

Jesus Focus was on The Kingdom of God

Jesus Purpose: The Kingdom Of God

Why did Jesus come to the earth?

§ *For this purpose... Destroy the works of the devil. 1Jn.3:8*

§ *Come to seek and save that which was lost...dominion Lk19:10*

• The earth belongs to God (Ps24:1). It was never man's to lose

What Adam lost was Dominion, the right to rule over the earth(Ps.8:5-7)

§ God had delegated to man the privilege and ability to rule over this world by his voice because he had authority and power to do so

§ By violating the one law that God had given him, Adam betrayed the entrustment given to him by God, and forfeited his right to rule

Jesus Preaching: The Kingdom of God

• The Kingdom of God was the total focus of Jesus life and teaching and Ministry

While He was Alive

§ How He began His Ministry

• *Mat.3:2 The Kingdom is at Hand (*

§ All through His Ministry

• **Jesus Sermon on the Mount**..the constitution the or values of the Kingdom (Mat.5-6)

• *Mat 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

• The Parables of the Kingdom

• *Mat 25:14 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.*

§ Jesus Teaching on Prayer

• *Mat 6:10 Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven*

• *Mat 6:13for yours is the Kingdom the Power and the Glory*

After Jesus arose from the Dead

§ 40 Days and Nights teaching

§ *Act 1:3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.*

Jesus Ministry to People: Demonstrate The Kingdom

• Miracles Jesus did are the manifestation of The Kingdom

• *Mat 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.*

• *Mat 12:28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.*

Jesus Priority: The Kingdom of God

• Jesus constantly placed first priority on the Kingdom or rule of God

§ In His Teaching

• *Mat 6:33 But **seek first** the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

§ In His Personal Priority

• *Luk 22:42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."*

What is The Kingdom of God?

Our Salvation is totally about The Kingdom

Col 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

§ **God has delivered us through Jesus Christ and His work on the Cross**

“Delivered”...to rescue someone, to draw someone to yourself

▫ To rescue someone implies they were powerless to rescue or recover by themselves

§ What has God delivered us from?

▫ *He has delivered us from “The power of darkness”*

▫ *“Power”... Gk..exousia...the governmental rule or authority, legal right and power, legal jurisdiction*

▫ *“Darkness”...Gk..skotos... a spiritual realm of darkness or blindness, or ignorance*

§ Before we came to Christ each of us lived under the Dominion or Governmental Rule of Satan

▫ Satan showed Jesus all the Kingdoms of the world, and claimed that the power (exousia) and the glory of them belonged to him (Lk.4;6)

▫ Jesus also called Satan ‘the prince of this world, or governmental order (Jn.14:30)

▫ *Eph 2:2 It wasn't that long ago that you lived in the religion, customs, and values of this world, obeying the dark ruler of the earthly realm who fills the atmosphere with his authority, and works diligently in the hearts of those who are disobedient to the truth of God. TPT*

▫ Every person physically born into this earth is born into the Kingdom or authority and influence of the Kingdom ruled over by Satan

§ We have been rescued from the Kingdom and Rule of Satan and Sin over our lives, by faith in Christ

▫ *“Conveyed”...to transfer, to translate or remove from one realm and into to another,*

▫ We are rescued by Christ and **placed into His Kingdom** and under His rule, provision and protection

▫ Salvation then is a **legal transference** from the dominion of darkness into the Kingdom of God because of our attachment by faith to Christ the King

▫ We are transferred from one realm of authority or Governmental rule to another

▫ We are transferred into *“the Kingdom of the Son of His Love*

▫ We need to understand The Kingdom, How it operates, and how live as a citizen under a new Governmental Authority

Our Difficulty in Understanding “Kingdom”

▫ **We have trouble understanding the Kingdom of God because of our experience with earthly government systems, and the misuse or abuse of Authority**

▫ **The most common Governmental Systems we are accustomed to are:**

§ Democracy: A Democratic Government system and culture

§ Tribalism: A Tribal Government system and culture

§ Communism: A Communist Government System and culture

§ Socialism: A Socialist Government system and culture

§ A Kingdom is opposite to a Democracy. The centre of a Kingdom is The King

There are only 10 Kingdoms or Monarchies that exist in the world currently

- § Netherlands, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Bhutan, Jordan Sweden Morocco, Belgium, United Kingdom (House of Windsor)
- § In today's world it is typical for monarchs or Kings to be a symbolic ruler but does not make policy

NZ is a Colony of a Kingdom ruled over by a King.

- § The NZ culture is rooted in historic reaction against British class system and authority
- § NZ is saturated with roots of desire for social equality and independence.
- § This manifests in different form:
 - Tall Poppy Syndrome
 - Familiarity... "Mate"
 - Reaction to all forms of authority
 - Passive rebellion.....a resistance to yield to instruction or correction

What is a Kingdom?

