

### **34 The Gospel of The Kingdom**

This is not the gospel of salvation or of the Redemption that happened at Calvary. They are a part of it. It is the totality of what God has done for you now and has prepared for you in eternity and what He is doing to help you get there giving you the best possible preparation for living with Him in eternity

Jesus went around preaching The Gospel (good news) of His Kingdom and doing good works that demonstrated this Gospel (Mat 4:23,24) so these two things are central to any ministry that states they follow Jesus. If they are not preaching, teaching, and demonstrating The Kingdom of God they are not doing the ministry of Jesus (Mark 16:17-18) and may even not belong to the Kingdom of God.

They are also the way He carried out His objective of seeking those who were lost to His Kingdom and offering them salvation and citizenship in it.

Central to Salvation is the Lordship of Jesus in the life of His follower and the result of that is being a citizen of The Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom and Lordship are expressed through wholehearted obedience to Jesus. It is the love relationship you have with The Father and Jesus that maintains this obedience.

Central to maintain the deliverance from the effects of the kingdom of darkness on a follower of Jesus is the Lordship of Jesus in their life and the placing all things you are steward of (including yourself) under His authority (His Kingdom) and control for Him to use and protect. There is no complete deliverance from the kingdom of darkness if Jesus is not Lord of every area of your life.

#### **What is the Gospel of The Kingdom of God**

The word 'Gospel' literally means "good news" so the Gospel of the Kingdom is literally the good news of The Kingdom. In other words, something that is really worth being joyful over and excited about. In the context of the Kingdom of God it means our acceptance by God as a citizen of His Kingdom resulting from our faith in who Jesus is, accepting what He has taught and done, what He has promised and includes all the benefits and responsibilities that result from this relationship.

If we do not preach The Kingdom of God, We do not preach what Jesus Preached (Matt 4-23). If we do not demonstrate it in some way (even if it is only seen by Jesus Then we are His citizen

The Gospel of The Kingdom involves:

Salvation (deliverance) from the authority of the kingdom of darkness,

Redemption from the penalty for our sins against God.

Healing and deliverance from the effects the kingdom of darkness on us,

A personal relationship with The Holy Spirit as well as His personal guidance,

A personal relationship with Jesus and The Father as a citizen of His Kingdom. With Jesus as our step-brother and The Father as our spiritual Father.

Eternal life resulting from the relationship with Jesus and The Father (John 17:3).

The privilege of serving Jesus as citizen of His Kingdom.

The privilege of living forever with them in heaven

If we preach only the Gospel of Salvation then we do not preach all of the above. We preach about the entrance to The Kingdom only and not all that Jesus preached.

It is demonstrating the power and Authority of The Kingdom of God over the works of Satan (Sickness, demonic oppression, mental illness et s) that draws people to Jesus and His Kingdom and demonstrates how superior it is to the Kingdom of Satan

### **What replaces the things of The Kingdom in most churches these days**

Healing (the body), is replaced by Medicine,

Deliverance (healing the wounded spirit and the soul), is replaced by counselling and psychiatry/psychology. Jesus can still use these for His purposes showing His Glory through miraculous healings when doctors cannot heal through them recording the

illness so the healing is documented. He can also use the illness itself to draw you close to Him.

The relationship of salvation through Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, is replaced by inviting Jesus into your heart or other ritual without a commitment to make Him Lord

(so He can be Saviour). When Jesus is your Lord, He is your King and you are a part of His Kingdom and so are 'saved'.

The Kingdom, is replaced by the denomination/church/parachurch organisation,

The guidance of The Spirit, is replaced by the guidance of denominational rules, reason, theology, church policy and worldly ways of doing things.

Teaching about what the Bible says is replaced by discussing what words say so that the overall principle to apply is often lost and the meaning of words becomes more important than their application. As a result, words or verses are left out of modern

Bibles changing doctrine because reasoned scholarship says these words are not part of The Bible.

In Bible versions the reasoning of editors replaces the guidance of The Spirit so that they are no longer scripture because only scripture is inspired by God and if the editors listened to The Holy Spirit, they would not make changes that alters doctrine and imply Jesus sinned.

