# Heavenly Boundaries – Part 3 The Laws of God's Spoken Word 3/3/2013

#### The Well Church of Lewisville

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#### **Overview**

Last week we discussed our legal rights as Christians in God's Kingdom.

The six basic rights we covered were:

- (1) You have a legal right to claim Righteousness through Jesus Christ,
- (2) You have the right to go directly to God
- (3) You have the legal right to <u>salvation</u>.
- (4) You cannot be <u>separated</u> from God's love.
- (5) God's promise to Abraham belongs to me.
- (6) You have been given legal authority over Satan

This week, we are going to cover Part 3 of our Heavenly Boundaries Series. Today's topic is: The laws of God's Spoken Word.

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Let's take a look at the first law.

(1) When God speaks His will, a <u>decree</u> is carried out

A decree is "issuing an order for something to happen"

Let's look at Genesis 1 beginning with Verse 3

3 Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

6 Then God said, "Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth." 7 And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens.

9 Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened.

11 Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened.

14 Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. 15 Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened.

20 Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." 21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

24 Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened. 25 God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

**As a side note:** Not only did God rest on the seventh day, but in Genesis 1:1-24, God spoke a decree 7 times and it happened.

## ✓ Does anyone know the significance of the number 7 in the Bible?

The Hebrew, 7 is shevah. It is from the root savah, to be full or satisfied, have enough of. Hence the meaning of the word "seven" is dominated by this root, for on the seventh day God rested from the work of Creation. It was full and complete, and good and perfect. Nothing could be added to it or taken from it without marring it. Therefore, we can think of the number 7 as perfection in the Bible. (The Bible Study Site, "Biblical meaning of number", by E. W. Bullinger, edited by BibleStudy.org)d On thing to note her, does anyone know what the number seven represents in the Bible? We are going to use Esther 3:12-13 as our context for today's message.

### ✓ What was created with the 8<sup>th</sup> decree in Genesis 26?

## ✓ Now was is the meaning of 8 in the Bible?

As seven was so called because the seventh day was the day of completion and rest, so eight, as the eighth day, was over and above this perfect completion, and was indeed the first of a new series, as well as being the eighth.

Eight is 7 plus 1. Hence it is the number specially associated with Resurrection and Regeneration, and the beginning of a new era or order. (E. W. Bullinger, "Biblical meaning of number", 2013).

Now, let's look at what happens when a king issues a decree

#### Esther 3:12-13

Then the king's scribes were called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and a decree was written according to all that Haman commanded-to the king's satraps, to the governors who were over each province, to the officials of all people, to every province according to its script, and to every people in their language. In the name of King Ahasuerus it was written, and sealed with the king's signet ring. And the letters were sent by couriers into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all the Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their possessions. (Esther 3:12-13)

When a decree is issues i.e. spoken by a king, all kinds of things begin to happen.

All of those whom the king gave authority were called together and sent out to deliver his decree. It was spoken, then written, and then sealed by the king. Once it was spoken and sealed, the king's will was physically carried out.

It is no different with God.

(1) When God's will is spoken, it is carried out as a decree.

All throughout the Bible, whether God is speaking directly, or his messengers are speaking, or God is speaking through His prophets, His will is manifested.

# (2) God's Word can be spoken and carried out through Angels and Prophets

# **Angels Speak on God's Behalf**

Psalm 68:10

(2.a) The Lord gives the word, and a great army brings the good news.

Luke 1:13

But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.

Luke 1:18

18 Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I be sure this will happen? I'm an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years." 19 Then the angel said, "I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news! 20 But now, since you didn't believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time."

21 Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah to come out of the sanctuary, wondering why he was taking so long. 22 When he finally did come out, he couldn't speak to them.

## Prophets speak on God's behalf

1 Samuel 28:19

What's more, the LORD will hand you and the army of Israel over to the Philistines tomorrow, and you and your sons will be here with me. The LORD will bring down the entire army of Israel in defeat."

1 Samuel 31:6

So Saul, his three sons, his armor bearer, and his troops all died together that same day.

2 Peter 2:20-21

Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.

## (3) God's Word is Living and Active

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest twoedged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

When God's Word is spoken, it penetrates the heart and soul.

Ephesians 6:17

Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

(3.a) God's Word is our weapon against the forces of evil

- (4) The Holy Spirit gives Christians understanding of God's Word.
  - 1 Corinthians 2:13-14
  - 13 When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the <u>Spirit</u>, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths.

But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths <u>from God's Spirit</u>. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means

1 Thes 1:6

For when we brought you the Good News, it was not only with words but also with power, for the Holy Spirit gave you full assurance that what we said was true. And you know of our concern for you from the way we lived when we were with you.

(5) I can speak God's Word boldly, because God has given me authority.

Luke 9:1-2 (Jesus gives the disciples authority to speak on His behalf)

One day Jesus called together his twelve disciples and gave them power and authority to cast out all demons and to heal all diseases. 2 Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

Luke 10:17 (Confirmation of the authority Jesus Gave)

When the seventy-two disciples returned, they joyfully reported to him, "Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!"

Luke 10:19 (Jesus confirms the authority he has given)

Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy

Mark 11:23

I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart.

(6) When I speak God's will in the name of <u>Jesus</u>, it will be done

John 14:13-14

13 You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. 14 Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

John 16:23-24

23 At that time you won't need to ask me for anything. I tell you the truth, you will ask the Father directly, and he will grant your request because you use my name. 24 You haven't done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy.

Acts 3:6

But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!"

Acts 3:16

16 "Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes.

Acts 16:18

18 This went on day after day until Paul got so exasperated that he turned and said to the demon within her, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And instantly it left her.

#### **Handout Answers**

- (1) When God speaks His will, a decree is carried out
- (2) God's Word can be spoken and carried out through <u>Angels</u> and <u>Prophets</u>
  (2.a) The Lord gives the word, and a great army brings the good news.
- (3) God's Word is <u>Living</u> and <u>Active</u>
  - (3.a) God's Word is our weapon against the forces of evil
- (4) The Holy Spirit gives Christians understanding of God's Word.
- (5) I can speak God's Word boldly, because God has given me authority.
- (6) When I speak God's will in the name of Jesus, it will be done

Note about Haman: HAMAN [HAY mun] — the evil and scheming prime minister of Ahasuerus (Xerxes I), king of Persia (485–464 B.C.). When MORDECAI refused to bow to Haman, Haman plotted to destroy Mordecai and his family, as well as all of the Jews in the Persian Empire. But ESTHER intervened and saved her people. Haman was hanged on the very gallows he had constructed for Mordecai (Esth. 3:1–9:25). This shows that God is always in control of events, even when wickedness and evil seem to be winning out.

The Bible Study Site, "Biblical meaning of number", by E. W. Bullinger, edited by BibleStudy.org Retrieved from: http://www.biblestudy.org/bibleref/meaning-of-numbers-in-bible/7.html