

THE PRESENT-DAY MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

Part 2

CHARLES CAPPS



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In order to appreciate the Present-Day Ministry of Jesus, we need a good understanding of the earth lease and the authority that it gives to mankind. Jesus refers to this lease in a parable in Mark's Gospel:

And he began to speak unto them by parables. A certain man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the winevat, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country. And at the season he sent to the husbandman a servant, that he might receive from the husbandmen of the fruit of the vineyard. And they caught him, and beat him, and sent him away empty. And again he sent unto

*them another servant; and at him
they cast stones, and wounded him
in the head, and sent him away
shamefully handled. And again he
sent another; and him they killed,
and many others; beating some,*

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*and killing some. Having yet
therefore one son, his well-beloved,
he sent him also last unto them
saying, They will reverence my son.
But those husbandmen said among
themselves, This is the heir; come,
let us kill him, and the inheritance
shall be ours. And they took him,
and killed him, and cast him out of
the vineyard. (Mark 12:1-8)*

Although this parable has dual
meaning, it is no doubt a vivid

description of the earth lease. To help illustrate God's situation after Adam turned the lease over to Satan, let's take a look at a natural lease.

I own a farm, which is leased out to another individual. Suppose I were to go to that farmer and say, "I don't want you to plant cotton or soybeans on my farm, I want you to plant cucumbers and tomatoes."

I know what he would say to me: "I have the lease so I will plant what I want to plant." I could complain, saying, "But it's my farm!" He would only say, "Yes, but I have a lease on it, and as long as I have that lease, I will determine what is planted on this farm."

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Because he has the lease, the land is

under his control. I can't do the things I want until that lease expires.

GOD'S DILEMMA

After Adam turned the earth lease over to the devil, satan became, as Paul calls him, **the god of this world** (II Corinthians 4:4). God was in a situation where He needed a man on the earth who would walk upright, fulfilling His plan under the Old Covenant. Then it would be legal to anoint that man with the Holy Ghost and power. John tells us why Jesus was born on this earth: "...

For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (I John 3:8).

Jesus did that when He was on earth. Yet for the first thirty years of His life, He didn't heal one single person or cast out one demon. Yes, Jesus was the

Son of God! But the reason He didn't
heal the sick and cast out demons before
He was thirty years old was because He
couldn't. He didn't have the ability.

Even though He was the Son of God, he
came to earth as a man. He was a legal

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resident here, but until God anointed
Him, He did not have the ability to heal
the sick or cast out demons.

Jesus walked perfect and upright
under that Old Covenant for thirty
years, without sin. He fulfilled the Law.

When He was baptized in the river
Jordan, He was anointed with the Holy
Ghost and power (Acts 10:38).

Let's pick up on this story in Luke,
Chapter 4:

And he came to Nazareth,

*where he had been brought up:
and, as his custom was, he went
into the synagogue on the sabbath
day, and stood up for to read. And
there was delivered unto him the
book of the prophet Esaias. And
when he had opened the book, he
found the place where it was
written, The Spirit of the Lord is
upon me, because he hath anointed
me to preach the gospel to the
poor; he hath sent me to heal the
brokenhearted, to preach
deliverance to the captives, and
recovering of sight to the blind, to
set at liberty them that are bruised,
To preach the acceptable year of
the Lord. (Luke 4:16-19)*

Listen to the words of Jesus: **The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath *anointed* me to preach.** This is how He received the ability to heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons, and destroy the works of the devil: *God anointed Him.*

Jesus had authority on earth because He was born here in a physical body. But he received the ability to destroy the works of the devil when God anointed Him.

Ask yourself this question: If Jesus was God on the earth in all of His Divine Power, why did God have to anoint Him?

Where would you go to get a higher anointing than God?

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath

anointed me *to preach the
gospel... to heal the
brokenhearted, to preach
deliverance... and recovering of
sight to the blind, to set at
liberty them that are bruised.*

God *anointed Him* with the Holy Ghost

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and power. It was not something that
was inherent in Him as being the Son of
God.

