

The King



The Kingdom & Discipleship

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This Manual has been compiled with short hand notes from each publicly taught session of the SHILOH International Training School, September 2018. These notes can help as an aid with the CDs or DVDs for each session or they can be used as a guide to study the topics and verses mentioned. This manual is also invaluable as a teaching aid for you to teach directly from the Scriptures, with the help of these notes.

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Our mandate:

- Making disciples, Matt. 28:18-20,
- Training & equipping workers for the harvest, Matt.9:37–10:40, Lu.10:1-20
- Bringing the church to maturity by fathering sons, Gal.4:10 & 1Cor.4:14-17

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Session 1

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Christ the Anointed One

Word wealth in Spirit Filled Life Bible in **2 Timothy 4:22**

“Christ” = Gk “Christos” – comes from the verb ‘chrio’, ‘to anoint’, referring to the consecration rites of a priest or king. Christos translates the Hebrew **“Maschiyach”**, **“Messiah”**. Unfortunately, the transliteration of *Christos* into English, the word *Christ*, deprives the word of much of its meaning.

We say “Jesus Christ” without understanding the word “Christ”

Matthew 22:41-45 – “Christ”, whose Son is He? What a question

Because this Jesus is the Christ, we have a gospel that is life changing

We are to believe in and receive Him as the Christ, be baptised into the Christ...

His full title is “Lord Jesus the Christ”

The challenge we have is to preach the Christ again

Ephesians 1:17

- Jesus is the Lord of us, not “my Lord”
- I belong to Him, not me owning Him
- In the Greek language is “Lord of us”
- The Lord of us is Jesus the Messiah (much better than word *Christ* for our understanding)
- “Christ” had no background in Greek or English – it was simply translating the Hebrew *Maschiyach* – *Messiah*
- Paul the apostle was praying that the Father of glory would give us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him
- **1 Jn.2:12-14** – Little children, young men and fathers – Fathers “know Him who is from the Beginning”
- Fathers know Him – Christ/Messiah – the One who is from the Beginning
- The Lord Jesus the Messiah is the One we are looking for and expecting

Word wealth back at **2 Timothy 4:22**

For 2000 years the Jews had an expectation that the Messiah would come. They had a knowledge of what to expect when he would come.

That is why Paul wrote to the Ephesians that he was given grace to preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ – **Eph. 3:8** – the Gentiles needed to learn about Messiah as they did not have an expectation or heritage of what a Messiah would be

It would be much better to translate *Christos* in every instance as *the Anointed One* or *the Messiah*, denoting a *title*. “Jesus Christ” actually means “Jesus the Messiah”, or “Jesus the Anointed One”, emphasising the fact that the Man Jesus was God’s Anointed One, the Promised Messiah!

Christ is Anointed to rule as King

Mark 1:1 – the gospel is the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God

- Summarised in **Matthew 16:15-18**
- **You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God**

What do we know about Christ?

- We know Him as the High Priest, praying for us, representing us to God, saving us from our sins
- This is a popular and legitimate but a limited view of who Messiah is
- **Acts 5:42** – every day preaching and teaching Jesus the Messiah, even happy to be beaten for doing this
- The gospel is not for the faint hearted

What is this gospel all about?

Mark 1:14-15

- Jesus was preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God
- Jesus was not preaching salvation
- Jesus was preaching who God is and how to live in His kingdom
- Kingdom = government, rule, rulership
- We are not waiting, “The time is fulfilled”
- It does not need to be fulfilled again but preached in our generation
- We do not need a new schedule of what needs to happen before the coming – we need to pronounce it in our generation
- The Word is the unchanging truth in every generation

1 Corinthians 4:20 – the kingdom of God is not in word but in power

- **“The Kingdom of God is at hand”** = it is within your reach
- We must “repent and believe in the gospel” – this is how we reach out and take it
- Get rid of all the religious thinking that you inherited – be cleansed
- Seek Kingdom of God and in His righteousness then all needs will be met through His government – **Matthew 6:33**

Receiving the gospel = change now

The Gospel is the gospel (good news) of the government of God in the earth

Repent = get rid of the garbage, change

Faith = fill the vacuum

In all four gospels the “church” is mentioned two times

The “Kingdom” is mentioned numerously

Gospel is the “rulership of God in the earth”

The Gospel is also called a mystery

Colossians 1:25

- The ministry that Paul received is to “fulfil the Word of God
v.26 – He would fulfil the Word by revealing the mystery that had previously been hidden
- this mystery is the mystery of Christ, the mystery of Godliness, that God was manifested in the flesh (**1 Tim.3:16**)
- “saints” in Hb – pious, kind, devout godly people

- **Psalm 31:23** – Love YHWH all you His saints (His kind, pious, devout ones)
 - “saints” Gk #40 ‘hagios’ – holy ones
 - saints are those separated from sin and consecrated to God = the sanctified ones
 - the mystery is known and revealed to the saints
 - revelation comes by the Spirit often through the preached Word
- v.27** – this mystery is concerning the revelation of the glory of God among the nations
- the glory in the Old Covenant was locked up among the Israelites
 - now it is open to the nations
 - the mystery is “Christ in you”
 - the Person of Jesus the Messiah living in us

Who is this Person in us? What does it mean to say Messiah in me?

Matthew 2:6

- The wise men came from the east seeking where the King of the Jews would be born
- **V.5** – it was written in the prophet Micah
- The quote is from **Micah 5:2**
- This says that the Ruler will be One whose “going forths are from of old, from everlasting (the days of eternity)”
- This great Ruler was coming from the eternal realm, God coming into humanity
- Jesus did not begin when He entered the world as a baby – He is from Eternity!

Philippians 2:5-6

- Where does Jesus come from?
- Messiah Jesus, who being in the form of God
- Before Jesus became a man, He was in the form of God
- He is God becoming a man
- He eternally existed as God
- Then He humbled Himself to become a man and then even die on a cross

Christ refers to an eternal person

He can manifest the glory of God by living inside each one of us

2 Corinthians 13:5

- This is the examination
- Find out what you know
- Find out if you are really in the faith
- Test yourself
- Do you not know yourself? That Jesus Christ is in you...
- Jesus the Messiah is in you

Romans 8:18

- Sufferings now are not worthy to be compared to the **glory that will be revealed in us**
- v.19** – sons are revealed by the sons getting revelation

- the more we see the mystery the more the glory will be revealed
- this is for the purpose of delivering creation – **v.20-21**
- there is hope in creation to be delivered
- humans and animals were not created to devour one another but to be at peace with one another
- creation wants to be delivered from the curse
- the liberty will be found in the children of God – we must be functioning in the Body, blessing others, laying down our lives for others
- v.22** – birth pangs and groanings are in the creation
- v.23** – we who have the firstfruits of Spirit groan within ourselves until we receive the full adoption – the redemption of our body
- v.24** – the hope is in eternal realities becoming realised in our experience
 - we are saved in the hope that the glory of God will manifest in all creation making it into a new creation
- v.25** – because we see what is coming we can persevere and wait for it
- v.26** – Holy Spirit will help us persevere and wait for it
 - Holy Spirit causes us to groan and intercede for this to take place
 - the groaning is a travail, a birthing

Who is this Messiah?

Romans 1:3-4

- God's Son is Jesus the Messiah, the Lord of us, born of seed of David
- He is a Man
- But not only a Man
- He was declared the Son of God with power, proven by Spirit and resurrection

Hebrews 7:2

- Melchizedek was made like the Son of God – **v.3**
- The Son of God is the King of righteousness
- The Son is the King of peace
- Without father and mother because He is an eternal being
- Without genealogy – **Luke 3:23** – “as was supposed the son of Joseph”
- No beginning or end
- He is a Priest

Isaiah 9:6-7

- Child born and Son given
- The government, responsibility to rule will be shouldered by Him
- Of the increase of His government and peace will have no end
- **Revelation 11:15** – this kingdom takes over everything

Luke 2:25-26

- Simeon, just and devout (a saint)
- Messiah is the “Consolation of Israel”
- Simeon would not die until He had seen the Lord's Christ
- Simeon saw a baby about 6 weeks old

- Simeon said he saw the Lord's Messiah
- It is possible for men to see the Messiah

Luke 4:41

- The demons even confessed "You are the Messiah, the Son of God"