Scriptural accuracy is replaced by reasoned scholarship so The Holy Spirit led commentary is replaced by the reasoned theology of men. Theology is theoretical and not practical and as theology has been given prominence the practice of Christianity has declined. As a result, society has become ungodly as well as morally corrupt.

Knowledge is taught and not the practical application of this knowledge and the more you know the more 'spiritual' you are supposed to be.

The Body of Christ consisting of all believers united by The Holy Spirit is replaced by denominations or church congregation, which by their very establishment divide the Body of Christ. Jesus does not recognise denominations or church congregations and recognises only The Body of believers.

The Laws of the land override the laws of God so that many Christians do not complain when legislation contrary to the laws of God is passed by government bodies.

People are not trained to do the work of The Kingdom and you are only allowed to do this

work if you are recognised as qualified by the denomination, which really prepares you to do the work of the denomination (which is preserving itself and justifying its existence) and not the work of The Kingdom

### **The Gospel of The Kingdom deals with the whole person**

The Gospel of The Kingdom deals with the whole person (Body, Mind, Soul, Spirit etc.), and how these various parts interact. These parts all affect each other and the Gospel of The Kingdom is designed to heal all parts of the person so that one part is not left damaged to affect the other parts that are healed.

Note that physical healing is done in God's timing and not necessarily when deliverance occurs and may possibly not be able to be done after deliverance.

Satan realizes that the Gospel of The Kingdom of God restores the whole person so his followers are taught the importance of this holistic approach to life by their demon guides as demons have also realized the importance of holistic living except that Jesus is left out as the true source of these things and a demon or a goddess replaces Jesus as the true source of these things.

You must deal with the total person: body, soul, and mind: the physical, spiritual and mental, not just the spiritual side of a person because these different parts of a person are so interrelated that all parts suffer if one part suffers.

(Paul describes the body of Christ in similar terms and describes it in a similar to how our body works (1 Cor 12:26). That all suffer if one part of the Christian body is not in place.)

The ultimate deception of Satan in regard to the Gospel is to have people concentrate on the Gospel of Salvation so that only the spiritual consequences of sin are dealt with. Satan hides the Gospel of The Kingdom, which deals with the total freedom of the person from the ravages of sin and the effects of the kingdom of Satan on them.

No wonder the organised church is physically sick, mentally ill, and declining. It is because they only focus on salvation and the spiritual effects of The Cross. Few have anything to offer that deals with the ravages of Satan on people such as disease and mental problems.

Satan has blinded the church to the demonic causes behind these things so that only reason is use to deal with them,

Satan has blinded the church to the demonic cause behind these things so that reason only is used to deal with these things and not the Authority of Jesus that He has given us to deal with the demons causing these things (Eph. 6:12, Mark 16:17).

So, the church does not fight the war against him in the way it should and declines, having nothing to offer people outside of it, while the new age offers the spiritual experience the church should have offered which is why it attracts so many whom the church should have attracted.

He has blinded the church also to a Personal Holy Spirit so that they no longer listen to Him in a personal relationship and demonstrate the gifts He has given them personally.

The Gospel of The Kingdom and its total approach means we need to look after our mind and body as well as our spirit as they relate to our total being: mind, body, soul, spirit, personality, heart as well as to fight any demons trying to cause problems in these areas of our life or in the life of others.

### **The ministry of Jesus**

The ministry of Jesus is our example of what a worker of The Kingdom should be doing. At the very beginning of His public ministry, Jesus read the following from the book of Isaiah (Ch 61 :1-2) in Luke 4:17-19

*"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.,'*

He spent three years-teaching The Kingdom of God, demonstrating it, preaching it and training people to follow in His steps. The Gospel of the Kingdom-was so much a part of His teaching that He did not need to tell His disciples to proclaim it when He ascended into heaven. Jesus gave what is called The Great -Commission, and in this, the Gospel of The Kingdom is not mentioned. It was not needed to be mentioned as it was so fundamental to all He preached and is the basis for the Great Commission.

What He told them to do after He left was actually the way to demonstrate The Kingdom of God!

The object of the Great Commission was to go out and reconcile people to Jesus, His Kingdom, His peace and His wholeness and to teach them how to live as Jesus desires them to live and how to war against Satan to do these things. To evangelise to just to save souls misses the whole point of this commission and salvation.

