

Sunday October 18, 2009 The Kingdom of God Part 3: Kingdom Thinking

Review of the main points covered so far.

Let us begin to live and operate out of a "Kingdom of God" perspective – where everything you do is an extension of the King's domain here on earth – His rule being released in you and through you.

Kingdom Thinking

(or A NEW FRAME OF MIND)

The teachings of Jesus on the Kingdom of God radically affects our thinking – our perspectives, our value systems, our priorities. Our entire frame of reference and our frame of mind are altered.

We will focus on some of the key teachings of Jesus in our study today. The rest will be part of something I'd like you to do on your own during the week. Please see the section "For Personal Study and Meditation" below.

<u>IN A NEW KINGDOM – A NEW PARADIGM</u>

Colossians 1:12,13

12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the

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

There are two contrasting kingdoms - the kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of Light. The kingdom of the devil and the Kingdom of Jesus.

We are in the Kingdom of Jesus, the Kingdom of Light.

As light differs from darkness, the Kingdom of Light is completely different from the kingdom of darkness.

John 18:33-37

- 33 Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"
- 34 Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?"
- 35 Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" 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."
- 37 Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "**You say rightly that I am a king**. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

The Kingdom that we belong to is "not of this world".

Therefore we are in a Kingdom where perspectives, lifestyles, values, purposes – everything – is very different from what is of this world. We must therefore change or adapt to a new paradigm, a new way of thinking, a new frame of mind. We call this "Kingdom Thinking".



Jesus in His teaching shared with us this new paradigm – Kingdom Thinking.

The more we think as people of the Kingdom of Light, the more we will behave like people of that Kingdom – and hence manifest (demonstrate) more of that Kingdom here in this earth.

The Kingdom Framework of Thinking

(frame of reference)

- Higher standards for Everyday living
- Love
- Faith
- For the King's sake
- Childlike Attitude
- Servanthood
- Accepting The King's Perspective

HIGHER STANDARDS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Matthew 5:21-30

21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'

22 But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

27 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.'

28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

(See also Mark 9:43-50)

LOVE POWER

Matthew 5:43,44

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.'
44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

<u>FAITH</u>

Mark 11:22 Have faith in God.

Jesus taught us to operate out of faith in God in every situation. Faith empowers us to dominate our circumstances.

FOR THE KINGS SAKE

Mark 8:34,35

34 When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

35 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

(See also: Matthew 10:39, Matthew 16:25, Luke 9:24, Luke 17:33, John 12:25)

LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN

Matthew 18:1-4

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

2 Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them,



3 and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

4 Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. (See also Mark 10:13-15)

Matthew 19:14 But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Mark 10:15 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."

SERVANTHOOD

Matthew 20:20-28

- 20 Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.
- 21 And He said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to Him, "Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom."
- 22 But Jesus answered and said, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able."
- 23 So He said to them, "You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father."
- 24 And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers.
- 25 But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.
- 26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.
- 27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—
- 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Matthew 5:5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

Matthew 5:19 Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

ACCEPTING THE KINGS PERSPECTIVE

Matthew 20:1-16

- 1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.
- 2 Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
- 3 And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,
- 4 and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went.
- 5 Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise.
- 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?'
- 7 They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.'
- 8 "So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.'
- 9 And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius.
- 10 But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius.
- 11 And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner,
- 12 saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.'
- 13 But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?
- 14 Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you.
- 15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?'



16 So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."

Romans 14:4 Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.





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