Acts 2:22-36

- What is Peter preaching?
- He is preaching the Messiah, who this Jesus really is
- Jesus was from Nazareth, attested by God with miracles, wonders and signs
- v.23** – was delivered to death by God's plan and purpose
 - it required rebellious human beings to fulfil the plan
 - learn to live within the boundaries God gives us and then God will give you more
 - the glory of Jesus was still being revealed in the death of Jesus – even soldiers saying "Truly this was the Son of God"
- v.24** – resurrection
 - Jesus went down and was in birth pangs to bring forth a new resurrected creation
- v.27** – quotes **Psalm 16** – God would not leave His soul in Sheol/Hades (the place of the dead)
 - the Holy One would not see corruption (the Body will not be left in the grave)
 - From the Cross to the Ascension so many things took place
- v.29** – David was dead and buried – this Psalm was not talking about David
- v.30** – David was a prophet
 - God had sworn an oath to David
 - that the fruit of his body (a son) would be raised up, this one would be the Christ

God swore an oath

2 Samuel 7:12-14a

- From David's body a King would come
- The descendant of David who would have the Throne would also be the Son of God
- The son of David would be the Son of God
- (1 **Chron. 17:10-17**)

David was a prophet

Psalm 2:6-7

- The King would be the Son of God

Peter's revelation was "You are the Messiah, the Son of God" – **Matt.16:16**

Acts 2:31

- David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah
- This Messiah, was actually Jesus whom God raised up

God gives us His power by the Holy Spirit to testify to the resurrected Messiah

Acts 2:32-35

- Powerful fulfilment of Old T Scriptures in Jesus, exalted to the right hand, the Spirit bearing witness to this now

v.36 – God has made this Jesus who was crucified, both Lord and Christ/Messiah

How do we get into this reality of the mystery of the glory of God being revealed in us?

We go through a translation, passing through a great change

Colossians 1:13 – God has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed (transferred, translated) us into the kingdom of the Son of His love

1 Peter 1:23 – having been born again of incorruptible seed of Word of God\

- We are born again into this kingdom by receiving the Word

Titus 3:5-6 – by the washing of regeneration (coming through the new birth) and renewing of the Holy Spirit

- It is not by works of righteousness we have done

It is a quiet revolution that is going on

How do we speak? Do you know your heart? Do you know who you are in Messiah?

- How do we fix what has happened in the past? We must repent, believe and then you will be free
- It is a quiet revolution that goes on inside of us.

The Authority of the King

It is important for us to understand the authority of the King.

We need to grow in understanding of who we are. This comes from knowing who He is.

We have the authority of the king behind us.

Ecclesiastes 8:4

- Where the word of a king is, there is power
- Who may say to him, 'What are you doing?'
- **V.5** – he who keeps his command, will experience nothing harmful
- If we keep Jesus' commands, we won't be destroyed

King – *melek* (Hb)

- Means to reign, to ascend the throne, to induct into royalty

A king is someone who reigns, someone who has ascended the throne

Power – *shilton*

- Means a potentate, the root of this word means to dominate, to govern, to permit (to bind and to loose – **Matthew 18:15-18**)

Word – the authority of the king is released through His word

- We have been given the Word of the King
- It is so important that we come to know the Word
- There is authority and power when we know the word of the king
- Heaven's will is to be done on the earth through His Word

Shalit (related to the word for 'power')

Daniel 4:26

- Heaven rules (*shalit*) (governs)

1 Tim 2:1-2 – we are to pray for rulers and authorities (God is able to govern as we are obedient to the word of the King)

Jesus is King now. We are to be obedient to the word of the King.

The King

Psalm 2

- **V.2** – the kings of the earth set themselves against YHWH and against His Anointed (His Messiah)
- They try to undermine the authority of the King
- **V.4** – He who sits in the heavens laughs – no-one can usurp His Throne or His authority
- **V.6** – Yet I have set (poured - anointed) My King on My holy hill of Zion
- God rules from Zion (a spiritual location, a position in Christ)
- **Heb 12:22** – we have come to Mt Zion, the place of God's government
- **v.7** – the decree (from YHWH) – You are My Son, Today I have begotten You

- the government is upon Jesus' shoulders (from the time of His baptism and the Holy Spirit descended and remained on Him – **Matt.3:16-17, John 1:32**)
- The authority of the King is absolute
- V.8 – the authority of the King is over nations, to the ends of the earth

Psalm 24:7

- Lift up your heads, O you gates
- The King of glory shall come in
- V.8 – YHWH is the King of glory
- The King has hosts (armies)

Kings wage war, they go to battle

- The king of glory has the authority to go into nations (**Rev 3:7** – He has authority to open and shut, no one can stop Him from coming into nations)

Matthew 28:18 – when Jesus gave the commission, He began by establishing His authority (all authority in heaven and on earth is His). We are commanded to go in that authority

Zephaniah 3:14-15

- The king of Israel is YHWH
- He has authority to take away our judgments
- He has cast out our enemy
- We need to align ourselves with the King

John 1:47-49

- Jesus saw Nathanael
- Nathanael said to Jesus, 'You are the King of Israel' (Zeph 3:15 – YHWH, the King of Israel)
- Jesus is YHWH, the King of Israel, His people

Isaiah 6:1-5

- Holy, holy, holy is YHWH of hosts
- The whole earth is full of His glory
- My eyes have seen the King (YHWH of armies)
- **John 12:41** – Isaiah saw Jesus' glory and spoke of Him (YHWH of armies)

The King has authority to manifest His glory in all the earth.

- Messiah in you, the hope of glory

Psalm 44:4-8

- You are my King, O God
- He commands victories for His people
- Through His name we will trample those who rise up against us

We come in the authority of His name

- The authority of the King is to push down our enemies and bring us victories

Zechariah 9:9-10

- There is rejoicing and shouting (the shout of the King in the camp)
- The King is just and has deliverance (salvation)

- He came in humility (riding on a donkey)
- The authority of this king comes from humility (not like the rulers of the Gentiles)
- He will cause wars to cease (the battle bow shall be cut off)
- He shall speak peace to the nations (**Isaiah 9:7**) and this peace will continue to increase
- **Acts 10:36** – Jesus Christ came preaching peace
- His dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth (the gospel of the kingdom takes over)
- Every generation needs the gospel of the kingdom of God

The nature of the authority of the King

- Because of Jesus' humility, God has highly exalted Him (**Philippians 2:5-11**)

Luke 22:24-27

- The authority to govern comes from serving
- It comes through humility
- God exalts and raises the humble
- Jesus, as the King, came to serve

Psalm 47:1-3

- Clap your hands, shout unto God with a voice of triumph
- He is the great King over all the earth
- Our Head is the King over all the earth
- The authority of the King gets expressed through His people in the earth
- **V.3** – He will subdue the peoples under us and the nations under our feet

Zechariah 14:9

- YHWH shall be King over all the earth
- YHWH one and His name one
- What name do we preach?
- What name is above every other name? (**Phil.2:9-11**)
- Who said, "I and My Father are one"? (**John 10:30**)

JESUS

- There is a name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (**Matt.28:19**)
- **Acts 2:38** – Peter had revelation of this name - **Jesus**
- Jesus is King over all the earth today
- His name is one and He is the King

1 Timothy 6:13-16

- The Lord Jesus Christ will manifest in His own time
- He is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords

Potentate (Gk#1413) – *dunastes*

- Means a ruler or high officer

Jesus the Messiah is the blessed and only Ruler.

Mark 14:61-62

- Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?
- Jesus said, "I, I AM"

Jesus is the blessed and only Potentate, the Messiah

1 Tim 6:16

- To whom belong honour and everlasting power
Power (*kratos*) – means dominion, strength, manifested power (power that is seen/visible), exerted strength, power shown effectively in a reigning authority

We need to speak of Jesus as the one who has the dominion and reigning authority.

Ephesians 1:19

- The exceeding greatness of His power
- The working of His mighty power (*kratos*)
- Jesus was raised from the dead and seated far above every other authority

Eph 6:10

- Be strong in the Lord and in the power (reigning dominion) of His might

Matt 28:18 – all authority

Authority (*exousia*) – means privilege, force, capacity, competency, the mastery, ability or strength with which one is endued

(see Word Wealth in **Mark 3:15**)

1. Jesus has authority to forgive sins – **Mk 2:5-12**
2. He teaches as one who has authority – **Matt 7:29**
3. He has authority to cast out demons – **Mk 1:27**
4. He has authority over death – **John 10:18**
5. He has authority over sickness and disease – **Matt 10:1**
6. He has authority over all flesh – **John 17:2** (to give eternal life to whom he wishes)
7. **Rev 2:26** – He has authority over nations, He gives this authority to those who don't tolerate Jezebel
8. He gives apostolic authority to build up His church (not destroy it) - **2 Cor 10:8**

Daniel 7:13-14

To the Son of Man was given glory, dominion and a kingdom

It is an everlasting dominion and all nations, languages and peoples shall serve Him!