It is to be noted that Paul did not just teach the Gospel of salvation but the Gospel of The Kingdom. This fact was the last thing mentioned about Paul, and was mentioned about him just before he was martyred, so God used it to summarise His life (Acts 2:31). In fact, they, are the closing comments of Acts as if to summarise the book of Acts.

Acts 28'30-31 And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto-him, Preaching the Kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

The book of Acts shows how The Holy Spirit works in the Christian life.

### **The Great Commission**

In summary, Jesus said to His apostles just before He ascended into heaven:

*Mat 28' 18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.*

*Mark 16' 16-19 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.*

*Luke 24: 46-47 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

*"All power (authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

*And these signs shall follow them that believe,*

*In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues,*

*They shall take up serpents*

*and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them;*

*they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover and,*

*lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.'*

Does Mark 16:15-18 apply only to the apostles?

*Luke 9:1-6 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece. And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart. And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them. And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere.*

Note that this was given to His followers (disciples) and they were not to be concerned about what they needed – see Mat 6:33 because they were doing the work of The Kingdom.

So, the short answer is No

The seventy mentioned were still called disciples (followers of The Christ) when they returned from their trip. Only twelve were called apostles after the trip.

*Luk 10:1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come*

*. Luk 10"17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.*

Before you can minister you have to be authorised and the disciples were authorised by Jesus at the beginning of their ministry. He had trained them and now was sending them out to put into practice what they had been taught.

What Gospel were they to preach?

The Gospel of The Kingdom.

How were they to evidence this?

By healing the sick and casting out demons.

What were they to take?

Very Little because they had been taught Mat 6:33, that God would provide all they needed as they ministered and now God was to show this to them.

They could not preach what they did not live.

So, when Jesus spoke in Mark 16:15-18 He was not authorizing the apostles as they had already been authorised. He was authorizing His followers.

Note that Jesus did not preach Redemption or Salvation, so to preach these alone is not doing what Jesus prioritised in His ministry. He taught The Kingdom and that salvation was a relationship with God and not just a legal activity.

### **The going into all nations**

*Act 8:3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.*

The church had been told to go to all nations but stayed in Jerusalem. God organised it so that they had to obey Him or die and so were scattered abroad.

Most Christians do not go into their neighbourhood and proclaim the Gospel let alone other nations. Or, they will go overseas and evangelise but do not go into their neighbourhood. God will have to scatter them through persecution so that they go into their neighbourhood, and witness to The Kingdom even if only by the example of their lives.

We are to start in our neighbourhood, which the Apostles had done before Jesus Died, and we are to expand outwards, which Jesus was now telling them to do (Acts 1:8). So, the church must be evangelising its neighbourhood before it can go into surrounding areas and eventually overseas or it is not following the pattern Jesus gave it.

### **The Importance of People to Jesus**

People are the most important thing to Jesus along with their maturing and development which He nurtures in the way they let Him to the degree that they allow Him to.

Many people are lost to Him and His Kingdom and are under the control of His enemy with the subsequent result of their ending up in hell, the prison of his enemy. This is because many of the churches seems to be a social club ignoring the lost as well as the last order Jesus gave to His followers.

The churches are to give hope to the people in Satan's kingdom and not just ignore them or avoid them.

This last order of Jesus is a result of His 'Law of Love' as anyone who loves Jesus will love these lost people in the way He does and will desire to set them free as He does and so will willingly carry out His final commission, not from fear or obedience but from Love for Him and His lost people.

How callous is the Christian who has been saved from hell and ignores those around them who are going to hell. How can they call themselves Christian when they ignore the purpose Jesus came for (1 Tim I :15) and do not show His Love to all those around them who are going to hell.

You are not expected to witness to everyone. But you must witness to those Jesus has brought to you to witness too.

### **The Power of The Kingdom**

the Kingdom did not come through reasoned words but in demonstration of its power and Authority.

*1Co 2:4-5 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

The Kingdom is also shown as we show His Love towards others and minister to them as we obey the command to love others as God Loves us (Jn 13:34-35). It is especially shown when we love those who persecute us and we do not retaliate back but show God's quality of love toward them.

