

Church of the Promise

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Infusion

Become

Believe

Belong

Befriend

#11 A New Kingdom

INFUSING THE LIFE FOUND IN CHRIST
THROUGH FAITH IN GOD'S VITAL PRECEPTS,
MAKING EVERY MEMBER WHOLE
SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

A New Kingdom

Session # 1 1



Introduction: Welcome home! That is to your new home in the Kingdom of God! You have been rescued, returned to your real home and placed safely under the authority and reign of the King of all kings and Lord over all lords. Our Savior, King Jesus. You are no longer a citizen of the kingdom of darkness, where a false king rules, and had illegally set up his reign over you & others. The Kingdom of Darkness that you have been rescued from was set up for the sole purpose of bringing about your destruction. That evil kingdom rules by disrespect, dishonor & chaos.

As a new citizen God has given us the Holy Spirit to help, because you do not know what you do not know. Much of your thinking will still be from the corrupt system of the world and must be abandoned. He is your counselor, teacher, and mentor. As the Holy Spirit renews your mind, He will reveal to you areas that you are still in agreement with in that system. He will use the Word of God to cleanse you from unrighteous thinking.

As a citizen you have Potential, Purpose, Privileges, & Duties. We will briefly look at your new citizenship. You will continue to grow as you search out & learn what God has given you in the kingdom. Before we can discover how we fit in we need to discover what God has already established. We should understand what the Kingdom of God looks like. When we pray and ask the Lord to bring His kingdom to the earth we should be able to recognize it when He does. Otherwise we could unknowingly be

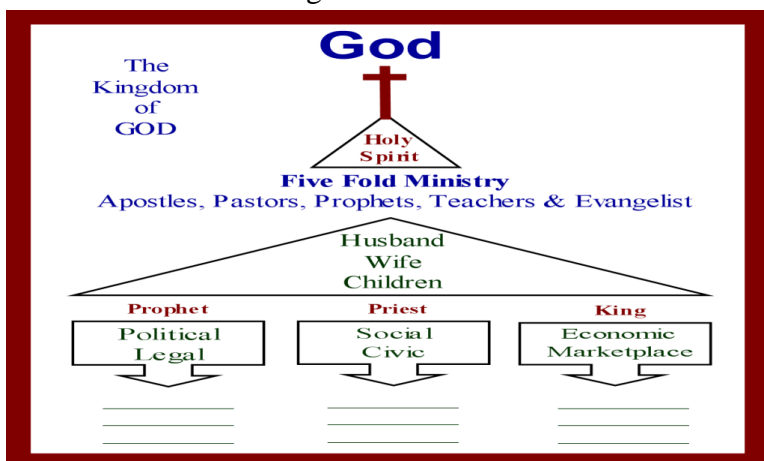
working against it. What is included in the Kingdom of God and what is not?

Kingdom Structure

The Kingdom of God is the all encompassing governing system designed & ruled over by God.

The church is the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit as He abides within all who are the “Body of Christ”.

The Kingdom of God is distinct from the church yet includes the church and is created through the church.



Within the Kingdom of God there are three sub systems. They are Economic-marketplace, Social-Civic, and Political-legal system. The church reveals God’s system to those who are in His Kingdom. Kingdom citizens are NOT “of this age but of the age to come”, when God’s Kingdom will be entirely manifest on the earth. Until then we pray, “Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on the Earth as it is in Heaven“& we live as citizens of God’s Kingdom according to His dictates & principles. Those principles are to be displayed by the Church, (Hopefully that includes you!) in the arenas depicted.

The following should help you be captivated by solid Kingdom living principles with a fully committed heart, a sound mind and a

pure spirit. Use the discussions to help guide you in living as foreigners passing through, because we are members of God's Kingdom on the Earth. We hope to help you draw Biblical conclusions and Spirit-Led direction as you prayerfully consider them.