Dictionary:

A Kingdom is a state or government having a King or Queen as its head and sovereign ruler

A Kingdom is the realm or territory over which a King has sovereign rule

- § The defining characteristic of a King is Authority
- § Kings exercise Authority. He is not under law, because his decrees are the Law
- § The King has absolute rule, authority and influence over a people and is also fully responsible for their protection, provision and welfare
- § The king not only has authority, he is also the Chief Judge.
- § A King cannot be voted in or out of office or power. His sovereignty is by right of birth. He holds His position until death or abdication
- § All Kings personally own the physical domain over which they rule

Jesus taught the Kingdom in two very distinct ways

The Kingdom is "Now"...an Invisible Spiritual Kingdom

- § **Not of this world(Age)**
 - Jhn 18:36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."
 - § **Like a Seed sown in heart that grows and produces transformation and fruit**
 - Mat 13:18 "Therefore hear the parable of the sower:
 - Mat 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.
- § **The Invisible Kingdom can "Come upon " people in manifestation of miracles**
 - Mat 12:28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

The Kingdom is "Yet to Come"...a Physical Glorious Kingdom

- § A Continuous theme through the Bible is the Coming of the King in His Kingdom to rule with His redeemed people over all the earth
- § This sovereign rule of Jesus shall be over all nations of the earth for a period of 1000 years resulting in an unprecedented period of peace and prosperity and innovation
 - **OT Promise**
 - Dan 2:44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

NT Jesus Promise

Mat 16:27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

§ This promise of Jesus return and His Kingdom ruling over all nations of the earth is

▫ The Hope of every Christian and

▫ A powerful motivation for faithful service and personal transformation

▫ We Need to grow in our understanding of The Kingdom we are now part of and our privileges and rights as its citizens

Twelve Key Characteristics of The Kingdom of God Here are Twelve Elements that Constitutes a Kingdom

A King who Rules (Jesus)

▫ *Psa 103:19 The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all.*

§ “Rule”... to have dominion, absolute authority to rule and reign over

§ “Sovereign”...to have supreme rank or authority.

§ This means that God possesses the absolute right and privilege to do all things as He chooses, for His own good pleasure

§ It also means there is no one higher than the King or anyone to whom he is accountable

§ The character of the King determines the quality of life in the Kingdom he rules over

§ Good is a good King seeking a good Kingdom

§ The Kingdom of the devil is a kingdom of darkness, full of rebellion

§ The Bible never referees to the Devil as a King . He is a prince seeking to usurp the authority of the true King

A Territory over which the King Rules

▫ *Psa 24:1 A Psalm of David. The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.*

▫ *Psa 24:1 (David's poetic praise to God.) God claims the world as his. Everything and everyone belongs to him! TPT*

§ The King has absolute rule, authority and influence over a people and is responsible for their care and protection

§ The King is also Lord. He is sole owner of all things in His Kingdom and responsible for them

§ The boundary of the Kingdom is not geographic , but is determined by the authority of the King

§ A kingdom extends wherever the authority of the King is accepted and His decisions obeyed

§ The Holy Spirit can carry the authority of God throughout the whole world

§ The boundary of the Kingdom is determined by whose will is done

§ The scope of the Kingdom is a complete society, that includes every aspect of life

Citizens of the Kingdom (With Rights and Responsibilities)

▫ *Php 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

▫ Every Kingdom has Citizens.

§ Organisations have membership, but countries have citizenship.

§ You cannot be a member of NZ. You are a citizen or an alien

§ Citizens are the people that live under the governmental rule of a King

▫ **“Citizenship”.....Gk Politeuma.....to live and behave as a citizen of a country**

§ Dictionary. A native or naturalised person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection from it

§ A Citizen is someone who gives allegiance to the King or Government, and is entitled to receive protection and enjoy special rights and privileges that come with citizenship

A System of Laws and a Court

A Kingdom requires Laws and a Legal System to enforce those Laws

Psa 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul;

§ In a Kingdom the Word of the King is Law

§ In a Kingdom there are also laws that define how the rule of God operates

§ In a Kingdom there is also a legal or justice system

The Purpose of Laws

To create order and to avoid lawlessness

§ Laws create Order in the Kingdom that expresses the nature and will of the King

§ Laws describe the standards of living (righteousness) and principles of justice that citizens in the Kingdom are required by the King to abide by

§ The blessing and favour of the King is poured out on those who please the King by keeping his laws and doing His will

The Purpose of a Legal System

To protect society, to hold offenders and lawbreakers accountable for their actions, and to administer Justice

A Culture and Standards of living (Righteousness)

What is Culture?

· Culture is an accumulation of the values, beliefs, behaviours and practices that form how a society function in daily life and relationships

§ The Kingdom of heaven has its own distinctive culture originating from its King

§ God sent Jesus from heaven, and commissioned Jesus as His “apostolos” to bring the Kingdom of God to the earth and to establish a Kingdom culture and lifestyle for those who would become citizens of the Kingdom of God on the earth, throughout this present age.