Satan cannot love or teach his followers to love in the way God does so this is an important mark of a Citizen of The Kingdom, especially the forgiving of those that oppress them.

Love is the attitude in which God shows His power! Unless we Love in the way He does we will not show His Power and any ministry not based on God's Love will fail. God is Love and all He does is out of this Love so we must also do as He does and do all in His quality of love or it is not of Him but of His enemy the devil.

This is why seeking wisdom or power for its own sake will never succeed as it is done in our own strength and not that of God! It is the Power (authority) of God working in and through us as His Love works through us that demonstrates The Kingdom of God in all its fullness!

It is this demonstration of The Kingdom that attracts people to Jesus! So, while the church does not demonstrate the Love of Jesus and the Authority of Jesus it can never successfully complete the 'Great Commission. I repeat:

*1Co 2:4-5 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. r*

### **Jesus was an evangelist!**

Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom and demonstrated it in power and might. His message was:

*(Mat 3,2) And saying, Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

*(Mar I ' 15) And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the gospel.*

### **How are we to repent?**

*(Act 2 38) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

*(Act 3' 19) Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord,*

*(Act 8.22) Repent therefore of this this wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.*

*(Act 26 20) But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.*

As The Kingdom is demonstrated by its defeating Satan and his plans The authority (power) of The Kingdom is shown to all, both in heaven, hell and earth.

The church does not usually preach this. It preaches The Cross and the need to invite Jesus into your heart.

Jesus preached that salvation was a continuing relationship with God (Jn 17:3) and not a once only invitation of Him into your heart (who you are as person, the core of your being). He also preached we are citizens of The Kingdom of God as a result of salvation and not of local church or denominational membership.

Evangelism must preach the remission of sins by God and repentance from (rejection of) what the world offers us and that because of what Jesus did we can now enter into a personal relationship with Jesus and The Father that makes us citizens of The Kingdom of God. This results in eternal life. Our life must show this has happened by a change of direction in our focus from the things of the world to the things of God as well as reflecting the Character of God (His Love and it's expression) in all we do.

### **In Summary we are to preach (and teach) to them that:**

The Kingdom of heaven has come to them and because of what Jesus did at Calvary the barriers between God and they were removed through redemption (our sins being remitted and not just forgiven) and that they can now enter into a personal relationship with The Father and Jesus with The Holy Spirit's presence in them to guide them.

They must repent, in other words, turn their back on what Satan offers them from his kingdom of darkness and turn towards that which Jesus offers them from His Kingdom. They are also to be baptized to identify with the Kingdom of God.

Their lives should then be one of obedience to Jesus, showing forth the Kingdom of God in all the things they do and by the way they do them. If Jesus is not Lord of their life, they can lose their salvation (Rev 3:5) and they will not demonstrate the Kingdom as they should.

### **What is the purpose of Evangelism?**

*1Jn 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

*1Jn 1:4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.*

The purpose of evangelism is to reconcile people to God so they can have fellowship with God and His citizens now on earth and later in heaven and that this Joy will be complete in this life and in the next life.



## **Why has the world not been reached yet?**

Most churches preach the Gospel of Salvation only and not the Gospel of The Kingdom, so that the power and authority of Christ are not demonstrated and seen on earth. Instead of The Power and Authority of Jesus we see a confessing of faith intellectually and following a set of rules (and not being led by The Holy Spirit) or the learning of theology, rather than seeing a work of God).

## **An overview of how it all fits together**

All are redeemed (our defilement of sin and spiritual punishment for our wrongs against God and man were removed by the death of Jesus at Calvary) when Christ died for all not just those that would accept Him as Lord and Saviour. Salvation, however, is a result of faith in whom Jesus is, what He has done for us, and has promised for us and results in our being transferred from Satan's kingdom to God's Kingdom and also being placed in a in a position to have a relationship with God.

This is a result of God's Grace (Love) as we did not know we needed salvation and redemption and were not able to do this anyway. As a result of this. Salvation we are righteous (in a correct relationship with Him) set apart by God as His (Sanctified) and given The Holy Spirit to mark us as being His property.