Questions to keep in mind as we go are:

- Is my understanding of Secular & Sacred the same as God's Kingdom View?
- Am I receiving full provision as a subject of the King?
- Am I accessing my full potential as a Kingdom citizen?

Church: from the church flow redeemed individuals who normally join together & create families. Family – join together creates Community

Community: creates three systems

- Law & Government /Politics/policy
 - (i) Foundation is Land ownership
- Civic & Social systems
 - (i) Foundation is The family structure
 1. Entertainment
 2. Charity
 3. Communication/Media
 4. Recreation
 5. Medicine
 6. Education
- Economy (Business)
 - (i) Foundation is Farming

God's people were given land to be Landowners = Freedom
All human authority is seen as coming from the KING!

Jesus is : PROPHET PRIEST & KING

As High Priest: He is the reconciliation for the church.

As the Prophet: He is the messenger, the revealer of God.

As King: the government of Peace is upon His shoulders.”

The church restores individuals to the nature and purposes of Christ. Families are also healed & restored. They become communities. The governing systems they have operated by as a family comes out of the homes they live in among many families.

When they create a system they have confidence in and agree upon. We know these systems as a government. An example is for the U.S. the first written document agreeing upon a government was the Magna Carta from the Pilgrims colonizing the new world.

The function of the government is to meet the needs of the common good of its citizens. While men forge many forms of government, the Kingdom of God is the only system that has stood the test of time & culture shifts. It continues because God, who authored it continues.

Men have dubbed terms to divide God's Kingdom into parts. The attempt is to divide systems into "SACRED" & "SECULAR". The "church" & "state", is a struggle that can be seen throughout England's history, as well as Israel's struggles for power pushed & wobbled from King to Church over centuries. That struggle launched our nation. Western culture has begun to act as though the two don't mix but this is contrary both to scripture and even our nations original moorings.

Instruction is given to the purpose and code of conduct for every area of government in Holy Scripture. Whether men acknowledge it or not, the Church rules & reigns over all. Nations rise & fall, God & His church will remain until He decides to remove the church.

Thess. 2:7 The secret power of evil is already working in the world, but there is one who is stopping that power. And he will continue to stop it until he is taken out of the way.

The one stopping that evil is the Holy Spirit manifesting through the church and producing the Kingdom of God. God does not view our activity as “sacred” & “secular”. However, there is a division that God acknowledged in scripture and that is between GOOD & Evil. Evil is the only thing that the church is separated from. The church has been severed and set apart from **evil**, not governing or influencing culture. It is absurd to believe that the Church is not to influence the Kingdom of God.

B. Secular & Sacred

It is VITAL that we understand what was separated or set apart by Jesus. Did He intend for there to be division in the body along the lines of Sacred & Secular? Did he even mean for Government, Education, Economy & Civic affairs to be off limits to the Christian? Did he mean for the church to now exercise its authority in these arenas? Jesus stated, that he came to divide but did he mean the Kingdom of God was to be disenfranchised from the earth and humanity? Here are some scriptures to meditate on.

Matthew 12:25 ²⁵ *Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.*

1 Corinthians 10:26
*for, “The **earth** is the **Lord’s**, and everything in it.”*

Revelation 5:10
*You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will **reign** on the earth.”*

Psalms 47:8
*God **reigns** over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne*

Proverbs 8:15
*By me kings **reign** and rulers make laws that are just*

Isaiah 9:7
*Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will **reign** on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.*

Revelation 12:10

*Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the **kingdom** of our **God**, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our **God** day and night, has been hurled down.*

1 Thessalonians 2:12

*encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of **God**, who calls you into his **kingdom** and glory.*

Hebrews 12:28

²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our “God is a consuming fire.”^[a]

2 Timothy 4

¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ²Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ³For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

In **Luke 14**, the King invites a Landowner, a farmer & a married man to the great feast. These three men represent three systems. They refused (Secularized themselves). Then those willing to be SACRED are invited until the banquet is full. But the Secular will want to be included. All three systems are here:



