

Exercise Dominion Responsibly – [Asaolu O. S.](#)

Sermon @ COC UNILAG [July 2nd, 2023]

Introduction: This lesson is inspired by the story of the imploded Titan which went missing on an undersea Titanic Tour. I made a comment on WhatsApp that some may find curious that “*the disaster should have happened earlier.*” This sermon may elucidate that remark.

Thesis: God made man to be lord of this earth and its creatures; to exercise dominion on land and over all living things in this world only. Moses, David and other inspired writers made this clear. Man must be careful to prayerfully, responsibly exercise this dominion and not vainly do it or seek to go beyond his assigned jurisdiction.

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 the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. (Genesis 1)

*3. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; 4. What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? 5. For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. 6. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put **all things** under his feet: 7. All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; 8. The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas. 9. O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!* (Psalms 8)

The “*all things*” in Psalms 8 are qualified and enumerated to land as well as terrestrial, aquatic and atmospheric creatures; dominion over the sea (bed) and the heavens is excluded! Only our Lord Jesus himself has dominion over earth, heaven and the hades world, that is the entire material and spiritual universe.

The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD'S: but the earth hath he given to the children of men. -Psalms 115:16 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. - Colossians 1:16

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth. - Philippians 2:10

When man first wanted to reach into the heavens, it was to ‘*make a name for themselves*’ without regard for God as stated in Gen 11. The result was the confounding of human language and our dispersion over the earth.

The worst space disaster was USA’s *Challenger* spacecraft that exploded after take-off, viewed on live TV (28/01/1986). Next was by USSR which lost three cosmonauts on re-entry of the Soyuz 11 rocket. A famous shipwreck was the Titanic on 15/04/1912 whose builder reportedly boasted that “*even God cannot sink it.*”

From available reports, both an insider whistle-blower and the Association of Underwater Explorers warned the *OceanGate* company about the Titan’s vulnerability and safety issues. The CEO ignored the warnings, they fired and sued the whistle-blower. He said he wanted to be known for breaking the rules with rapid innovation. Sadly, his firm ignored too many rules and violated best-practice in Engineering Design. There is something called “*Factor of Safety* related to Strength of Materials.” This means if something is expected to carry a load of X, you ordinarily design for 1.5X or 2X. The Hull of the Titan was reportedly certified for pressure of depth 1400m yet it went on repeated expeditions to depth 4000m in the ocean. Fatigue and other issues would inevitably cause an implosion; it was God’s long-suffering it didn’t happen earlier -Proverbs 29:1, 2 Peter 3:9.

Conclusion: The Lion as king of the jungle doesn’t dig into the holes of snakes for fun or kill any animal except for food. Let us act responsibly and stay within bounds -Acts 17:24-28 [video on [Church of Christ UNILAG Facebook Page](#)]