# Words of Truth

# The Earth Is His Footstool

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In the beginning God saw everything that He had made, and it was very good (Genesis 1:31). When you look at all that exists in this world you see the "handywork of God" (Psalms 19:1). God formed the earth and made it; He hath established it and formed it to be inhabited (Isaiah 45:18). God made the earth by His power, He hath established the world by His wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by His discretion (Jeremiah 10:12).

When you look above and see the stars and moon in the night sky, you are looking at the work of our Lord (Psalms 8:3). Mankind and the animals of the earth are the creation of our Lord (Jeremiah 27:5). Have you considered how the ocean does not overcome our land? God wants us to consider such. Notice: "Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it" (Jeremiah 5:22)?

God made the world and all things therein (Acts 17:24). With His great might He spoke the world into existence (Genesis 1:3; 6; 9, Psalms 33:6-9, and Hebrews 11:3). We have fruitful seasons and other evidence in the existence of God all around us (Acts 14:15-17). If you look at the natural things of God, not what man has perverted, you see how beautiful this earth is (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

After considering all of that, we also have to step back and think about how God did NOT create the world to last forever. In fact, God plans to destroy this beautiful earth that He has created (Matthew 24:35-36 and II Peter 3:9-14). So, what does that tell us about how God views this earth we live upon?

### The Earth Is Not His Throne

Is the earth the place that God has chosen for His habitation? He made the earth wonderful, but did He make it for Himself? The answer is, NO (Psalms 115:16)! God's throne is not on this earth. Notice where it is: "The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men... The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all... Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest... But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King... Heaven is my throne, and earth is my foot stool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest... Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of

the Majesty in the heavens" (Psalms 11:4, Psalms 103:19, Isaiah 66:1, Matthew 5:34-35, Acts 7:49, and Hebrews 8:1).

What does this information tell you? When a Creator makes something that He does not plan to live upon, doesn't that make a statement? Doesn't that tell you that this earth is, as several of the Scriptures above indicate, beneath Him? So, how should that influence your thinking about this earth?

## God's View Of The Earth Should...

God's view of the earth should tell us that His place is better than our place. We should realize that life on this earth is something that we should not invest in very heavily (Luke 12:13-21). What I am getting at in this lesson is to make us think beyond the earth we live on. Our affection should be on things above rather than on things of the earth (Colossians 3:2).

Consider this, the God that made this wonderful earth we live on has something BETTER for us to look forward to (Hebrews 11:8-16). Jesus said this: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:1-3). We can see what God has done in creating His footstool. Have you ever thought about what that MUST mean about the place He created for His eternal habitation?

If you were to go to a restaurant and taste what was the most amazing food you ever had in your mouth. What would you think when the chef told you that it was the least tasty thing on the menu? How would you approach the meal that the chef says he makes for himself and is much better than the lower meal you just ate?

God has something far better for us. Leaving this earth brings us to a place that is called "paradise" (Luke 23:39-43). Then, beyond that place called "paradise" (cf. Luke 16:19-31), we still have the eternal Heaven wherein our Father dwells to look forward to. God's view of the earth should make us realize that we should be looking forward to what awaits us rather than wanting to stick to that which shall be destroyed.

### Conclusion

Brethren, we live on the footstool of God right now. We have more to look forward to. Yes, this earth is beautiful and enjoyable, but there is more to come. Sure, we can enjoy what God has given us (I Timothy 6:17). However, do not let yourself become anchored to this earth and the life you now live. This world is going to perish (Mark 13:31 and Hebrews 1:10-11). Therefore, we need to be looking forward to our eternal abode. Consider these two Scriptures in conclusion of this study: "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens... For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come" (II Corinthians 5:1 and Hebrews 13:14).