§ Jesus brought prophetic revelation of the culture and values and lifestyle of the Kingdom of God in heaven that He intended to establish upon the earth

What Are Values?

· Values are beliefs that motivate attitudes and the way people behave and form the foundation of culture

· Values are society’s shared beliefs about what is good and bad and how people should act

§ In His Sermon on the Mount Jesus taught many of the foundational truths and values that form the culture and lifestyle of the Kingdom of God

§ Eg Humility, meekness, hunger for God, mercy, purity peacemaking, love

An Education System

What is an Education System?

· An Education System an arrangement established to provide knowledge, wisdom and understanding that train and mature people for productive life and service.

§ God desires every believer to learn His Ways and to grow to maturity

§ Maturity is a lifelong pursuit not a course we take or class we graduate from

God provides everything we need for our Education and Maturity

An Economic or Financial System

What is an Economic System?

· An Economic System is a method that Governments establish for production, resource allocation and distribution of resources, goods and services

§ Good Government form policies that lead to prosperity and wealth creation of its citizens
God is a Good Father who desires His children prosper

§ *Psa 35:27 Let them shout for joy and be glad, Who favor my righteous cause; And let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."*

Authority and Power

Meaning of Authority

§ *"Authority"....Gk..exousia...the delegated legal right to speak or act as a representative of the Kingdom and demonstrate its power*

§ There are different levels of authority in the Kingdom of God

What is Power?

§ *"Power"...Gk..dunamis.....supernatural force and ability to work miracles*

§ The source of power is the anointing and manifest presence of Holy Spirit upon a person

§ Our assignment and surrender to Holy Spirit will determine our level of anointing or power

The Revelation of the Kingdom (or rule of God) is a revelation of authority (spiritual and natural)

§ In every Kingdom there are differing ranks and levels of authority

§ Eg. The Godhead, Angels, Demons ...

§ Each Rank or level of Authority originates from some source, and is related to the role and responsibilities delegated to them

§ Every level is accountable to those directly over them and ultimately to the source

The Revelation of the Kingdom (or rule of God) is a revelation of authority (spiritual and natural)

Ambassadors of the King and Kingdom

What is an Ambassador?

§ *"Gk.. Presbeuteros"....a rank or office, person who manages public affairs of state*

§ *Dictionary... a diplomatic of high rank who is appointed as a representative of his*

Government, or King, an authorized messenger

§ In the Kingdom of God all its citizens are both Sons and Ambassadors

All Believers are called to be ambassadors for the Kingdom of God

§ *2Co 5:19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*

§ *2Co 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.*

§ Ambassadors are appointed, authorized and sent by their King on assignment

§ Ambassadors are given authority to represent their King and advance His Kingdom Interests

§ The King provides for all their expenses and needs to fulfill their assignment

§ Jesus sends ambassadors into every area that influences the Culture

▫ Government

▫ Family

▫ Religion

▫ Media/Entertainment

▫ Arts/Sports

▫ Finances. And Business

▫ Education

An Army or Military Force

What is the purpose of an Army?

§ The primary reasons for an army to exist are

- To defend a country's borders, territories and people from external attack
- To maintain security and order
- Every Army has:
 - § A Commander in Chief
 - § Troops
 - § A Command Structure
 - § Weapons of Warfare
- Wars occur because there is a conflict between governments that they cannot resolve peacefully

A Border and Entrance Requirements

All Kingdoms have Borders

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Rev 21:11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

Rev 21:12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

- § Heaven has a wall or border and also has gates or entry points
- § The Kingdom of God has borders and entrance requirements

What is a Border?

- § A border is a line that forms the outer edge of something, separating regions
- § To enter a country you must cross its border and meet its entrance requirements
- § The entrance to The Kingdom of God is determined by relationship with its King
- § To enter the Kingdom of God we must be "Born Again"

A System of Honours and Rewards for its Citizens

Kingdoms have a System of Honours and Rewards

*Est 6:7 And Haman answered the king, "**For the man whom the king delights to honor,** Est 6:8 let a royal robe be brought which the king has worn, and a horse on which the king has ridden, which has a royal crest placed on its head.*

Est 6:9 Then let this robe and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that he may array the man whom the king delights to honor. Then parade him on horseback through the city square, and proclaim before him: 'Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor!' "

What is an Honour System?

An Honour system is a way a Government says "Thank you" and recognises achievements and service on behalf of the nation

- § An **Honour** is when someone is officially recognised and publicly respected for their achievement
- § A **Reward** is something that is given in recognition of service, effort, and achievement
- **In New Zealand, The King of England officially honours people in recognition of their service to the community and nation**
 - § There are various different levels of recognition and honour given to people
 - § These are made known on one particular day... on the King's Birthday
- **Jesus taught Honour and Rewards exist in His Kingdom**

Kingdom Authority is the focus of this Teaching School