

Genesis 1:26 and 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 fowl of heaven, and over the livestock, and over all the Earth and over every creeping thing that crawls upon Earth.

I have this picture which formed in my mind that before man was created here on Earth man was to have dominion over everything here on Earth which God created as that verse said.

Now to simplify that picture a bit more God knew that Satan was a roaring lion just waiting to pounce on his prey didn't He **yes He did** so before man was created God decreed that man would have total dominion over all His creation here on Earth remember those words which i just finished reading to you **and over all the Earth** Not over heaven but over all the Earth. Who is in charge of this Earth temporarily at the moment Satan is.

Who allowed Satan to steal away what God had given man - man and woman did Eve may have disobeyed God and touched and then ate the forbidden fruit but Adam could have easily have said no you will not touch or eat of that fruit which we were commanded not to touch or eat **before** Eve did disobey God **but he didn't** Adam also took a healthy bite of the fruit as well.

Genesis 3:6 we read **and when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, she also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.**

So Adam was standing right there beside Eve and the second Eve passed him the fruit he immediately slammed it down his throat.

Why was the tree to be desired to make one wise God never told them that God their creator told them in **Genesis 2:16-17**

and the LORD commanded the man, saying, you may eat freely of every tree in the garden, but you shall not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day that you eat of it in dying you shall surely die.

Now i know you all know about our creation however a recap every now and then i feel is good for us this tree was to be desired why because it was forbidden imagine walking passed a chocolate bar every day looking at it smelling it but you were told that you cannot touch it or eat it how would you feel.

Maybe you might feel a bit curious but remember curiosity killed the mouse in the mouse trap maybe you would feel a little angry because you were banned from touching and eating something which looked and smelt so delicious to you when compared to an orange which did not smell appealing to you or to an apple which really had little smell at all. Possible more maybes might cross your mind.

But here is the big maybe **Genesis 3:2-5** and the woman said to the serpent, we may freely eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, but of the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has indeed said, you shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die, and the serpent said to the woman, in dying, you shall not surely die, for God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened and you shall be like God deciding good and evil.

This is just my thought but the tree being in the midst or middle of the garden is kind of like a 50/50 bet a will or wont the tree was placed like a fulcrum which could tip either way to good or to evil to touch or not to touch.

Deciding means in the above sense in that verse to know to ascertain by observing and experiencing.

How this must have broken the heart of God our creator when His creation disobeyed but we all know that a plan had already been worked out well before man was created

because God kind of knew that eventually man's curiosity would get the better of him and it did remember Adam could have said no and Adam could have on behalf of his wife Eve spoken to God before she took a bite.

But remember this **the damage had already been done** Satan had already successfully tempted Gods creation into disobeying His direct command so maybe the outcome would have been the same and please i am not at all trying to white wash Adam in that statement Adam sinned as well its as simple as that all i meant is sin had already entered Gods creation so really Adam may not have been able to reverse Gods decision and Satan for sure would have demande Gods justice be implemented immediatly if He had reversed His decision Satan would have reminded God of His words **God has indeed said, you shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die**.

What were satans words. **God has indeed said, you shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die**.

What is it that God cannot do **lie**.

If God said to Adam its ok Adam because you came to Me and explained everything Eve wont die everything will be fine because she only touched it.

Then Satan would have won twice wouldn't he have.

Once tempting Eve to touch and eat and second by having God go back on His command to His creation why well **Titus 1:2** tells us **in the hope of eternal life, which God Who cannot lie, promised before the ages of time**.

You see had God not went ahead and imposed the death penalty as He said He would then Satan would have said Check mate God you told Adam and Eve a porky pie the very second the creation of God went against the command of God then Gods word came into action what were they **God has indeed said, you shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die**.

Well Eve touched it and ate it and so did Adam so both are guilty as charged therefore **both** faced the penalty for their sin remember even if Adam said no the penalty of death had to be invoked because Gods command to Adam and Eve had been broken and sin had entered into creation through disobedience.

And what has man and woman been doing ever since Eden making decisions making choices will i or won't i shall i or shant i can i or can't i the tree should have been called the tree of decision the tree i feel was a test of man's obedience and order as opposed to disobedience and disorder because disorder has been the order of the day every day ever since.

What is obedience its doing what we should be doing its doing what we are told to do by someone who knows what is the best for us to do its obeying without arguing or questioning in my case when i was young its the difference between living safely here on Earth or viewing the moon real close after my mothers foot made contact with my backside.