It was legal for Jesus to destroy the
works of the devil because He was a
legal resident of the earth. He had
walked perfect and upright under the
Old Covenant, which no other man had
been able to do. Yes, Jesus was the Son
of God; but, first of all, He was a man.
He was not operating in His Divine

Power and Glory as God when He
destroyed the works of the devil. He
was drawing from the anointing God
had placed upon Him as a man.

HUMANITY OF JESUS

Sometimes people misunderstand
what is being said when you refer to the
humanity of Jesus. They think you are
denying His deity by denying He was
the Son of God. But that is not true.

Certainly Jesus was divine, and He was
the Son of God, yet He was a man!

Let's look at some Scriptures that
help us to understand the humanity of
Jesus:

Let this mind be in you, which

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was also in Christ Jesus: Who,

being in the form of God, thought it

not robbery to be equal with God:

But made himself of no reputation,

and took upon him the form of a

servant, and was made in the

likeness of men: And being found

in fashion as a man, he humbled

himself and became obedient unto

death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly

exalted him, and given him a name

which is above every name.

(Philippians 2:5-9)

Jesus stripped Himself of this

Divine Power and Glory when He came

to this earth.

Forasmuch then as the

children are partakers of flesh and

blood, he also himself likewise took

part of the same; that through

death he might destroy him that

*had the power of death, that is, the
devil; And deliver them who
through fear of death were all their
lifetime subject to bondage. For
verily he took not on him the
nature of angels; but he took on
him the seed of Abraham.*

*Wherefore in all things it behoved
him to be made like unto his*

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*brethren, that he might be a
merciful and faithful high priest in
things pertaining to God, to make
reconciliation for the sins of the
people. For in that he himself hath
suffered being tempted, he is able
to succour them that are tempted.*

(Hebrews 2:14-18)

Here we see the humanity of Jesus.

He took upon Himself the seed of Abraham, being made like unto His brother. He suffered being tempted so that He would be able to help those who are tempted. *“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin”* (Hebrews 4:15).

Here we have positive proof that Jesus suffered temptation. It says He was **in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin**. Then James gives us positive proof that Jesus was not here on earth as God but as a man:

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let

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*no man say when he is tempted, I
am tempted of God: for **God**
cannot be tempted with evil,
neither tempteth he any man.*

(James 1:12-13)

These Scriptures give us great insight and positive proof into the humanity of Jesus, for God cannot be tempted with evil. Jesus was tempted in every way like we are, but He was without sin. So if Jesus had been operating as God here on earth, then it would have been impossible for Him to be tempted. *“Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him”*

(Hebrews 5:8-9).

Jesus learned to overcome
temptation as a man, even while He was
the Son of God.

JESUS GIVES MORE PROOF

*And now, O Father, glorify
thou me with thine own self with
the glory which I had with thee
before the world was. (John 17:5)*

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In this prayer from John's gospel,
Jesus asked His Father God to restore
Him to the glory He once had before He
was born on earth. From these
Scriptures it is clear that while here on
earth Jesus did not operate in His
Divine Power and Glory, but as a man
anointed with the Holy Ghost and
power.

Jesus was perfectly legal because
He was born here; He came through the
legal entry into the earth, being born of
a woman. But satan has no legal
authority here; he was not born on this
earth. Neither were demons and evil
spirits; they are illegal aliens to this
planet!