We need to know the authority of the King!

Make Disciples

It is the commandment of the Lord Jesus

Matthew 28:18-20

- It is the command of the One who has all authority
- Much of the church does not know this command
- We want to stay on target and not get caught up in lots of other irrelevant things
- When Jesus comes He wants to find faithful and wise servants
- These words hold as much authority now as they did 2000 years ago when Jesus uttered them
- We are to make disciples

Romans 1:1-6

- Through Him (the resurrected Son of God, Messiah) we have received grace and apostleship
- Grace to do the commission, to fulfil His plan and purpose
- The apostleship/commission is to make disciples, to bring nations to obedience to the faith

What is a disciple?

- A follower of the teacher and his teaching
- Discipleship in "Churchianity" has meant "go to church once a week for an hour with God"
- True disciples are those committed to following Jesus, denying themselves, taking up their cross daily and following Him
- True disciples are not trying to find their life anymore, but are losing their lives to find their life in Jesus (**Luke 9:23-24**)
- Grace and apostleship was given for **obedience to the faith**
- The faith is to be contended for (**Jude 3-4**), is not a set of "church rules", but the Word of God
- This is for all nations

Example of Moravians in 18th Century

- They committed themselves as a community to pray and worship 24 hours a day, every day, for the commission to be fulfilled – this lasted over 100 years
- Out of this came a movement of mission to the nations that is still happening today

If we are following Jesus what are we doing?

Did He ever build a building?

No, He focused on making disciples

We are to do the same

Acts 1:8

- The mission is into every area – do not stay comfortable in any particular area, be ready to go the next

How do we make disciples?

Mark 16:15-16

- Many people ask “Lord, what do you want me to do?”
- It is simple, read the Bible and decide to do what Jesus told us
- Preach the gospel (the good news of Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God – **Mark 1:1**) to every creature
- This includes making known the forgiveness of sins through believing in Jesus, your broken heart can be healed, you can be delivered from demonic oppression (**Isaiah 61:1-3**), you can enter an everlasting kingdom and grow to maturity in that kingdom
- We need to take this gospel into the darkness and preach it to every creature

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

- If in Christ = new creation, all things new
- “all things” are of God
- Reconciled us to Himself through Jesus
- God was in Messiah Jesus reconciling the world to Himself
- He has committed to us the word and ministry of reconciliation
- We are ambassadors of Messiah – ministering on behalf of Him
- Good news is that we have been reconciled
- We are responsible for what we do with that ministry and word of reconciliation

We are to baptise those who believe

Mark 16:16

- He who believes and is baptised will be saved/delivered/healed

Matthew 28:19

- Baptising them in the name...

Acts – the example of the apostles and disciples was to baptise the same day, immediately, as soon as people believed

There will be a falling away

Many do not treat the word of the King with respect, not placing importance on baptism

We are to believe Haggai, that the glory of the latter house will be greater than the former

We are to experience what was happening in the book of Acts and more

We are to believe there is a great outpouring of the Spirit

Every fellowship should be raising disciples – it is not “your congregation”, need to stop playing “church”

Habakkuk 2:14 – the knowledge of the glory of YHWH is to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea

- We were not saved to go to heaven when we die, we were saved to fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of YHWH, through discipleship

Many people are still caught up with “baptism” being a sprinkling of water as a baby

- Need to share with them the word of the king, because then there is power (**Ecc.8:4**)
- Baptism is the way into the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah (**Romans 6:3-5**)
- People are being robbed from experiencing the power of God

Jesus said to “teach them to observe all things I commanded you” –

Matt.28:20

- We need to teach the elementary principles of Christ – **Heb.6:1-3**
- We need these foundations to grow into everything we are called and created to be

1 Peter 2:2 – we are to desire the pure milk of the Word that we may grow thereby

- New believers need the milk to grow
- We then grow into young men able to have more solid food, serving and learning to function
- We then grow into the adoption as sons and are able to father others (**1 Jn.2:12-14**)
- When there is no teaching of the Word, there is no growth, they are still carnal, not understanding the purpose of God

Discipleship Functioning – the pattern

Acts 14:19-28

- Disciples are the ones talked about, not “church members”
- **v.19-20** - After Paul was stoned it was the disciples that gathered around him and saw him get up
- **v.21-22** - They preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples
- they were obedient to the commission
- then they strengthened the souls of the disciples
- How did they strengthen them? By exhorting them to continue in **the faith (Romans 1:5)**
- They taught that it was through many problems, difficulties, tribulations that we enter the kingdom of God
- Fruitful disciples are 1. Committed 2. Submitted. 3 Accountable 4. Apostolic/Sent
- **V.27** – they were accountable to report back to the church, the congregation at Antioch
- **Disciples work with the Body of Christ because they were baptised into the Body** – they are accountable to the Body
- **V.23** – the apostles did not just leave people after preaching, they took responsibility for the disciples by appointing elders to oversee the work
- These ones were growing up in Christ, being founded properly

7 steps to fruitful ministry

- a) **Prayer** – the engine room
- b) **Evangelism** – reaching out, the action/strategy comes out of prayer
- c) **Nurture** – looking after the fruit of outreach, babes in Christ must be nurtured, fed, cleaned up, comforted (**Psalm 23**)
- d) **Discipling** – receiving the teaching of the Word
- e) **Training/Equipping** – young man stage, functioning in ministry, training
- f) **Sending out to plant the church** – new ministers can lead and make disciples
- g) **Emergence of new ministries**

And, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of age – Matthew 28:20

- It is always by grace, Jesus working with us and through us to fulfil His command

Taking the Kingdom by force

Matthew 11:11-13

- Jesus begins to talk about John the Baptist (quoting from **Malachi 3:1**)
- He who is least in the kingdom is greater than John the Baptist
- John was chosen to usher in and prepare the way for the King and His kingdom
- Now the kingdom is here and we can enter it
- We can now live in this kingdom
- Ever since that time, the kingdom of God is a reality for us to experience now
- **V.12** – the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force
- Even today, the kingdom of heaven comes under a violent attack (people are being blocked from entering the kingdom by religion, by denominational rules and regulations)
- The violent take it by force – this speaks of an aggressive (fervent) attitude
- **V.13** – all the prophets and the law prophesied until John (until the time when the King came) – now the prophets are fulfilled – the King and His Kingdom has come
- It is time to take the kingdom, it is here
- **V.14** – he (John the Baptist) is Elijah who is to come (**Mal 4:5-6**)

The kingdom is real relationships, fathers and sons (a family – not an institution)
We can access what the prophets prophesied about. It is at hand. The kingdom is here. The work is finished. It is up to us to walk in it.

2 Peter 1:19

- We have the prophetic word confirmed
- We do well to heed it
- In the context, this is speaking of the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (Mt of Transfiguration)
- **Matt 16:28** – The Son of Man coming in His kingdom (Jesus' transfiguration)
- **Luke 9:27** – they saw the kingdom of God (they saw Jesus completely transformed, in all of His glory)

We are born again to see the kingdom of God (seeing Jesus in all of His glory)

We are born again to enter the kingdom (**John 3:3,5**)

The prophetic word was confirmed by Jesus coming and revealing His kingdom in the earth.

Matthew 11:12

- John came in the midst of his generation as a voice crying in the wilderness (it was so different to what had been). It was not the voice of the Rabbis, the Scribes or the Pharisees. It was fresh and real.
- Repent, change – this was John's message
- **Isaiah 40:3** – John knew he was the one who was written about in Isaiah

- John gave practical advice about how to repent (a fresh message, down to earth and real)
- **V.16-19** – the kingdom message does not dance to the tune of normal society (it cuts to the heart)
- the message of the kingdom brings everyone to a level playing field

Mark 1:14-15

- Jesus came to Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, saying 'The time is fulfilled'.
- It was the right time, the appointed time
- We need to repent and believe in the gospel
- Be zealous to repent and change
- Be zealous to believe and put your whole being into the gospel
- This is how to take the kingdom

Luke 16:14-16

- God wants a people who are going to be pressing into the kingdom
- Since the time of John the Baptist the kingdom of God has been preached and everyone is pressing into it

The truth requires change. We want to lay hold of the truth. If you are seeking truth, eventually you will find your way into the kingdom.