What is disobedience well its walking on the moon for not being obedient disobedience is the deliberate act of defiance its knowing what is good **but choosing to do what is the opposite** its allowing yourself to be swayed from the right path the safe narrow path to the wide road of destruction. To put it in plain and simple language that we can all understand disobedience is sin.

We all have parents a mother and a father well i hope i did or else i was formed in a test tube but our parents being our mother and Father who through Gods marvellous plan created us and as i also said once before we are created the very millisecond the male sperm enters the egg at that very **millisecond** **Psalm 139:13-16** plainly reveals to us one of the mysteries of life which scientists and evolutionists still cannot understand there we read **for You have possessed my reins,**

You have knit me together in my mothers womb, i will praise You, for i am awesomely and wonderfully made, Your works are marvellous and my soul knows it very well, My substance was not hidden from You when i was made in secret and intricately formed me in the lowest parts of the Earth, Your eyes did see my substance yet being unformed, and in Your book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet, there were none of them.

Wow there you go a full biology lesson each part of our human growth in our mothers womb was in progress in stages as recorded in Gods book of continuance one after the other as the wheel of life turned we began to be formed part by part and we started to take shape and we began to look like a human being.

Gods hands were gently and lovingly forming us in our mothers womb 2 arms 2 legs 2 eyes and so on as recorded in His book and i know that there are lots of deformed people out there and i have not got any answer for that other than possibly something went horribly wrong in the womb-- and a lot of times that something is caused by outside influences some of those influences are alcohol drugs like we have in this modern day like marijuana and ice which people take for a buzz or drink too many caffeine drinks or smoke cigarettes.

There are so many drugs which may cause birth defects some drugs have a name they call them Tera-togenic drugs and Modern science has also recorded that the risk of a birth defect for any baby in these modern times is about four per cent **regardless** of the circumstances during pregnancy.

Maybe modern scientists also have a huge rug like evolutionists which they use to sweep Gods word under if it does not agree with them.

So this means according to the scientists that even a woman who strictly avoids drugs while pregnant may still carry a baby with a birth defect.

As i said there are reasons why and i am not a doctor although being a doctor does not necessarily make someone a grape vine of knowledge only God knows why because He gives life and He takes life away.

Speaking about doctors i read this small but interesting article on the internet the headline said Death and what a wonderful way to explain it i would like you to think about what this article says because maybe someone will ask you the same question about death.

That heading Death and what a wonderful way to explain it really caught my eye so being curious about what it said i kept on reading the article and this is what it said a sick man turned to his doctor as he was preparing to leave the examination room and he said Doctor am i going to die tell me what lies on the other side Very quietly the doctor said I don't know the man said but you're a Christian man and you don't know what's on the other side? the doctor was holding the handle of the door and suddenly on the other side of the door came a sound of scratching and whining and as he opened the door his dog sprang into the room and leaped onto him with an eager show of gladness then turning to his patient the doctor said did you notice my dog he has **never ever been in this room before** and he knew nothing except that his master was in here and when the door was opened he sprang in without any fear i know little of what is on the other side of death but i do know one thing **I know my master is there and that is enough.**

That i feel was a fantastic analogy about death and the other side of death **after** we have been called out of the grave maybe we should also use it when asked.

And one thing is for sure we do know that our Master is **indeed** waiting for us because we are His marvellous creation we are the creation of His own hands formed from clay by His Own hands **Romans 8:19** says **for the earnest expectation of the creation itself is awaiting the manifestation of the sons of God.**

One day the door will open up and what a fantastic day that will be for us **we will see our Master** we will be like the dog at the doctors surgery because we are at this moment **scratching and whining to be let into heaven** because **we want to see our Master** we want to **be with our Master** we want to **worship our Master** to you and me its not the question of what lies behind the door its **when that door will open up for us.**

We must be careful all throughout this brief life which we have been blessed by the loving grace of GOD to live this life is our schoolroom and as students God has supplied us with the lesson book its called the Holy bible in this book contains all the necessary lessons for us to live by its a history book a biology book a geography book a horticultural and healthy eating book and its a book which tells us from where we came from and to where our final destinations may be and how we are going to get there.

The path of life is a shaky one its like standing on a high narrow ledge like a path which we have to carefully negotiate and there are many obstacles which are located along the pathway which are desperately trying to obstruct our path even to the point of attempting to make us fall.

Satan is one such obstacle and he succeeded to make man fall once before but now we have to be more cunning than he is because we have Jesus the Father and the Holy Spirit within us to help guide us as long as we follow His book of life.