As a result of redemption and the consequent adoption by The Father we can enter into an intimate and personal relationship with The Father and Jesus .

We worship God out of Love and Gratitude and separate ourselves from the things of Satan's kingdom to those of Jesus (holiness).

Jesus must be Lord (our King) if we belong to His kingdom otherwise, He cannot be our Saviour.

We must maintain our obedience and holiness to maintain the relationship we have with The Father and Jesus as this is what Salvation is, an intimate, personal, relationship with The Father and Jesus guided by The Holy Spirit.

## **What is the Christian Life?**

The Christian Life is the expression of your love relationship with God as a citizen of His Kingdom. Everything else, including your service as a citizen of His Kingdom is a result of this relationship correctly carried out. How you carry out this relationship will determine your eternal fate.

Our God-given Christian life is the expression of your love and obedience based on love for appreciation of and thanksgiving to God for what He has done for you and is not out of compulsion or fear of God's punishment. (Although you must admit avoiding hell is a good incentive program).

It is a life of voluntary obedience and loving service to God as the Christian realises that God's nature is Love and that all God does for a Christian is a result of this love and is best for the Christian and they grateful to God for what He has done for them to allow them to be citizens of His Kingdom.

They also realise that they are adopted by The Father and so do these things out of gratitude and love to a parent with the objective of developing His business of saving and training people to be in heaven with Him when they die.

You cannot offer God anything except your Will for Him to use as He Wills and it is as you obey His desires for you that you bring Him Glory, worship and Honour and fulfil your purpose in life!

Evangelism is a form of worship that brings Glory and Honour to Jesus, and brings people into The Kingdom by rescuing them from Satan's kingdom and not an exercise to boost church numbers. The sooner the church changes its attitude to evangelism the sooner it will be restored as a force in the world. The sooner it preaches the whole Gospel of The Kingdom and not just the Gospel of Salvation the sooner it will do what Jesus desires it to do and it will prosper in the way He desires to prosper it.

This will happen in the revivals of the last days that are coming soon.

Paul said that the Kingdom does not come in empty words but in demonstration of its Power!

*1Co 2:4-5 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

What did he mean?

As The Kingdom is demonstrated by its defeating Satan and his plans The authority (power) of The Kingdom is shown to all, both in heaven, hell and earth and proves that Jesus and His Kingdom exists.

It is also shown as we show His Love towards others and minister to them as we obey the command to love others as God Loves us (Jn 13:34-35).

Love is the attitude in which God shows His power and unless we Love in the way He does we will not show His power and any ministry not based on God's Love will fail. God is Love and all He does is in Love so we must also do as He does and do all in His quality of love or it is not of Him but of His enemy the devil.

This is why seeking wisdom or power for its own sake will never succeed as it is done in our own strength and not that of God! It is the Power (authority) of God working in us, when He tells us to use it, and through us as His Love works through us that demonstrates the Kingdom of God in all its fullness!

It is this demonstration of The Kingdom that attracts people to it and Jesus! So, while the church does not demonstrate the Love of Jesus and the Authority of Jesus it can never successfully complete the 'Great Commission. I repeat:

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### **In Summary**

The Kingdom of heaven has come to you and

Because of what Jesus did at Calvary the barriers between God and you were removed through redemption (your sins being remitted and not just forgiven) and that you can

now enter into a personal relationship with the Father and Jesus with The Holy Spirit's presence in you to guide you.

You must repent, in other words, turn your back on what Satan offers you from his kingdom of darkness and turn towards that which Jesus offers you from His Kingdom\ of light and all that is good. You are also to be baptized to identify yourselves with the Kingdom of God.

Your lives should then be one of obedience to Jesus, demonstrating the Kingdom of God in all the things you do and by the way you do them.

If Jesus is not Lord of your life, you can lose your salvation (Rev 3:5) and you will not demonstrate the Kingdom as you should.

### **The Things of God**

When the Christians pursue the things of God, caring for all God has given them as good stewards of these things and preach and demonstrate the Gospel of The Kingdom with 'signs and wonders' then people will be attracted away from the new age and similar life styles to Jesus and all He offers them.