John 18:36-37

- This is when Jesus was on trial
- Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world"
- Jesus acknowledged that He was King, for this cause He came into the world
- Everyone who is of the truth hears His voice

Truth – has the meaning of reality, that which is genuine and real

The religious spirit suppresses the truth.

It is not time to be comfortable. We have to change and grow.

Philippians 3:13-15 – lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has laid hold of you

The kingdom of God has got to do with the realm of your heart (not with what you look like outwardly).

God sees the heart (**1 Sam 16:7**). David had a testimony that he was a man after God's own heart – **Acts 13:22**

God wants us to have circumcised hearts.

We believe with our heart.

Everyone is pressing into the kingdom of God. (**Luke 16:16**)

Pressing – Greek word *biazo* – means to force, that is to crowd one's self into, can mean to be seized

Don't let anything hold you back from entering the kingdom – press into it.

Matt 11:12 – the violent are to take the kingdom by force

(See **Word Wealth** in 1 Thess 4:17 SFLB)

Take by force – Gk *harpadzo* – means to seize, to catch up, to take by force, it suggests the exercise of a sudden force

The Bible is full of testimonies of men and women who seized the moment in God.

What grounds do we have to possess the kingdom?

We are to actively possess the kingdom.

Luke 12:32

- God is pleased to give you the kingdom
- The Father is happy to give the kingdom to us

Daniel 7:18

- The saints of the Most High shall receive and possess the kingdom forever
The kingdom of God is our inheritance.

v.22 – the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom

Possess – Hebrew word *chasan* – means to hold in occupancy

We are to occupy the kingdom of God

v.27 – the kingdom and dominion given to the saints of the Most High

Luke 19:11-13

- To do with possessing/occupying
- **V.13** – Do business till I come (KJV “Occupy till I come”)
- This was spoken to those who thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately
- **Do Business/occupy** - Means to busy oneself, to trade, do business
- We are to be engaged in the business of the kingdom of God
- This is how we take the kingdom by force
- We are to occupy ourselves with the business (work) of the kingdom – totally occupied
- **V.14-17** – God will give you more responsibility and authority as you engage yourself in the business of the kingdom
- **Be immersed in the work of the kingdom!**

Luke 21:19

- By your patience possess your souls
- You are to possess your soul for the kingdom of God
- **Possess** – means to gain the mastery of
- to gain the mastery of your soul and begin to reign with Jesus
- **Patience** – can mean to endure
- **2 Timothy 2:12** – if we endure, we shall also reign with Him
- The kingdom of God needs to be reigning over your own soul, before you can reign over anything else
- **1 Thess 5:23** – spirit, soul and body
- God wants to get our souls living in the kingdom all the time
- Under whose dominion are you in your soul?

Gen 4:7 – you should rule over sin (you must get the mastery over it)
Allow Jesus, the King, into every area of your life.

Luke 17:20-21

- The kingdom of God is within you
- The kingdom of God is in your midst
- It does not come with observation
- It is when the King is in the midst of us and within us.
- We need to allow the King to take possession of every area of our lives.

God drives out the enemy little by little (the picture we see when Joshua inherits the land – **Exodus 23:29-30**).

We need to drive out the wicked inhabitants in our soul.

Galatians 5:19-21

- A list of what keeps us out of experiencing the fullness of God's kingdom
- **V.22-25** – we need to possess the fruit of the Spirit in our lives
- We are to learn to walk in the spirit
- Those who are Messiah's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires

There may be areas in our lives, family or fellowship that seem like big giants. We are to drive out the enemy and take the kingdom by force.

Characteristics of Disciples

Matthew 28:19-20

- Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations...
- Baptise in the name
- Teach them...
- I will be with you always till the end of the age/world (Gk. aion = age)
- An age is a specific time
- We are to continue making disciples until
- We are to make disciples until the Lord Jesus comes
- He has given us His Spirit to enable us to witness Jesus the Messiah to the ends of the earth – **Acts 1:8**

How do we make disciples?

1. **Preach the gospel**
2. **Baptise those who believe**
3. **Teach them**
4. **See them grow into the placement of sons, bringing them to the unity of the faith... - Ephesians 4:13**

Characteristics of disciples

1 Corinthians 1:10

- *All speak the same thing* – have a uniform testimony, everyone's testimony is different but same Jesus, we have the same testimony of who Jesus is
- *No divisions among you* – no schisms, no dissensions, we speak the same thing voluntarily because we have been convinced by the Word as disciples
- *Perfectly joined together in the same **mind*** (Gk. SC #3563 – 'nous' – refers to the intellect, understanding, reflective consciousness, refers to faculties of perception and understanding)
- We should all value the same things and have a good intellectual understanding of what we do and why we do it
- *Same judgment* (to have cognition, opinion, resolve, commitment, consent)
- disciples are to have an informed mind, a mind that reflects on the things of God
- disciples are to have the same judgement, not a whole lot of personal opinions about everything

Titus 2:1

- speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine
- as disciples receive that sound doctrine they will be built up and know how to behave

Philippians 3:14

- I press toward the goal
- There is a goal in mind

- Do you know why you are a disciple?
- There is a prize
- The way forward is an upward call of God
- The way through is Messiah Jesus
- a) A goal b) a prize c) an upward call d) through Messiah Jesus
- This is not a personal goal, it is a goal to lead a body of disciples through
- We go through as a company
- We try to pick up anyone we can as we go
- Some will step aside when it gets too tough
- It is an upward call
- The goal is to reach that full maturity in Christ, it is ever upward and gets harder
- The Prize is seeing the disciples come through with you
- We can only do it in Messiah Jesus

v.15

- let us, as many as are mature, have this mind – which mind? Mind = Gk #5426 ‘phroneo’ – is to have the commitment to follow Christ and to be in Christ, it means to think a certain way, more a verb than a noun, it is an attitude
- we are to have the same commitment to take the disciples through to full maturity
- if in anything you think otherwise (not understand something), God will reveal this to you
- once you step over the line to make a commitment that you are in this for the long haul, then God will open understanding
- the only way to guard against being cultish is to know what you personally think and be utterly convinced
- it is a safe place to be in commitment to discipleship

v.16

- to the degree (how far you have gone as a committed disciple – how easy is it for you to be able to turn back?) we have already attained let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind
- “attain” - **Phil.3:11** – it has the sense of making some effort, e.g, to read the whole Bible in a year, Paul wanted to attain the resurrection of the dead
- All these verse are in plural, it is written to disciples
- “rule” – Gk SC#2583 “kanon” – anything regulating actions of men as a standard or principle. It signifies the limits (sphere) of responsibility and gospel service. We need to know our individual and corporate sphere.
- Whatever degree you have attained to, let us walk together in the Lord (happily in the work)
- If we will commit, submit and be accountable God will send us to the nations and disciples will be made
- “Let us mind the same thing”
- “mind” – phroneo – the good news is we can govern our own thoughts
- Do not let your thoughts govern you
- If a voice is projecting thoughts toward you tell it to get out of your sphere, it is a trespasser

As the apostolic company walks by the same rule, adopting the same mind, we will find we are living a lifestyle that is discipleship

- Discipleship is living a truly Christians lifestyle
- Not adding “church” to my lifestyle
- But actually living a lifestyle with a mind directed to the things of the kingdom

Philippians 3:17

- Join in following my example (Gk SC#5179 ‘tupos’ – a die, a stamp, a scar, a shape, a statue, a style or resemblance, a model for imitation)
- Paul was a model for imitation
- There is a big responsibility on the apostolic leaders
- Also, “note those who so walk as you have us for a pattern”
- Not just following the individual “Paul”, but we have become a pattern people
- More literal = “be fellow followers of me as I follow Christ and mark (to look at and consider, observing those who walk after the example of the apostle, so as to follow their ways) them who so walk, as you have us for an example/pattern

How do disciples behave?

Ephesians 5:18-21

5 things

1. **Do not get drunk** – on alcohol or illegal drugs
2. **Be filled with the Holy Spirit** - this can happen everyday, pray in tongues
3. **Sing Christian songs** – hum to yourself songs to Jesus, Psalms
4. **Be grateful** – have a thankful heart, do not major on the problems or negatives in your life, thank God for what you have not what you do not have
5. **Be submitted into the Body**

Public behaviour of disciples

1. **Witnesses – Acts 1:8**

Disciples do not go off duty and change their uniform and stop being a disciple

What do disciples do?

