

The Expectations of New #2:
The Obligations of Good Stewardship

Genesis 2:26-28 ²⁶Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.” ²⁷So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.” (BSB)

Genesis 2:31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. (BSB)

Matthew 25:23 His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master!’ (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. Humans were created to be **caretakers** over physical creation. V. 26
- B. We are to oversee all **animals** on the planet. V. 26, 28
- C. We are to care for the **planet** as well. V. 26
- D. God created us **male** and **female**. V. 27
- E. God wants humans **spread out** over the entire earth. V. 28
- F. **Humans** overseeing the entire earth was better than any previous thing that God had created. It was **Very** Good. V. 31
- G. Being faithful in our stewardship of creation should be the **goal** of all the followers of Yahweh.

II. How can we put this call of stewardship into practice?

- A. We, as Christ followers, must take up **leadership** roles in caring for the earth.
- B. We need to **praise** God for our uniqueness. God does not make mistakes!
- C. We must resist the temptation to put people in boxes of **expectations**. God is their judge!
- D. We must find **joy** in our service to God.