

Divine Romance - Spiritual Warfare

Week 7 – Tuesday

Gen. 1:26 – Footnotes 26⁴, 26⁵

Actually, these two aspects of the church combined accomplish God's desire that we see on the first page of the Bible. On the first page of the Bible, God says, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion.” So we see image and dominion. The meaning of our existence is God's eternal purpose; apart from God's purpose we have no meaning. God's purpose can be summarized in these two words: *image* and *dominion*. The image is for God's expression; He wants to have a corporate expression in this universe. We sang hymn 203 today: “In the bosom of the Father, Ere the ages had begun...” Verse 4 of that hymn develops the matter of image and expression:

We're Thy total reproduction,
Thy dear Body and Thy Bride,
Thine expression and Thy fulness,
For Thee ever to abide.
We are Thy continuation,”

The bride is God's expression and then the warrior fulfills the matter of dominion to represent God and to exercise God's authority on this earth. So the bride and the warrior are linked to Genesis 1:26. No wonder they are put together so many times in the Bible.

Then we saw in the Song of Songs the story about the love affair, the love relationship, between God and His people. There the king represents Christ and the country girl that eventually becomes the queen represents us. She is brought through her relationship, through her love of the Lord, through stages to become the Shulamite. *Shulamite* is the feminine form of the name *Solomon*. So she is his match, his counterpart. Then we saw the verses where the Lord says, “You are lovely and terrible.” If one of our brothers would say as he is courting his fiancée, “Oh my love, you are lovely and terrible”, I don't think that she would take this in a proper way. This means that to the Lord we are lovely; to the enemy we are terrible. When a young man is courting a young girl, it really should be this way: to her beloved, lovely, and to every other guy, terrible; to every competition, terrible. Actually, the Lord is jealous over us in this way.