### **God's Business**

The Business of God on earth is restoring people to a relationship with Him and by this saving people from hell and then maintaining them once they are saved. By this He expands His kingdom. He uses people to teach those who are prepared to hear the things of God how to accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour. He uses mature Christians who have been prepared by The Holy Spirit and who are willing to teach others about The Kingdom as well as demonstrate it as they teach and preach it. He then has these new followers trained to go out and do His work so they will reach and train others for Him. It is the pattern Jesus used and which Paul also used (2 Tim 2:2).

### **An overview of how it all fits together**

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has done for us and is not out of compulsion or fear of God's punishment. (Although you must admit avoiding hell is a good incentive program). It is a life of voluntary obedience and loving service to God as the Christian realises that God's nature is Love and that all God does for a Christian is a result of this love and is best for the Christian and they grateful to God for what He has done for them to allow them to be citizens of His Kingdom.

You cannot offer God anything except your will for Him to use as He Wills and it is as you obey His desires for you that it brings Him Glory and Honour and fulfil your purpose in life as His Citizen!

### **The Wonder of it all**

God did not need to make us - He is complete in Himself.

The wonder of it all is that knowing what was going to happen He still made us! He did not make us for His sake, but for ours so we could relate to Him and experience His Love and Grace as well as all He has in store for us in eternity.

The Christian life is a continual expression of God's Love and Grace: to us and through us to others and this is how it should be approached. To approach it any other way is to doubt God's Love and thus His salvation, Grace, and Mercy.

### **Roles of God in The Kingdom**

All the members of the Trinity are equally God but have divided up responsibilities for ease of our understanding their roles and being able to relate to them.

The Father is like a father to us and provides all we need. Everything that is good or worthwhile is from The Father

The Lord Jesus rules The Kingdom of God and protects all its citizens in it. He expands and defends it using His Citizens (us).

The Holy Spirit empowers and guides us in this. His presence fills our spirit and marks us as belonging to The Kingdom of God. He replaces demons in our soul and He covers us as a cloud when we are baptised into Him showing our authority and role in The Kingdom of God.

Angels are ministering spirits to the citizens of The Kingdom of God.

We are members of The Kingdom whose sole purpose is to serve its King Jesus, as guided by The Holy Spirit and by doing this service bring Jesus Glory and Honour. Through obeying and honouring Jesus, we also perform the plans of The Father as well as bring Him honour and Glory!

### **The True Kingdoms**

Despite all the political divisions made by man there are really only two kingdoms: The Kingdom of God and The Kingdom of His enemy, Satan (the devil). The Kingdom of Satan is the only one really on earth.

Before a person becomes a follower of Jesus they live under the principles of the kingdom of Satan and have the attitudes and purposes of that kingdom. When they decide to follow Jesus, they do a 180 degree turn in their attitudes and purposes and turn to the purposes and attitudes of The Kingdom of The Father.

This new life style is called 'Holiness to God', the turning away from the things of the kingdom of darkness you were in to the things of The Kingdom of God. This separating yourself from this worldly system is also part of the 'fast' God asks you to do (Is 58:6).

The deliverance ministry helps you with this change as it removes the baggage of The Kingdom of darkness, but only so much of it as you want removed.

The Kingdom of God, at the moment, is where the influence of God is through the presence of The Holy Spirit working through a citizen of The Kingdom. It is not on earth in any other form. The presence of The Holy Spirit in you means you need no special place to worship The King, as you are that special place. His presence also means you can be guided by the true King, if you want to, and do what he requires of you in His quest to free people from the control of His enemy.

### **What does it mean to be a citizen of kingdom?**

A Good Citizen knows he represents his King and acts accordingly. He knows he represents his King by the fact he is a part of The King's Kingdom. He serves The King and waits upon Him. He defends The King and The King's principles because in defending The Kingdom he is defending himself. He proclaims the benefits of being in The Kingdom because The King is so good to him. He warns those that reject The King but leaves the punishment of them to The King. He uses The King's guidelines for determining if someone has rebelled against The King as well as how to punish them.