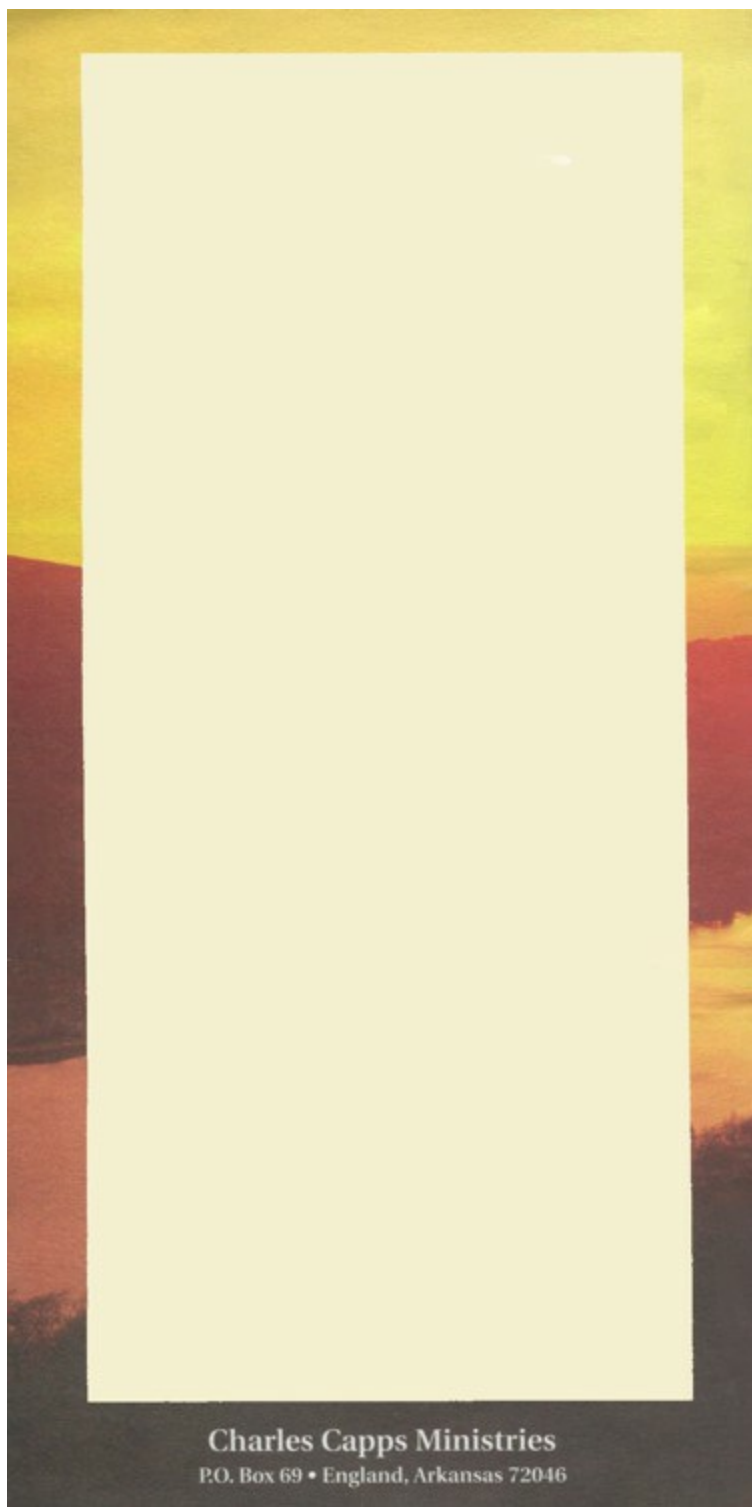
If the devil comes around your
house or business causing trouble, and
you don't know anything else to do, *get*
out your birth certificate and read it to
him. Then ask him for his; he doesn't
have one. When he finds out you know
he doesn't have any legal authority on
earth, he won't stay around long.

Satan has no legal authority on this
planet. He pulled a con job on Adam
and Eve, and he is still trying the same

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thing today. In Ephesians 4:27 the apostle Paul says, “*Give no place to the devil.*” Satan has no authority here unless you allow him to use yours. His only hope is in trying to usurp *your authority!* James 4:7 says, “*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*”

In Luke 4:1-13, we discover how Jesus defeated temptation of the devil. The key words were: “*it is written.*” He overcame every temptation by quoting the Word of God. You can defeat temptation in the same way.



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