarifications so you can understand the references to the Father and Christ.

I hate to credit satan with being the “ruler of this world.” However, John does exactly that under the inspiration of God in John 12:31. For us – those who are born again – satan no longer has a hold on us. But those who have yet to accept Christ as Lord and Savior are clearly living under the influence of satan. So, how does that truth fit with our verse that states the Father has put all things – even satan – under the authority of Christ? How can Christ be Lord and King, while satan is the ruler of this world?

First, “this world” is a sin-drenched, fallen earth that God created in perfection, but that we are destroying through sin, pollution, abuse of natural resources, and abuse of one another. This world is now populated by satan and his demons who were evicted from heaven by God for their sin. You can think of our world like a government prison. When a criminal is caught, tried and convicted of his crimes, he is sent to prison as his punishment. Inside the prison walls, there has developed a hierarchy of personalities; prisoners who form gangs and abuse weaker prisoners through intimidation, coercion, and physical harm. Such is the case for satan. He was tried for his rebellion while still in heaven, convicted of his sin, and sentenced to live on the earth until his execution. While here, he and his followers roam the earth looking for weak people to take advantage of.

Even though satan and his gang are free to harass believers, they cannot harm us. They, like everything else, remain under the feet of Christ. They are convicted and awaiting execution. But, while they wait, they look for and attract more followers from among men. Satan knows exactly where he is going, and that he has no chance of parole or pardon. But he has a twisted goal of dragging as many men with him as possible. You would be wise to set your heart on God, and ignore the temptations of satan, who will soon lose his place in history.

Copyright © 2017 Datu Wali Mission Foundation