He loves the good king because of the benefits The King gives to his people (which includes him). He hates the enemy who would try and destroy The Kingdom and him and will go to war with the enemy as often as is necessary to defend The Kingdom and His king. He removes those things from The Kingdom and his life that would in any way mar The King's Reign and Kingdom. He does his work well knowing he will have to give account of it to The King for anything not done properly or which brings discredit to The Kingdom. This is not his motivation however, as he serves The King out of love and gratitude for what The King has done for him. He desires the relationship with his king above all things as he loves his King and knows this relationship will bring the maximum benefit to his King and himself as well as his security and permanence in The Kingdom.

A good citizen of The Kingdom of God loves his King and delights in the relationship with Him and in doing His will. He is not afraid to give to The King an account of what he does as he has been wholeheartedly faithful in all he has done (what The King requires of him). The King does not mind failure if it is done out of the proper attitude to Him and His Kingdom. In other words, the person wholeheartedly tried to do the Will of The King but failed. The desire of the citizen of The Kingdom is that all men know his King and the relationship they can have with Him as well as to destroy the works of his King's, enemy (the devil). Being a good citizen, he will be found doing the Master's work when the Master comes.

You may do all the right things to satisfy the church or the requirements of a denominations but still not be a good citizen of The Kingdom of God because you are not obeying The King, only what the denomination says The King requires.

A good citizen delights in the relationship with his King for in it lies their happiness, health and future!

How does one delight in the relationship with his King?

By appreciating what The King has done for them, is doing for them and has promised to do for them as well as desiring to be closer to The King in their relationship so they know The King better and can express their love to The King in a deeper and more meaningful way.

A good citizen delights in his King because he loves Him and desires to be with Him as often as he can. He serves The King out of love and in this lies their purpose – to be good citizens of God’s Kingdom, serving The King out of love and gratitude for what The King has done, is currently doing and promises to do for them in the future.

The citizen sells or gives up control of all he has to obtain The Kingdom it is of so great a value to him.

They realise that they cannot take anything with them when they die and that The King has promised to provide all they need when they leave the enemy’s territory and go to His Kingdom after they die. They also realise that their rewards in The Kingdom (heaven) is dependent on their correct use of the time and abilities The King has given them as well as the correct stewardship of The King possessions which they have been trusted with on earth in the enemy’s kingdom.

They do not hoard treasure on earth where it corrupts and is destroyed and cannot be taken with them to their home country (heaven) but use what they have been made steward of by The King, wisely, for the good of The Kingdom and have rewards in their home Kingdom instead.

### **Status of The Citizen**

The citizen has only the rights The King gives them and must stay within those limits or face punishment.

They must keep His laws, which means they must know and understand them and To rebel against His rule is death

They must do His will before their own regardless of time, place, inconvenience, or difficulty.

They must believe The King has their best interest at heart or they will only serve him grudgingly.

They must believe it is worth following Him and must believe there is no one more worthy to follow

### **What does the citizen of The Kingdom do?**

They worship The King

They serve The King

They represent The King

They fellowship with The King

They fight for The King

They place the requirements of The King and The Kingdom (which is an extension of The King) above all other requirements and they desire and The King above all other people. This

is not hard for them to do because of the nature of The King being so beautiful and desirable that they want to be like Him and to spend time with Him.

**They serve The King in various areas:**

Representing Him as His ambassador

Teaching about Him to others

Guiding and helping people to join His Kingdom

Obtaining ground (people) from the enemy for The Kingdom

Serving Him in The Kingdom itself.

They do not strive for greatness in The Kingdom as it is for The King alone to give. They study to be approved by their King then He promotes them. They realise that greatness in The Kingdom is not obtained by doing great things but being faithful in the daily things The King requires of them. Their daily life is centred on The King's will for them and they consider how it relates to what they are doing as they go around their daily activities:

The husband at work and guiding the family

The wife as a mother and housekeeper, guiding and keeping the household

The children obedient and learning from parents and teacher

Those ministering, ministering out of love and not duty

The leaders having their household in order before leading other Christians

The employers treating their workers in Christian love

People paying their correct taxes, observing road speed limit and rules and meeting other governmental responsibilities

All spending time to listen to The Kings Counsellor (The Holy Spirit) to hear The King's Will

All relying on their delegated authority, gifts and guidelines (Bible) from The King in their daily life as citizens

All serving each other in unity, desiring only to help each other obtain The Kingdom and to reach their potential as citizens of this Kingdom.

