



Designed for Dominion

Focus Verses:

“26 Then 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 birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

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

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

(Genesis 1:26-28 ESV)

Dominion Definition

The word *dominion* is used 56 times from Genesis to Revelation.

Old Testament:

Genesis 1:26a ESV

“26 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion...”

The Hebrew word for *dominion* in Genesis 1:26 is *râdâh* (pronounced *raw-daw'*, Strong's Concordance #H7287) meaning to tread down, i.e. subjugate; specifically, to crumble off: (come to, make to) have dominion, prevail against, reign, (bear, make to) rule, (-r, over), take.

- 1) to rule, have dominion, dominate, tread down, rule, subjugate, to cause to dominate.
- 2) to scrape, to scrape out.

New Testament:

Ephesians 1:18-23 ESV

18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who

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believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Greek word for *dominion* in Ephesians 1:21 is *kuriotēs* (pronounced *koo-ree-ot'-ace*, Strong's Concordance #G2963) meaning mastery, i.e. (concretely and collectively) rulers: -dominion, government.

- 1) dominion, power, lordship
- 2) one who possesses dominion

God does not intend for us to barely survive, but we are designed to thrive taking dominion!

Psalm 8:3-9 ESV

**“When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
4 what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?**

**5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.**

**6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,**

**7 all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,**

**8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

**9 O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!”**



Dominion Over Self

You will never be able to exercise power, or authority, or take dominion over anything until you have first taken dominion over self. My flesh is my greatest enemy.

The authority to take dominion over the flesh is available through,

- **The Spirit of God.** Galatians 5:16-17, *“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.”*
- **The Grace of God.** Romans 6:14, *“For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.”*
- **The Word of God.** Psalm 119:133, *“Keep steady my steps according to your promise, and let no iniquity get dominion over me.”*
- **Prayer.** Psalm 19:13, *“Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.”*

Dominion Requires a Partnership with God

Before you try to take dominion in the spirit world, make sure that you are partnered with God. It is dangerous to go into a spiritual battle in the flesh.

In Acts 19, Paul was ministering, and miracles were occurring as he was taking dominion. When these amazing things happened, some in the crowd tried to take dominion over the enemy without having the power to do so.

Acts 19:11-17 (ESV)

*¹¹ And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹² so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. ¹³ Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." ¹⁴ Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. ¹⁵ But the evil spirit answered them, "**Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?**" ¹⁶ And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled.*

These sons of Sceva tried to take dominion without divine authority and the Bible says they were forced to run out of the battle defeated, wounded and vulnerable. Make sure God has dominion in your life before you try to take dominion in other situations. Partner with God and you will have access to supernatural power!

"The first duty of every soul is to find not its freedom but its Master."

-Peter T. Forsythe

Life Reflection:

God is ready to assume full responsibility for the life wholly yielded to Him. Search your heart today. What do you need to surrender today to enter a dominion partnership with God?

Dominion by God's Power

Let's look again at our focus verse, Gen 1:28 in the Amplified Bible.

"And God blessed them, and said to them, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it ... and have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and over every living creature that moves upon the earth."



The word *kabas*, which is the Hebrew word for *subdue* means "to bring into subjection, to dominate." It suggests that the party being subdued is:

- Not willing to succumb
- Will not relent
- Will not give up
- Will not leave willingly
- Force must be taken



Genesis 1:28 implies to us that creation was unwilling to submit to mankind. Humanity would have to bring creation into order by exerting his strength. You will never take dominion without exerting strength – using force through prayer and fasting.

Matthew 11:12 (AMPC)

*And from the days of John the Baptist until the present time, the kingdom of heaven has endured violent assault, and violent men seize it by force [as a precious prize—a share in the heavenly kingdom is sought with most **ardent zeal and intense exertion**].*

The Bible is a book of constant conflict between the people of God and their enemies. God wants to remind His people that we have been given dominion, but we must accept it and use it. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus makes a powerful and revelatory statement.

Matthew 28:18 (KJV)

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power [Dominion]** is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”*

Jesus has all power and He has transferred it to us!

- When Jesus wanted to pay the temple tax, He only needed to command a fish to bring the money to Him (Matthew 17:24–27).
- When He wanted to feed a multitude, He only needed to multiply five loaves and two fish in His hands (Mark 6:34–44).
- When a storm threatened the lives of His disciples, He only had to speak to the storm and there was perfect calm (Mark 4:35–41).
- Every sick person who came to Him was healed (Matthew 12:15).
- He brought the dead back to life (Luke 7:11-17, Luke 8:49-56, John 11:1-44)
- He conquered death by bringing Himself back to life (John 2:19, 21, John 19:18, John 20-21).

Romans 6:9

*“Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; **death hath no more dominion over him.**”* There is no place or situation where God does not have dominion!

Colossians 1:15-17 (KJV)

*“15Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things were created by him, and for him:** 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”*

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Luke 9:1

“Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.”

Luke 10:19

“Behold, I give unto you power [dominion, rule over] to tread on serpents and scorpions, and overall the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”



Regardless of what things looks like, seem like, sound or appear like. Regardless of situation or circumstance. Spiritual dominion begins as you exercise the power God has given you.