Proverbs chapter 4 is all about following the wonderful Word of God and the downfall that we face if we depart from it verse 27 says **Do not turn to the right hand nor the left, remove your foot from evil.**

In **Jeremiah 17:10** we read **I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give each man according to the fruit of his doing, as the quail hatches eggs it has not laid, in the same way he who gets riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the middle of his days, and in the end, he shall be a fool.**

I read on the internet these 6 ethics of life they are.

Before you pray believe.

Before you speak listen.

Before you write think.

Before you quit try.

Before you die live.

Before you spend earn.

You know they say money talks well that is **so true** because my money says goodbye.

And maybe there should be a 7th ethic before you retreat stand firm and fight because that is what a true Christian soldier would do he or she would never give in he or she would never wave the white flag and say its too hard never-never ever say die remember and remember well above all the things which trouble you whenever God's warriors go down on their knees the battle **is not over** far from it **the battle my friends has just begun.**

You see the Devil had a plot but **GOD-GOD has a plan** God has a plan and that says it all and its in the bible your school book it is not hidden from your sight the Devil may try but he will never win the Devil had his perfect chance when God became flesh and blood but he failed and Jesus was tempted just like we are **Hebrews 4:15** says **having therefore a**

great High Priest Who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of GOD, we should hold fast the confession of our faith, for we do not have a high priest who cannot empathize with our weaknesses, but one Who was tempted in all things according to the likeness of our own temptations, yet He was without sins, therefore we should come with boldness to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

I mentioned before about how the LORD God created us well i sat and thought about that i thought about **us being the substance** which is written the book as mentioned in **Psalm 139:13-16** and the words **and in Your book all my members were written.**

I sat and thought about that verse and my mind drifted back to when i and my brother in law had the security business and how we used to drop into the bakery after midnight for a hot pie and a hot cup of coffee on a cold winters night i used to watch the baker pour bags of flour out into a huge churn then he added water then turned the churn on as it turned and churned he would according to the recipe add this and that at the required time and adding at intervals more water until the mix was completed then lifting this huge lump of sticky dough out of the churn he then set about slicing and weighing out small portions from this one huge lump and he then placed them into separate trays which he then put into the oven.

Sometimes when i arrived at the bakery late the cooking process was complete and the smell of the bread was just fantastic there would be what seemed a hundred or more loaves of golden brown bread cooling down on the racks-- however there was a rubbish bin half full of rejected loaves which the baker threw out some were burnt some were badly cracked which rendered them unsaleable and sometimes unfortunately a loaf now and then will burn and they have to throw them out because they are unsaleable.

Sadly back in those days religion Jesus the Father and the bible were never on my mind nor were they even a thought nor were they on my list of priorities i was care free Julie and i owned our house as well as a beautiful boat Julie and i lived on the shores of a breath taking lake we fished as much as we could and then i went to work on weekends i mean silly me what more could a man want.

But now while writing this message and looking back and remembering what happened in that bakery my mind just flooded with wonderful scriptures and ideas and they flowed through my fingers and onto these pages.

Let me start in [Romans 9:20-21](#) there we read **Yes indeed, O man, who are you to answer against God, shall the thing that is formed say to the One Who formed it, why did You make me this way, or doesn't the potter have authority over the clay to make from **the same lump of clay** one vessel to honour, and another vessel unto dishonour.**

From the same lump of clay is that something like the bakers lump of dough i think maybe there is a similarity there one lump of dough can make a hundred loaves of bread as i said some saleable and some unsaleable.

[Genesis 1:26](#) i feel was the beginning of the lump from which billions of humans were thereafter made or created from through God's wonderful book.

What were the words again **let Us make man in Our Image, after Our likeness.**

How?

How did the LORD GOD do this well [Genesis 2:7](#) tells us **then the LORD GOD formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breathe of life, and man became a living being.**

Was Adam and Eve the beginning of the human lump?

I believe they were.

But lets explore this a bit further.

John 9:6 says after saying these things, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to the eyes of the blind man.

LORD Jesus Christ in that act of forming clay and then putting it in the eye sockets of the blind man **openly declared that He was the creator of man** **He Jesus Christ formed man out of the dust or clay of the ground** He LORD Jesus Christ was is and will always be **the Master potter.**

In **John 9:11** we read He answered and said, a man called Jesus made clay, and applied it to my eyes, and said to me, go to the pool of Siloam and wash, and after i went and washed, i received sight.

Clay there means wet clay and sticky like dough.

Isaiah 45:9 is similar to **Romans 9:20-21** Woe to him who fights with the One Who formed him, a potsherd among the potsherds of the Earth, shall the clay say to him Who forms it, what are you making, Or your work, He has no hands.