Married man – First level of social authority,

Family = two *sub social systems* of *Civic & Education*

Farmer – First level & foundation of every

Marketplace = Economy, *Hunting, Farming, Manufacturing Retail*

Landowner – First level & foundation of all

Public Authority = *Government, serves the people*

Luke 14: 15-24: Parable of the Great Banquet

So in this parable those in the three systems secularize themselves by refusing fellowship with the King. They put their receiving from the system above God who created & sustains them and so then those who are not part of those systems are invited in. They become the “sacred”. When anyone puts their priorities in line with the commands of God they will find greater blessing than could ever have been gained from the world that has separated itself from God.

“SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD THEN ALL....

Men & women of the church now have specific duties or callings in the Kingdom. The church is the part of the kingdom that “births” new citizens, sets the standards, ordains, sanctions the heart of the Kingdom.

Luke 4:17-19

“The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: (Isaiah 61:1,2)

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,

because he has anointed me

to preach good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind,

to release the oppressed, “to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Citizens enjoy the Law of the Land. God’s promises are the Law!

“All things work together for Good to those who love the Lord and are called according to His purposes.”

WHO is the recipient in this passage?

1. “Those who Love the Lord”

-That’s your part! So do you Love the Lord?

2. “ are called according to His purposes.”

-That’s God’s part! It’s up to Him & he has already made His decision. He wrote it in His word. As you read it you will discover you are called to duty!

So what is your duty? Your calling is unique to you. No one else can fulfill it. You may have many turns as you pursue it. More than likely your calling will involve you taking dominion of some sort in one of the arenas we already mentioned, and entering that into the Kingdom.

When Kings reigned in Europe, The King owned all the land. Permission was granted to some to rule over areas and manage the property.

The Kingdom of God is also this way. “The Earth is the Lords and the fullness there of.”

Jesus never went anywhere where the property owner was not in covenant with Him. The Tomb of Joseph of Arimathea was his resting place. The colt that was tied out of Jerusalem, he said “The Lord has need of it!”

We have allowed a subtle enemy to come and rob us of what belongs to God. “A house divided cannot stand.”

B. Pursue a Greater Purpose

Chapter 15

Matthew 29:18-20

18. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20. and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

This passage is often referred to as "The Great Commission". Just as in a natural family the older children teach and care for the younger, the scripture encourages the same pattern for the Christian. You demonstrate God's favor upon you as others hear and obey God's word through your influence. The primary activity of God rewards is based upon your becoming someone who makes disciples.

C. Be a Disciple maker as you:

1. Disciple yourself
2. Disciple your family
3. Disciple your church
4. Disciple your village

Go to the lost and show them how to find their way to new life. Jesus commanded his disciples to go

Luke 4:16-21

Now the empowering takes place in the book of Acts.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be

*witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea,
and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

Now because you have the Holy Spirit in full power you will be lead by God to help lead others to come into the kingdom through this saving knowledge. You too will lead others in to the New Birth and help them find acceptance that comes from their new family. You will find your place in the body of Christ that is the church. You will soon do your part so that the Church continues to be the arm of the Lord to bring the lost away from the gates of hell. You also will help teach them and train them as the Lord directs.

Luke 21: 12-19. Luke 24:45-49

People who are bent on getting flattery from people block their ability to receive from God.

John 5:44 How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God?

His people know the voice of Jesus and will not follow another.
John 10:1-5, Philippians 2:9-11

So as a person in the Kingdom of God we must understand the laws of God and His plans flow through the people into the Marketplace, Government & Family in all of humanities systems. There is no separation. A calling of God may be to ministry within the church or to a place in the market, government or social systems. Your calling is your responsibility to walk out with the Lords guidance.

Exercise:

Which of the three areas has God called you to?

How do you believe God has already directed you into your calling?

THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING: Acts 18-28

*Use the **Study tool** as you read. Return your completed form to the next session for credit. You will get much more from the time if you prepare in advance by reading prayerfully through the assignment:*