Pray – the Word

Preach – Jesus the Christ

Study – the Word/Bible

Teach - others

Give - generously

Pastor – care for others

Travel – be willing to go on mission

Live – for Jesus as a disciple

A few more things about disciples

- 1. Love Jesus**
- 2. Committed to following Him**
- 3. Prays earnestly**
- 4. Reads and studies the Word**
- 5. Gives committedly**
- 6. Does not change how they behave to suit others but holds fast to the practice of discipleship**

What is the goal of discipleship?

1 Thessalonians 2:19

- What is our hope? What is our joy or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ at His coming!

The Battleground

What is the battleground?

How do we fight?

This is not a physical fight. We are in a war whether we like it or not.

Luke 4:18-19

- Jesus was anointed by the Spirit of YHWH
- To preach the gospel
- To heal broken hearts
- Proclaim liberty, breaking people free
- Recovery of sight
- Liberty to the oppressed

Jesus was declaring war

1 John 3:8

- The Son of God was manifested (seen, revealed) for a purpose
- To destroy the works of the devil
- Hear the battle language and terminology

The Scripture is full of powerful, warring words like “dominion”

Jesus is our Commander, our Captain and we are to fulfil His orders

Ephesians 6:12

- The wrestle is not with flesh and blood
- This is not a physical war
- We are not warring against other people
- People are not the enemy
- Fighting others is not the battle
- The wrestle is against principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age and spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places
- It is against unseen forces, but the battle is real nonetheless
- It is a spiritual battle

2 Corinthians 10:3

- we live in the flesh but we do not war in the flesh
- we do not war according to worldly principles
- we have been translated out of that realm into the kingdom – **Colossians 1:13**

v.4 – our weapons are not carnal, fleshly

- but we have been given weapons

1. people (flesh and blood) are not the enemy
2. we are wrestling with spiritual hosts
3. it is a spiritual battle]
4. we have weapons that are mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds

Where is the battle taking place?

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

- where are strongholds found? They are in our mind, in our thinking
- this is the place of the battleground
- we are to take dominion and rule over our own mind
- we are to cast down arguments
- we are to cast down every high thing exalting itself against the knowledge of God

What is a stronghold?

- A place that has been fortified so as to protect it against attack
- A place where a particular cause or belief is strongly defended, a fortress
- A fortified place, a place of security (where you feel safe)
- A faulty thinking pattern based on lies, deception and fear (can be religious, the way we “do church”)
- Deception is one of main weapons of the devil – he deceived Eve and caused her to doubt God’s word
- Believing negative things about yourself or others that have been whispered to you by the devil
- The devil accuses us, he is the accuser of the brethren

Revelation 12:10

- The Accuser of our brethren...has been cast down!
- We have the victory
- But, anytime we have an accusation against another brother or sister it is not from God, it is of the devil
- We need to take those thoughts captive immediately
- We cannot allow them to take root in us
- We are to “pull down” the strongholds so we can be free

2 Corinthians 10:5

Casting down every high thing that exalts itself

- This is pride
- The devil wants the place of God
- Any thought resisting the Word of God is not of God, that thought must be taken captive
- We must have open hearts for God to reveal His Word to us
- “cast down” = throw down, getting rid of it because it is repulsive, to tear down (it is a very aggressive term), to break down, to destroy
- We are to have an aggressive approach to our thinking, it is not easy
- But we have the King living inside of us

Every argument and every high thing is to be *cast down*

Every thought is to be brought captive (subjugate, bring under control, imprison, take prisoner) to obey Christ

We are to take dominion over our own thoughts and mind

The faster we take captive those thoughts the easier it is to get rid of, so that it does not become a stronghold

The most powerful weapon

The Word of God

John 17:17 – the Word is truth

The best thing to counter-act a lie is the truth

- We need to know the truth of the Word to combat the lies of the devil
- Lies must be brought into captivity to the truth so we can obey Christ
- Truth is the antidote to the lie of the devil

Ephesians 6:17

- The sword of the Spirit is the Word of God
- This sword is a weapon
- God has given us a weapon to use against the enemy
- This is a supernatural sword

Hebrews 4:12

- The Word of God is living a powerful
- It is sharper than any natural sword
- It pierces to the division of the soul and spirit – the Word of God penetrates even between soul and spirit
- Discerns the thoughts and intents of the heart
- The Word exposes

When God shows you some area of your life that is needing rooting out make sure you do then what He says

2 Corinthians 10:5

High things exalting themselves against knowledge of God

- These things must be cast down
- If any thought does not agree with the Word, get rid of them

James 1:21

- We are to lay aside all filthiness and receive with meekness the implanted word which is able to save our souls
- Stop agreeing with the devil and agree with the Word of God

Ephesians 1:3-6

- The Word breaks and changes our whole outlook about who we are and our destiny

Jesus spoke the Word of God to combat the temptations of the devil (**Matt.4:1-11**)

We must know and have a confession of the Word to combat the lies

We war with the Word, personalising the Word until you feel that truth rising up in you
Sometimes the battle is fierce and sometimes you feel you are fighting for your life, which you are

Another weapon

Praise

Psalm 149

v.4 – YHWH takes pleasure in us – this is the truth

- He will beautify the humble with salvation

v.5 – we need to sing aloud on our beds in the night season when horrible, harassing, thoughts can come

v.6 – high praises of God in our mouth

- two edged sword in our hand (the Word)

v.7-9 – we have the honour of doing this as His saints

The Word brings victory – Praise and Obedience

2 Chronicles 20

- When you feel your thoughts sliding down a hole then begin to praise God
- It is not easy, it takes discipline and effort

How can we do this?

1. Repent – we must change our mind, make a decision that results in a change of mind which brings a change of action and behaviour
- Admit the wrong thinking, acknowledge the lie and the fear that is behind the stronghold

2. Receive the truth

Jeremiah 23:29 – the Word is a hammer

3. Keep your focus on Jesus

Isaiah 26:3 – will be kept in perfect peace when our mind is stayed on Jesus

4. Be anxious for nothing – pray

Philippians 4:6-7 – turn your anxieties into prayer and requests and then let the peace of God come

5. Meditate on godly things, the truth – **Philippians 4:8**

We have the freedom to choose life or death – **Deuteronomy 30:19**

- Choose life

Church in the house

Ever since 1996 I have been committed to establishing the church in the house

For the church to be sustainable without adopting an organisational framework and system to work by, the church needs to return to the original Scriptural practice

We need to describe the house of God to the people of God – **Ezekiel 43:10**

3 Areas of what is the Church

1. The first church in the Bible was in the garden of Eden and there were 2 people and God
 - God was instructing Adam and Eve how to be the government of God in the earth
 - This has always been the responsibility of the church in the earth, to manifest the kingdom of God

Matthew 18:20

- Where 2 or 3 are gathered together in My name, I AM (Jesus) there in the midst of them
- The church is always more than one person as it is members functioning together
- But it can be as small as 2 or 3
- The church is not a liturgy but 2 or 3 or many more people with Jesus in the midst of them, gathering in the name of Jesus
- Not in the name of the denomination
- The church is not an inherited organisational structure

1 Corinthians 3:17

- If anyone defiles the temple of God than God will destroy him
- The temple is holy, we are the temple

1 Peter 2:5

- Peter did not walk around wearing holy robes
- He walked around full of the Spirit of God
- We are “living stones”
- We are being built up a “spiritual house”
- We are a holy priesthood
- We can offer spiritual sacrifices through Jesus Christ
- We are not part of a denominating group
- We are part of the house, we are the people of God

The church is wherever God’s people gather together in Jesus’ name

2. There is only one sanctuary

- It is not where we meet
- It is not the building

The venue does not really matter

We do not “go to church”

The only true sanctuary

Hebrews 9:11

- Messiah came with the greater and more perfect tabernacle
- Not of this creation
- There is a sanctuary
- There is a holy place
- It is not a physical place or location

v.24 – the true sanctuary is in heaven

How do we experience the true sanctuary?

Through Messiah and by His precious blood

Where 2 or 3 gather in My name, I AM there in the midst – this is how we access the true sanctuary

We are not looking for altars or special buildings, we are looking for Messiah/Christ

Colossians 1:13

- We have been brought into the kingdom
- When we were born again, the true tabernacle of God was accessed by us, by Jesus touching us
- It can happen anywhere

How is the church able to be the sanctuary of God?

