

DEALING WITH THE HEAVENS IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE

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The priesthood of the believer is a priesthood of all things; implying that we're supposed to effectively represent all creation to the Father. **Heb 1:2-3** (note and emphasize "all things"). **Rom 8:16-17** Joint heirs with him over all things.

The Bible speaks of heavens in plural (**Gen 2:1; Deut 10:14**). The highest heaven, or the third heaven refers to the dwelling place of God and where his throne is (**2Cor 12:2**).

The first heaven refers to the starry space that houses the stars, sun, moon, and other cosmic bodies (**Gen 1:14-16; Gen 15:5; Psalm 148**).

The enemy and his hosts of agents seek to use the heavens to receive satanic worship and to pervert their (the heavens) mandate and oppress man. Here is where dealing with the heavens in spiritual warfare comes to play.

The mandate of the heavenly bodies

Gen 1:14ff

1. To give lights on the earth

2. To be for signs and seasons
3. To be for days and years
4. To rule the day and night
5. Ps 19 To show God's handiwork and declare his glory

God anticipated and prohibited the worship of all heavenly bodies/elements

Deut 17:2-5 death penalty for worship of heavenly bodies

Deut 4:19; Ex 20:1-5 cf. Jer 7:18; Job 31:25-28

Instances of this

Ezk 8:16; Jer 8:1,2; Jer 19:13; 2 Ki 17:16; 2 Ki 21:3-5; 2 Ki 23:11

Isa 47:13 Babylon the origin of sun worship, Ge 11:3-9

Results/Effects of this

A perversion of the originally mandates as revealed in **Ge 1:14-16 and Ps 19**

The desert belt of the world is the zone where the worship of the sun, moon and stars is predominant.

Jer 44:16-19ff-23

Deut 11:17; Dt 28:12

Gen 27:28ff; Gen 49:25; Lev 26:19; Rev 16:8-9

Man's divine authority over the heavens and its elements

Beyond Matt 10 and Luke 10:19, God has delegated to the redeemed man the authority to control all creation, to determine what happens to them (Gen 1:26-28).

Ps 8:6. Legally, as priests and joint-heirs with Christ, our authority extends to these levels also. Heb 11:2-3; Rom 8:16-17.

Biblical examples of dealing with the heavens and its elements

1. Moses caused darkness in Egypt to deal with the power Egyptians drew from the sun (**Ex 10:21-22**)
2. Elijah dealt with the elements in the heavens, shut down the power of Baal in the heavens and thus produced drought for years (I Ki 18:41-45)
3. Deborah addressed the stars to the advantage of kingdom purposes (Judges 5:20)
4. Isaiah turned the sun dial of Ahaz backward by 10 degrees (2 Kings 20:8-11).
5. Joshua spoke to the sun and stopped it for one day, thus dealing with any interference from there since the kings he was in battle with worshiped those heavenly bodies (Jos 10:10-12, Hab 3:11)

6. In the New Testament Jesus made a open show of principalities, powers and authorities (Col 2:15) by the cross

How he did He accomplish that?...

There was darkness on the cross for three hours as in Egypt for three days. The powers of the heavens were dealt with (Lk 23:44-45). On the cross, when He overcame powers and authorities, part of the strategy was to cut off the forces of the heavens -darkness for three hours. This sign similar to the one in Egypt.

Acts 7- the “Church in the wilderness,” before she came out of Egyptian bondage, the powers of the heavens had to be dealt with. To bring the church out of the influence of the world, the heavens have to be dealt with.

Mt 24, Joel 2,3 Acts 2, the day of Pentecost- the sun shall be darkened... Acts 2:17-19ff vv 20 before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. Note that vv 21 follows this: “and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Hag 2:6 when the heavens begin to shake, altars will fall and fail; men will begin to call upon the name of the Lord.

Isaiah 24:21-23 cf Amos 5:25-26 TAB (Rhm:The Emphasized New Testament “But ye carried the tent of your king-idol, and your Saturn-images,—the star of your gods, which ye made for yourselves).

Applications

- 1. We need to bring regular repentance for the worship of the sun, moon and stars in our area as priests of all things**

Col 2:14 cancel out hand writings spoken into the heavens

- 2. We must understand the purpose of God in creating the heavenly bodies**

- 3. We must step into our mandate Ps 8, Gen 1:26-28 and the desire of God to put His words in our mouths in order to establish his will Isaiah 51:16**

Instruct the heavens and the elements to give no reply to the programming of satanic agents

- 4. Regular fasting and praying to listen to God- like Elijah: “As the Lord lives before whom I stand...”**

- 5. ...So that when the Spirit now says speak to the heavens we carry that out by the inspiration of the Almighty**

- 6. Program the will and purposes of God into the heavens and command them to declare only the glory of God over the land and people (Ps 19).**