**Satan Rules the Earth**

Excerpt from Arlen Chitwood's [So Great Salvation](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-also-too.php#So Great Salvation), [Heirs of Salvation](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-also-too.php#Heirs of Salvation)

Angels, as man, unlike God, had a beginning. There was a point in time when God created angels; and God’s actions since that time have been, in different capacities and numerous realms, connected with angels. Not only so, but angels minister under the Lord after such a fashion (within the scope of established, set laws, etc.) that their actions are looked upon as those of the Lord Himself (cf. Genesis 18:20-22; 19:13, 24-25; Daniel 4:17, 25-32).

A major problem ensued in God’s government of the universe when one ruling angel moved outside the scope of God’s established laws (Isaiah 14:13-14; Ezekiel 28:14). He sought to exalt his throne (the position that he occupied by divine decree) above that of “the stars of God” (above all other ruling angels [angels ruling other provinces in the universe, as Satan ruled the earth]). Satan sought to be as God in this respect and rule the entire universe rather than just the one province in the universe over which he had been placed.

This, of course, was the one we know today as Satan, the ruler over the province upon which we reside, the earth. And Satan didn’t attempt this God-dishonoring act alone. He led one-third of the angels under His command to go along with him in this attempted coup (cf. Revelation 12:4).

This brought about Satan’s disqualification to rule and the destruction of his kingdom (Genesis 1:2a; Ezekiel 28:16; cf. 1 Samuel 15:23; Isaiah 45:18). This was later followed by a restoration of the ruined domain and the creation of man to rule the earth in the stead of Satan and his angels (Genesis 1:2-28 [2b]). Man though, because of Satan’s deception of Eve, was himself disqualified through sin (Genesis 3:1-7). And this left Satan continuing to occupy the throne.

Man’s fall though, unlike Satan’s fall, was followed by not only God’s promise of a future redeemer but by God’s immediate redemptive act as well (Genesis 3:15, 21). But God’s redemptive act did not nullify that which had occurred. Man was still in no position to take the governmental reigns of the earth, for, though redeemed, he was still a fallen creature with an old sin nature.

Man holding the earth’s scepter must await the appearance (reappearance today) of the promised Redeemer from Genesis 3:15. He has appeared once “to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself,” and to “those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation” (Hebrews 9:26-28). Redemption was provided for fallen man at Christ’s first appearance; and He is going to one day reappear, take the scepter, and position redeemed man on the throne with Him.

During the time between Christ’s redemptive work on Calvary and His actually taking control of the government — a period lasting approximately 2,000 years — God has set aside an entire dispensation, during which time the co-heirs who will ascend the throne with His Son are being called out. The coming kingdom of Christ will require numerous rulers, and it is during the present dispensation that these are being acquired.

And it is with this backdrop that the book of Hebrews begins and must be understood.

(Much of the Old Testament typology depicting the preceding is seen in the account of Saul and David in the books of 1, 2 Samuel.

Saul was anointed king over Israel; but Saul disqualified himself by refusing, as God had commanded, to destroy the Amalekites and all of their possessions [1 Samuel 15:1ff], though Saul continued to reign. And Saul would continue to reign until the one whom God had chosen to replace him was not only on the scene but ready to ascend the throne.

Then note that which the type, thus far, foreshadows: Satan was anointed king over the earth; but Satan disqualified himself by seeking to extend his rule beyond his God-appointed position [Isaiah 14:13-14; Ezekiel 28:14], though Satan continued to reign. And Satan would continue to reign until the One whom God had chosen to replace him was not only on the scene but ready to ascend the throne.

In the type, shortly after God rejected Saul as Israel’s ruler, God had Samuel anoint David king over Israel [1 Samuel 16:10-13]. There were then two anointed kings in Israel. But David didn’t immediately ascend the throne. Rather, he eventually found himself in a place out in the hills, separated from Saul and his kingdom. And, during this time, certain faithful men joined themselves to David and remained out in the hills with him.

The day came when David was ready to ascend the throne, possessing a contingent of faithful men ready to rule with him. Then, Saul was put down, his crown was taken and given to David and David and his faithful men moved in and took over the government.

In the antitype, after God had rejected Satan as the earth’s ruler, God anointed His Son King over the earth [Psalm 45:6-7, 16; Hebrews 1:8-9]. There were then, and there are today, two anointed Kings over the earth. But God’s Son, as David in the type, didn’t immediately ascend the throne. Rather, as David, Christ finds Himself in a place of exile, separated from the kingdom. And, as in David’s case, certain faithful individuals join themselves to Christ during this time, remaining in the place of exile with Him.

But the day is near at hand when matters will continue exactly as seen in the type. Christ, in that day, as David in his day, will be ready to ascend the throne, possessing a contingent of faithful followers to rule with Him. Then, Satan, as Saul, will be put down, his crown will be taken and given to Christ, and Christ, with His faithful followers, will move in and take over the government.

A principle of biblical government — seen in the type and, of necessity, in the antitype as well — necessitates that an incumbent ruler, though disqualified to rule, continue holding the scepter until the one who is to replace him on the throne is not only present but ready [prepared] to ascend the throne.

This principle, seen in the type, will explain why God allows Satan to continue holding the scepter, though God’s Son [the One destined to take the scepter and replace Satan on the throne] has been present for the past 2,000 years.

The simple truth of the matter is that the Son, though present, is not yet ready to take the scepter and ascend the throne. The work of the Spirit, presently searching for a bride for God’s Son, has to be completed first. The Son cannot reign apart from possessing a wife to sit alongside Him on the throne [another established biblical principle relative to man fulfilling the purpose for his creation in the beginning; man can reign only as a complete being, requiring a husband-wife relationship to complete the man].

[For more information on this subject, refer to the author’s books, [Bible One - Arlen Chitwood's The Bride in Genesis, Ch. 1](http://bibleone.net/BiG_01.htm), and [Search For The Bride by Arlen Chitwood](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/SFTB.pdf) (most of the book’s fifteen chapters deal with this subject).]

The bride for whom the Spirit presently searches, removed from the Son’s body in that coming day, will be presented back to Christ, completing the Son [Hebrews 2:10], allowing Him to reign.

And, as well, the bride, also seen in that day as a firstborn son [Christians being individual firstborn sons], will form the rulers necessary to govern as co-heirs with Christ in the kingdom.)