By experiencing that heavenly glory when we gather in His name

He graces us with His Presence and His Power

We are influenced and changed by the holiness of God

3. The church is a Body

The strongest analogy to describe the church in the New Testament is that of being a “Body”

1 Corinthians 12:12

- The body is one, many members, but one body
- So also is Christ/Messiah
- God means for us to be functioning members of a body
- Not attending church meetings and doing the “God-hour” on Sunday mornings
- This speaks of an interactive lifestyle

- Individual members of the Body can function much more readily in a smaller meeting in a house than in a big public meeting

1 Corinthians 14:26

- A description of the church meeting
- Each of you has something
- A psalm, a teaching, a tongue, a revelation, an interpretation
- We are more and more following this pattern where each one has something to contribute to the meeting
- Sometimes children are bringing a word
- Relationship with other members grows in this atmosphere

1 Corinthians 12:18

- God sets the members in the Body just as He pleased
- v.28** – God also appoints these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers
- there are to be functioning apostles in the church appointed by God
 - in history men have changed this
 - there are to be functioning prophets in the church, functioning teachers also
 - there is a function for every member of the church
 - that function is encouraged and expressed and built up by receiving the five-fold ministers (**Eph.4:11-12**)

If we take **1 Cor.14:26** seriously which says that each one has something to contribute in the meeting (not just the 2 hour “meeting” but in fellowship, over a cuppa, over a meal etc.). The church (congregation) will truly grow with all members functioning.

The Church that meets in houses

The church of the New Testament is the church that meets in houses

- So the temptation can be to start denominational house churches and just transfer what is done in the church building to the house
- The apostles taught the doctrine of Christ in the houses as the believers gathered together daily – **Acts 5:42**

In the New Testament there were public ministries – but generally evangelistic

The hall was used for the school of Tyrannus (**Acts 19:9-10**) – but this was not a dedicated church building, it was a place for training and discipleship; the church met in houses

The Holy Spirit will tell you where the church is meeting

There is no record of dedicated church buildings in the New Testament

Since early 1970s, there has been a move in many bigger churches to come back to the house meeting

The emergence of “cell meetings”, could meet anywhere

- Many adopted that strategy, that pattern, but not from revelation of the Scriptures but because it worked for others

Communism used “cell groups” to disciple others in the communist doctrine

- Even John Wesley in the 18th Century started/established “cottage meetings” for the new converts
- In the “cottage meeting” unfortunately he set it up like a cell meeting, but they did minister to one another and became the foundation of the Methodist movement

The church has had a history of denominationalising

- The idea of the ordained priesthood and the sacred building has been considered necessary to be a “church”
- We need to be restored and re-educated in what the church really is
- The truth will make you free (**Jn.8:31-32**)
- We need to cast all that off and just meet with Jesus
- All our foundational experiences in Christ can happen in the house

The Lord’s Table is a key component of house church

This is a key component, even the major component, of church in the house

- It is when we break bread together
- You have truly become the church when you are breaking bread together, to eat the body and drink the blood of Jesus together

Every denomination has its own rules about the Lord’s Table

It is a major breakthrough for believers to break bread in the house in a way that mirrors New Testament church practice

Most denominations have restricted the breaking of bread to the “church building” by an ordained minister

The Scripture is our only authority for our faith and practice

- If you read it in the Bible it is true
- We need to obey the Bible

The restoration of church in the house

In most small meetings, whether cell groups, house meetings...etc

- They are effective in giving good pastoral care to the flock
- There is fellowship for the members of the group
- But generally these expressions of house church fail to bring the saints into the full expression of their ministries

- Cell groups have a very clear curriculum of what they are meant to do in the meeting and they are to get everyone along to the big Sunday church meeting
- There needs to be a shift from “cell groups” to establishing the church in the house

The church in the house is the church in its primary and ongoing expression according to the Scriptures

Joint Heirs with Christ

Each one of us has been saved and redeemed for a purpose
God wants us to know why we are redeemed
There is so much for us to enter into
There is something more for us to live for, not just a once-a-week meeting but a whole life

Philippians 3:13-14

- We are to lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus laid hold of us

It begins with knowing who Jesus is

To know our purpose we must know who Jesus is

2 Peter. 3:18 – we are to grow in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus the Messiah

Our identity is in Jesus

We will know who we are when we know who He is

Who is Jesus?

Mark 1:1 – Jesus is the Messiah = the King

Jesus is the Son of God = speaking of inheritance, He is the Son

The Son and the inheritance He has

Hebrews 1:2

- God speaks to us by His Son
- The Son is appointed *heir of all things*

John 16:15

- All things Father has are Mine
- The Son has all things that belong to the Father

Psalm 2:7-8

- The Son has all the nations as His inheritance
- The ends of the earth are given to the Son for His possession

Being a Son speaks of inheritance and Jesus is the Son of God

We need to understand who we are

Galatians 3:26-28

- We are sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus
- When we were baptized we were immersed into Christ – a new identity, a new clothing
- So now there is no distinction, we are all sons of God

Galatians 4:4-7

- The reason for our salvation and redemption was that we might receive the *adoption as sons*
- It was not to be saved to go to heaven when we die, much more for the here and now
- Jesus came into the world at the “appointed time”, the right time, the time of fulfilment (the law and prophets were until John – **Matt.11:13**)
- We are sons
- Because we are sons God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts
- There is a cry in sons “Abba, Father” – it comes from the spirit in sons
- If we are sons we are *heirs of God through Christ*
- **Heir** – sharer, inheritor, a possessor
- **Luke 15:31** – all that the Father has belongs to sons

Romans 8:15-17

- We have received the *Spirit of adoption* which makes us cry, “Abba, Father”
- The Spirit witnesses to the truth of who we are as sons
- We are heirs of God and *joint heirs with Christ*
- This is who we are

If we are joint heirs with Christ then we need to know what the inheritance of Christ/Messiah is

Who is Jesus?

Matthew 1:1

- He is the Son of David, the Son of Abraham

Why is Jesus referred to as son of David and son of Abraham?

Being a son speaks of inheritance

There is an inheritance in David and Abraham

Son of David

2 Samuel 7:12-14

- The seed (son) of David will have a kingdom established by YHWH
- He will build God’s house
- His kingdom will be forever, an eternal kingdom
- He will be “The Son of God”
- Solomon was a type of this son, but not the fulfilment
- The inheritance is a kingdom that will last forever

Romans 1:2-4

- The gospel was promised in the Scriptures
- The gospel is all concerning God’s Son, Jesus the Messiah, born of the seed of David according to the flesh
- Declared the Son of God with power
- Jesus is the Promised Son of David, Son of God!

Luke 1:31-33

- The One born to Mary would be the “Son of the Highest”
- He would be given the “Throne of David”
- His kingdom would never end

Isaiah 9:6-7

- Son given who is the mighty God
- No end to His government, it is increasing, this is the reality!
- Upon the Throne of David – means governing the earth, a kingdom established on the earth

We are sharers, joint heirs with Christ, sharing in this authority with Him

We have been given a kingdom

Matthew 6:9-10

- We are to pray for His kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth
- We are not praying this as someone separate from the kingdom but in the kingdom as an inheritor of the kingdom

The inheritance in David is a kingdom being established on the earth forever

Son of Abraham

John 8:56

- Abraham rejoiced to see Jesus’ day and he saw it and was glad
- Somehow Abraham saw ahead to Jesus, the fulfilment of the promises made to him, and it filled him with joy

Galatians 3:16

- Promises were made to Abraham and His Seed (singular not plural “seeds”)
- The Seed is **Christ**
- **So all the promises to Abraham are ours because we are joint heirs with Christ**

Some promises to Abraham

Genesis 13:14-16

- All the land which you see I give to you and to your Seed (Christ) forever!!! The earth belongs to Christ and therefore to us!
- Your Seed (Christ) will be as the dust of the earth – many sons to glory (**Heb.2:10**)
- **Isaiah 53:8** – Messiah shall see His Seed – He will be multiplied

Genesis 22:17-18

- God will multiply your Seed (Christ)
- Your Seed (Christ) will possess the gate of our enemies
- We shall possess the gate, we shall have the victory – **Matthew 16:18** – the gates of Hades will not prevail
- In your Seed (Christ) all the nations of the earth will be blessed

- It is a blessing for nations
- The blessing is in Christ – able to enter into sonship, knowing the Fatherhood of God, being broken out of bondage to fear and brought into freedom!!!
- We have been blessed to reach all nations because that is the promise, that is our inheritance

Romans 9:25-26

- Quoting from **Hosea**
- God has called the Gentiles
- Where it was said “You are not My people”, there they will be called “Sons of the living God”
- Nations included in becoming sons

When we are sent to make disciples, we are sent to bless the nations

Galatians 3:8

- The gospel was preached to Abraham beforehand
- It was “In you all the nations shall be blessed”
- The nations will be justified by faith
- This is the gospel message preached to Abraham

Romans 4:13

- What is the inheritance in Abraham?
- *Heir of the world*
- Promise made to Abraham and His Seed
- **Our inheritance is the world!!!**
- We share in this inheritance

We are to lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has laid hold of us

We are to share in His inheritance, fellow sharers with Him

The Victorious Gospel

We are in a battle. The battle is for the truth.