A Potsherd is a Fragment it was a pot or vessel once but now it is just a fragment it would seen the vessel was **not happy** with how it was formed and now is **just a fragment.**

These following verses in Jeremiah tell the story after Jesus healed the blind man's eyes and the Pharisees who should have known these verses were total ignorant to them yes the Pharisees were the blind ones.

Jeremiah 18:1-6 says The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD saying, arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear My words. then I went down to the potter's house, and behold he was working at his wheel. and the vessel that he made was ruined in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as seemed to the potter

to make. Then the word of the LORD came to me saying: O house of Israel, can I not do with you even as this potter, says the LORD. behold as the clay in the potters hands, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel.

God said to Jeremiah hey Jeremiah go down and have a gander at the potter and observe what he is doing. So Jeremiah did and what did Jeremiah see well basically he saw three things and I don't think you have to be a rocket scientist to work out what Jeremiah saw.

He saw a potter a potter's wheel and he saw wet or sticky clay.

So what was this exercise all about poor Jeremiah probably thought to himself here he was standing in the potters workshop and probably expecting i suppose to see something totally unexpected something out of the ordinary.

Well it turned out pretty simple really because God gave it away what this whole exercise and illustration is saying to Jeremiah and to us is that the master skilful potter is the LORD God.

The Potter represents God's work in our lives.

And when Jeremiah looked at that shapeless sticky smelly lump of clay sitting on the potters wheel well that was you and that was me and that is everyone who has ever been born since the original creation since the original lump. And as Jeremiah stood there and watched the potter busy at work what do you think he would have seen.

Well the potter and the clay is something that God wanted Jeremiah to come and watch and learn from He wanted to point out that He is really the true potter and we are but the clay.

And this whole illustration is one which shows the sovereignty of God and His right to control and manipulate the clay any way He that He chooses for His own purposes.

Our response as clay is to submit our will to God and to be flexible and mouldable we must **allow ourselves to be shaped in the LORDS hands just as the LORD sees fit to shape us to mould us to become what the LORD wants us to become not what we want to become ourselves.**

I don't know if you have ever heard of a man called Phillip Yancy i hadn't either until i read an article about him apparently Phillip Yancy was a very good chess player and he played quite a lot of chess while he was in high school he considered himself to be **pretty good** because he won most of his matches.

Quite a few years later he met a truly fine world class chess player who had perfected his technique over many-many years of playing.

Yancy wrote and was quoted in this article as saying I learned what it is to like to play against a real master. Any classic offence I tried he countered with a classic defence.

If I turned to a more risky unorthodox technique he then incorporated my bold forays into his winning strategies.

Although I had complete freedom to make **any move I wished** I soon reached the conclusion that none of my strategies mattered very much.

His superior skill guaranteed that my moves inevitably ended up serving his own winning strategy.

And Yancy then went onto suggest that **God engages our world and His own creation in much the same way.**

God grants us freedom to rebel against its original design but even as we do we end up ironically serving His eventual goal of restoration.

If I accept that blueprint it transforms how I view both good and bad things that happen.

Good things such as health talent and money I can present to God as offerings to serve His purpose.

And bad things too like disability poverty family dysfunction failures well they can be redeemed as the very instruments that drive me to God.

A sceptic may accuse me of flagrant rationalism arguing backwards to make evidence fit a prior conclusion.

Wow.

Yes exactly.

A Christian begins with the conclusion that a good God will restore creation to its original design and he sees all history proceeding towards that end.

When a grand master plays a chess amateur victory is assured no matter how the board may look at any given moment.

I really thought that-that was a fantastic article.

It's fantastic because that is our great God.

God is the Grand Master and GOD is **the Master Potter** and at any moment in our life even if or when things are in our eyes looking really-really grim and if life feels really difficult to the point of despair **smile because victory is not far away.**

Remember what i said earlier whenever God's warriors go down on their knees the battle is not over far from it **the battle has just begun.**

Yes GOD Who is the Master potter can turn any situation from defeat to complete victory at any time.

And guess what He has a purpose for you and for me when He applies pressure into our lives.

Remember well God formed us **sin deformed us** but LORD Jesus Christ can and will transform us.

When storms comes your way and there will be a lot of them just remember you know the Master of the wind when sickness finds you just remind yourself you know the Master Physician when your heart gets broken just say to yourself **i know the potter** it doesn't matter what we face of go through remember LORD Jesus is the way the truth and the Life Jesus is everything we need as Christian warriors.

Remember also Faith is not about everything turning out okay faith is about being okay no matter how things turn out.

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