Life Reflection:

In our focus verse, the Hebrew word for *dominion* (*radah*) refers not to God's rule and responsibility but to man's. It means "to manage or reign from a position of sovereignty." Today, I will recognize what I have been given – dominion and power. I will recognize who gave it to me – Jesus! And I will act on this knowledge and power by taking spiritual dominion over these challenges:

Dominion by My Words

In Genesis 2:7, the phrase, *"and man became a living soul,"* is better translated, "a speaking spirit." God created human beings in His own image with the capacity to speak and communicate. Mankind was made a speaking spirit and given authority and dominion. Satan recognizes the power of spoken words and is constantly trying to get people to speak words that contaminate, defile, and destroy. A constant war is going on for airtime. Satan wants to stop the spoken Word in your personal life as well as in your city or nation.

A leading neurosurgeon has said that the speech center in the brain exercises dominion over the whole central nervous system. He said that you can cause different parts of the body to respond with stimuli to corresponding parts of the human brain. However, when the speech center is stimulated, the entire central nervous system responds. This means that when anyone says, "I am weak," the speech center sends out the message to the whole body to prepare to be weak. This could be the reason God said, "Let the weak say, I am strong," (Joel 3:10).

James 3:2-5 (MSG) says, **“A bit in the mouth of a horse controls the whole horse. A small rudder on a huge ship in the hands of a skilled captain sets a course in the face of the strongest winds. A**

word out of your mouth may seem of no account, but it can accomplish nearly anything or destroy it!"

The power of speech may be a new discovery in medical science, but the Bible has revealed this fact for thousands of years. Medical science is finally finding out what the Bible says is true all along.

"For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile" (1 Peter 3:10).

The speech center is the dominion center for our life. Our words will make us or break us. Our words determine the boundaries of our lives. Our words can limit us or loose us. God gave Adam dominion in the beginning through the power of the spoken word and that has never changed.

Jesus said, ***"By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned"*** (Matthew 12:37). Few people take this revelation as seriously as the Bible emphasizes.

Your Voice Activates Dominion

When God wants to change someone's life, He touches their mouth. He puts His Words in our mouth to bring life, salvation, and healing. When God wants to change a city or nation, He always touches someone's mouth.



- God touched Isaiah's mouth with a coal of fire and sent him to speak words that would change a nation. Those words are still changing lives today, thousands of years later!
- God touched Jeremiah's mouth and changed his life and a nation.
- When God started His church on the Day of Pentecost, they received His Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. He touched their mouth, and they evangelized their world! The early church understood the power of words when taking dominion. "For we cannot but **spea**k the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20 KJV).

The story of the nation of Israel's failure to possess the Promised Land is clearly described in Numbers 13 and 14. Everyone in these two chapters got exactly what they said. There were twelve spies sent to spy out the land and bring back a report. But two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, won the war of words when they said, ***"We are well able to possess the land."*** Ten of the spies came back and said, "We are not able," and they died in the wilderness. Words are your address in the spirit realm. Your words custom design and specifically shape the future. Your speech center exercises dominion in your life and shapes the world.

Lego: Dominion Building Blocks

Jesus said in Mark 11:23, ***"Whosoever shall say... believe those things which he saith...he shall have whatsoever he saith."*** He said believe once. He said *say, saith, saith*, three times. The speaking part is vital to faith. Faith is released or put to work by speaking. If you are silent, you lose by default.

In Mark 11:23, Jesus used three different Greek words to explain the speaking part of faith. The first "*say*" is the Greek word *epo*, which means command. It shows the authority of the believer. The second reference to speaking that Jesus used was the word "*saith*". This word in the Greek is *laleo*, which means to speak out, use your own voice, and be bold. The third reference to speaking is also the word "*saith*". However, this Greek word is **lego** which means a systematic set discourse.

Lego sets are a popular toy that contains building blocks for children to construct according to the diagram or picture on the box. Jesus has given us a set of building blocks that we can use to frame our world according to the picture and diagram He has given us in the Word of God.

The Bible is a set of building blocks for salvation, healing, blessing, prosperity, victory – everything you need for eternal life! Take the Word of God and build by putting His Word in your mouth and framing your future.

"Your success and usefulness in this world will be measured by your confession and your tenacity to hold fast to that confession."

- F.F. Bosworth

In other words, don't just speak the confession, be tenacious as well. A spiritual principle that few people recognize is that your situation and circumstances are not what determine your future. Your words and your confessions shape and determine what you are and what you will become.

Life Reflection:

The list of people in the Bible that God used to change a nation goes on and on. God wants to touch my mouth to declare words of dominion that will change my world. What words of dominion will I speak over family, sickness, community, or my nation?

Life Response:

In the book of Judges, God raised up Samson to take dominion during a dark season for the nation of Israel.

Judges 14:4 says that Samson,

"... sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel."

God's people should always look for the opportunity to put an end to the enemies plans and take dominion. Spirit-filled believers have a responsibility, a mandate, a commission to take spiritual dominion over the earth.

Jesus said, *"The gates of hell shall not prevail"* (Matthew 16:18). The church has dominion!