Due to not understanding the kingdom of God and the authority of Jesus the Messiah, believers have been looking to get out of this world. We need to bring the kingdom of God into this world.

When we are baptised (immersed) into Jesus the Messiah we experience victory. We are placed into His resurrection, able to walk a new life free from sin (**Romans 6:3-7**). The gospel is a victorious gospel. It changes the atmosphere in places. We are to keep taking this gospel wherever we go.

John 17:15

- Jesus prayed – “Do not take them out of the world” – do not be looking for an escape rapture
- “Keep them from the evil one”

The prophets in Scripture never prophesy about us going to heaven. They prophesy about this world changing – a new world (new creation). They were prophesying the kingdom of God - the earth being filled with His glory.

Jesus reigns!

Hang in there. There will be seasons that are very tough. We will have the victory if we hang in there.

Revelation 1:5

- Jesus is the ruler over the kings of the earth.
- He is ruling in the sphere that we live in.
- We need to get in line with His rulership.

Hebrews 10:12-14

- Jesus sat down at the right hand of God (He took the position of rulership)
- **V.13** – from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool
- He, Himself, is already far above all principalities and powers (**Ephesians 1:20-21**)
- We are the body of Christ – He is waiting for a body of people to have the enemy under their feet (walking in victory)

We are in a season of restoration to preach this victorious gospel.

Psalm 110

- Rule in the midst of your enemies
- We are to have dominion even among the enemies of God around us.

Are you going to enter in to this victorious gospel?

Hebrews 2:14-15

- The truth sets us free
- The devil has been destroyed. We don't have to come under his power.
- Through death, Jesus destroyed him who had the power of death, that is, the devil
- We are now released from the fear of death
- Jesus is the resurrection and the life (**John 11:25-26**)
- The devil's power has been annulled

This is the victorious gospel. The word *gospel* referred to the good news of a new king ascending the throne. This word *gospel* was also used for a military conquest. The new king who has ascended the throne is Jesus and He has won a great victory.

What about principalities and powers?

Colossians 2:15

- Jesus disarmed principalities and powers through the cross
- He made a public spectacle of them (an open show)
- Jesus has triumphed over them
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- We have been washed, sanctified and justified – the devil's weapons have been taken away
- All our sin has been dealt with, we cannot be intimidated anymore by the powers of the devil

If you read the whole Bible in context, we read that we are victorious. We are the army of God. We are not to draw back, but to believe to the saving of the soul (**Hebrews 10:39**)

1 Corinthians 15:57

- Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus the Messiah
- We must know that we have the victory

2 Corinthians 2:14-15

- God always leads us in triumph in Christ
- We are the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved
- We are the aroma of death to those who are perishing

God will always lead us in triumph. We may feel defeated, but we are not. We need to keep speaking the truth into our soul – We have the victory.

The gospel is good news of a great victory.

The hope of the gospel

Isaiah 11:1-10

- A man from the lineage of David (a Man on the earth) will come
- This one would have the Spirit of YHWH resting upon Him
- This is how the kingdom of God would come
- The rule of God is expressed through God governing people by His Spirit

- **V.3-4** – His delight is in the fear of YHWH
- Judging with righteousness
- The rod of His mouth (the Word), the breath of His mouth is used to slay the wicked
- **V.6-9** – transformation and restoration of creation (the effect of this victorious gospel)
- **V.9** – they shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain
- **The earth shall be full of the knowledge of YHWH as the waters cover the sea**
- **Jeremiah 31:33-34** – This is the New Covenant – they shall all know Me, from the least to the greatest
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- **Matthew 11:13** – the prophets prophesied until John. Now we are in the age of the kingdom of God. We can access the kingdom reality now.
- This is a picture of the earth full of the knowledge of YHWH – The earth disciplined by disciples of the King
- Sons of God manifesting and creation being delivered (**Romans 8:19-21**)
- The Son of David (the Messiah) manifest and reigning
- The gift of the Holy Spirit has been poured out and God is now living in us
- God is in us – in order to bring everything back under the dominion of God through men
- **V.10** – in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse
- There is a Rod (**v.1**) and there is a Root (**v.10**)
- Jesus is the foundation, He is the cornerstone and the capstone (the Rod and the Root)
- He will stand as a banner for the people
- Nations shall seek Him

The reign of the King is here!

We are the ones bringing the kingdom into the earthly realm

Ephesians 3:8-11

- Grace given to preach among the nations the unsearchable riches of Messiah
- To make all see (revelation coming through the Word of God being proclaimed)
- The fellowship and sharing is in the Messiah the King (fellowship in the mystery of Messiah)
- V.10 - For the purpose that **now** the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly realms
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This is the victorious gospel.

The kingdom of heaven is like

The kingdom of God focus is making disciples.

There are many descriptions of the kingdom in the Scriptures.

Colossians 1:13

- He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love
- The nature of this kingdom is of the love of the Father for the Son
- We experience the love of the Father in the kingdom
- The kingdom is characterised by love (Father to a son)
- Every human wants to know the love of the Father – we've been created for this love

1 John 1:3

- We declare what we have seen and heard, that you may have fellowship with us
- The fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ
- We share and have a participation in this relationship of the Father with the Son
- We are able to cry out, 'Abba, Father!'

- The love of God is not weak, it hates sin
- Love does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth (**1 Cor.13:6**)
- God is a jealous God and He wants to get rid of anything that is blocking His love from coming into our lives
- We need to get delivered from the power of darkness

1 John 4:16

- We have known and believed the love that God has for us (in us)
- God is love
- We need to abide in Him to stay in His love
- **V.17-18** – there is no fear in love
- Perfect love casts out fear
- He who fears has not been made perfect in love
- Fear does not exist in the kingdom of God

The proclamation of the Son happened at Jesus' baptism – **Matt 3:16**

This is where Jesus received the kingdom. It is where He received the Spirit. The government came on His shoulder at that time – **Isaiah 9:6**.

Matthew 13:43

- Then the righteous shall shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father
- The kingdom is full of righteousness
- It is the kingdom of the Father

- **John 10:30** – Jesus and the Father are one

Luke 12:32 – do not fear little flock, it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom

Paul's letters are all to do with the kingdom – the mysteries of Messiah.

The church is the expression of the kingdom on the earth.

The kingdom is characterised by the Father and the Son (**Col 2:2** – mystery of Father and Christ)

Kingdom = rule, reign, royal power, dominion, realm

The kingdom is the rule and reign of the Father.

The kingdom has got to do with the mystery of God – entering into the revelation of the Father and Son.

God, the Father, rules the kingdom through His Son the Messiah.

God does everything through His Son the Messiah.

In the kingdom we address the king as Abba (Father).

Jesus taught us to pray, 'Our Father'

This is the nature of the kingdom of God.

Sons of this kingdom are extensions of the Father. We are the body of Messiah. We are in the mystery of God, Father and Christ. We are in this fellowship.