They realise that the salvation offered them is reflected in their role as a citizen of The Kingdom of God. The more they get to know the workings of The King in their life and of His Counsellor (The Holy Spirit), the more they love them. The more they love them the more they desire to serve them, spend time with them and learn of them.

The more we identify with The King and His Counsellor, the more people will see them in us and their Kingdom in our lifestyle.

Holiness is the voluntary state of being separated from The King's enemy and the influence of the enemy's territory in all its aspects.

Sanctification is the setting apart of us, by The King, for His purposes.

Righteousness is being in a correct relationship with The King.

Justification is the removal, by The King, of every spiritual impediment (sin and its defilement) that would stop us relating correctly with The King.

All this is done so we can enjoy our relationship with The King and His Counsellor and joyfully serve them as a result of this relationship.

If you have neither a joyful relationship with The King or serve Him Joyfully, take stock of yourself and see what is hindering you otherwise you will never really be able to serve God to your fullest ability as a citizen of His Kingdom.

The Bible says that we are solely responsible for two things:

The choice of The Kingdom we serve

The rewards we get in this Kingdom when we return home to its home base (Gal 6:7-8).

It is up to you alone. The choices are yours and you must make one! There are no fence sitters in The Kingdom of Heaven but there are many in hell!

### **Kingdom Attitudes**

Anyone that does knowingly does not do God's will or His purposes cannot belong to The Kingdom of God and by default belongs to The Kingdom of the enemy. Hence the danger of being a fence-sitting Christian who is content to let others do the work of God's Kingdom, or who do only the work of a denominations or whom do things from duty rather than love, usually to please men or gain promotion, self-esteem or self-worth from these activities.

#### **It is all a matter of attitude.**

You do not own things but have stewardship of them as they belong to God, their creator, so you should always consider what God wants done with them when you deal with the things you have been trusted with.

You have not right to judge or condemn others, as The King is the only one who can do this. You may not like what they do, but you are to love them in the way God Loves them.

You are required to love others as The King loves you and place their welfare first before your selfish pleasures. You are required to maintain those people God has trusted you with (family e.g.) and not deprive them of their needs to meet the needs of others. You are also not to do for others what they should be doing for themselves. They could be punished by The King for not doing what you have done for them as well as lose rewards and you could also be acting outside your authority area or level and incur The King's displeasure.

Your plans are always subject to the will of the ruler (Jesus) so that He is consulted before you do anything that is not revealed in His rules and guidelines (The Bible) and even then, at times, He should be consulted to ensure you are still doing His Will. There are everyday activities that must be done and these usually do not require His approval. However you must be ready and be able to hear The King's voice when He speaks to you to do something out of the ordinary.

It is an attitude that seeks to know The King personally because of the love borne for Him as a result of what He has done for them.

It is an attitude that does not consider the delights of the enemy's kingdom as their attention is solely on The King's requirements and the furtherance of His Kingdom and the delights of being in The King's presence.

The King's requirements are well known to the citizen as they study them so they will not unknowingly or knowingly disobey them.



It is summarised by Mat 6:33. In all you do:

Seek the intimacy of the relationship you have with Jesus

Seek the benefit of His Kingdom in all you do

As you obey Jesus in all you do, you walk on the path, He has prepared for you from before the beginning of creation on which are all the good things God has for you to receive.

The sole purpose of the citizen is to please their King for in doing so He will show his true love for his King and achieve the best that is possible for themselves. The citizen does not seek to please The King because of the rewards he receives but out of love for what The King has done for him.

Our King, of course, is Jesus, the Desire of the Ages.

### **In Conclusion**

Can you lose your citizenship in heaven?

Yes, through deliberate continued unrepented disobedience. Your name will be removed from the book of life (Rev 3:5).

Jesus said people who believed in Him would heal the sick and raise the dead. So, if you are not even trying to do these when He gives you the opportunity, you are in disobedience to Him and risk losing your salvation unless you have a very good reason to give Him when you face Him and give account of your life.

You will not go to hell for trying and not succeeding. you will go to hell for not trying in the first instance.