Matthew 26:29

- Jesus and the Father are one
- ...in My Father's kingdom

Luke 22:29-30

- I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me
- The Father's kingdom and the Son's kingdom are one
- ...My table in My kingdom (Jesus words)
- We are all invited to eat and drink at the king's table – this is a special place of honour

Psalms 145:11

- They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom and talk of Your power
- A kingdom of glory and power
- When you come into this kingdom, it is entering into the glory
- How much do you tell others about the glory of the kingdom of God?
- We are to talk of His glory and power

1 Cor 4:20 – the kingdom is not in word but in power

The kingdom is not just to be talked about. It is to be experienced

Psalms 145:12

- The glorious majesty of His kingdom
- Majesty speaks of splendour, magnificence

Daniel 2:44

- The God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed
- Set up by the God of heaven (the kingdom of heaven on the earth)
- It is spiritual in nature – it comes from another realm

- **2 Timothy 4:18** – the Lord will preserve me for **His heavenly kingdom** (delivering me from every evil work)
- **Dan 2:44** – this kingdom will never be destroyed
- this is the confidence we have when we preach the gospel of the kingdom
- no kingdom of this world can destroy the kingdom of God
- **Hebrews 12:27-28** – we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken
- In order to function in this kingdom, we need grace
- We can't function in the kingdom apart from grace – we can't do it with fleshly effort
- We are receiving the kingdom
- God has raised up the 5 ministry gifts (Eph 4:11) to release grace
- The function of disciples in the kingdom is the church functioning
- **Daniel 2:44** – the kingdom shall not be left to other people (it cannot be taken over by others)
- the kingdom is reserved for the saints (it is our inheritance)
- **v.44** – it shall break in pieces and consume all other kingdoms
- the kingdom of God is to take over in every area of society
- **v.44** - it shall stand forever

Revelation 11:15 – the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Messiah

Aspects of the Kingdom

Romans 14:17

- **righteousness**, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit – this is the kingdom of God
- the kingdom of God is not about eating and drinking
- righteousness comes by believing – Faith
- the kingdom is a realm of faith (trusting in God)
- **2 Peter 3:13** – we are looking for the promise of a new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells
- **Peace** – when we are walking in peace, we are walking in the Kingdom
- **Romans 16:20** – the God of peace will crush satan under your feet swiftly
- Make your requests known to God and you will walk in peace (free from anxiety and worry)
- Jesus spoke peace to the storm and the kingdom of God came
- Have your feet shod with the gospel of peace (**Eph 6**)
- **Col 3:15** – let the peace of God rule in your hearts and be thankful
- **Joy** – the kingdom is a place of joy
- the King has everything under control
- **1 John 1:4** - ...*that your joy may be made full* (joy comes as a result of our fellowship with the Father and the Son)
- **Romans 15:13** – *may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit*

In the Spirit – the kingdom of God is accessed by the spirit

- we need our spiritual eyes opened
- it is invisible, yet more real than what we see

Matthew 18:21-35

- in the context of dealing with a sinning brother
- forgiveness is a nature that has now come inside of us in the kingdom
- The kingdom of heaven is a place where the king settles accounts
- We are to keep short accounts
- **V.24** – a man owed a huge sum of money
- The master of the servant was moved with compassion
- **V.27** - The King settles accounts, however, He is moved with compassion – He forgives debts
- **V.35** - We need to forgive one another from the heart (just like our heavenly Father)
- We need grace to be able to forgive
- Forgive and release others who are indebted to us – this is how we live in the kingdom of heaven
- Holding unforgiveness blocks the flow of the kingdom in our lives – causes us to be delivered to the torturers

Colossians 3:13

- Bearing (putting up) with one another
- We are all on the journey
- Forgiving one another
- Forgive any complaints as the Messiah has forgiven us
- Forgiveness = releasing people from debt (releasing them from owing you)
- Realise how much the Messiah has forgiven you
- Love keeps no record of wrongs

Matthew 22:1-14

- This is Jesus teaching us on the kingdom
- The kingdom is getting a people ready for the marriage
- The King does get angry
- **2 Thess 1:4-5** – we are to be counted worthy for the kingdom of God for which we suffer
- God will repay with tribulation those who trouble His people
- Go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite them to the wedding feast
- The kingdom has got to do with going out and inviting others to join the feast!
- The wedding hall was filled with guests
- **V.11-12** - We need to be dressed properly for the wedding feast – Clothed with Christ
- **Through baptism into Messiah we are clothed with Messiah – Galatians 3:27**
- Many are called but few are chosen
- We need to have the right garments on
- **Eph 4, Col 3** – we put on the new man, who can live in the kingdom

Receiving the kingdom

Hebrews 12:28

- **We are receiving a kingdom** that cannot be shaken

It has always been God's desire and His eternal purpose to receive the kingdom

Luke 12:32

- It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom
- It is the Father who gives the kingdom
- He gives it to sons

From the beginning

Genesis 1:27-28 (Adam and Eve)

- Man (male and female) were created in the image and likeness of God
- This means they were created as sons
- **Luke 3:38** – Adam was called a son of God
- **God wanted to give them the kingdom**
- v.28 – *have dominion* – this language is kingdom language
- a) **be fruitful** – this is something we are to be, not something we have to do, fruit will come as we are with Jesus and obedient to God
- They were to bear children and grow up mature sons that would bear the glory of God
- For us, this is the work of making disciples – **Matthew 28:19** – fruit = making disciples
- As we are faithful to do this then the earth will be filled with sons of God and the earth will be subdued
- **Subdued – Psalm 47:3** – God subdues the peoples under us, by people becoming obedient to the faith (**Romans 1:5**)
- **Have dominion** – we can only have what we have first received
- if we are fruitful, multiplying...you will be given the kingdom (dominion), to rule and reign over His creation

The children of Israel

Exodus 4:22

- Israel is My Son, My Firstborn

Exodus 19:6

- You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation

It was God's desire for the children of Israel (His Son) to make them a kingdom of priests, a holy nation

- They were God's corporate Son
- Their destiny was to be a kingdom of priests
- It could not fully happen until the Messiah came

- The ministry of kings and priests under the Old Covenant were separate
- But God's plan was always for the offices of king and priests to be together

Psalm 110:1-4

- The Lord, the Messiah, would be a ruler (**v.2**), and He would be a priest in the order of Melchizedek forever (**v.4**) = a king and a priest
- **Hebrews 7:1** – Melchizedek is a king and a priest

Hebrews 8:5

- The Old Covenant was a shadow and a copy of what was to come but the fulfilment was in Christ

All peoples (Gentiles)

John 1:12

- As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God
- "As many"

Revelation 1:5-6

- Jesus the Messiah, the Ruler, loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood
- He did this in order to make us kings and priests to His God and Father
- This is God's heart for all people, to be kings and priests unto Him

Revelation 5:9-10

- Redeemed by the blood, every people, tribe, every tongue, every nation
- All people who have received Him are given the kingdom
- He redeemed us to be kings and priests
- And we shall reign on the earth!!!
- Man was created in the earth
- We were blessed to be fruitful on the earth and have dominion on the earth!!

Why did Jesus redeem us by His blood?

- So we can be kings and priests, ruling on the earth in His kingdom

We are the extension of His rule and reign in the earth!

- Jesus is the King of kings (we are the kings)
- We continue and release His rule further in the earth

Two kings in Old Testament that received the kingdom

Saul

1 Samuel 8:7

- In asking for a king the people rejected YHWH as King so that He would not reign over them
- They wanted to be like the nations around them
- This was in the flesh, not according to God
- He agreed to give them a King with Samuel giving the people a warning

They were looking for the kingdom according to the flesh and not in the will of God

1 Samuel 9:1-2

- Wealthy man
- Choice and handsome
- Most handsome in Israel
- Taller than anyone in Israel

1 Samuel 15:1

- Saul was anointed King over Israel
- YHWH anointed him through Samuel
- "You need to heed the voice of the words of YHWH"
- There is a voice speaking
- Who is the One speaking the words of YHWH?
 - a) There was an anointing
 - b) He was to heed and know the Voice

v.3 – a strong command given to not spare anything

v.10-11 – God greatly regretted installing Saul as King
- He did not obey

v.18 – YHWH sent you on a mission!
- A kingdom mission, he disobeyed

When we receive the kingdom we are:

- 1) Anointed – set apart
- 2) To heed His Voice
- 3) Sent on a mission – the King's mission

v.19 – why did you not obey the Voice of YHWH?

v.20 – Saul was compromised, he was in the flesh

A) There is an anointing of YHWH

- There is an anointing from the King Himself that sets us apart and empowers us
- The anointing preserves us

Psalm 105:14-15

- When we are anointed there is a covering of protection where no one can do us harm

1 Samuel 24:4-6

- Even David knew "I cannot touch Saul"
- I cannot harm him – he was anointed
- When we receive the Anointed One, we cannot be harmed and we will be given a mission
- When God removed the Anointing, Saul had a tragic end

B) We are to hear the voice of the words of YHWH

- A person has a voice
- We are to hear and know the One who speaks the words of YHWH

Deuteronomy 4:7

- God is so near to us as a nation
- v.8-9** – discipleship, teach the next generation the statutes
- v.10** – let them hear My words...teach their children (that is the mission)
- v.12** – You heard the sound of the Words...you only heard a Voice
 - they did not see a form
 - The Messiah had not come

How are we born again?

John 5:25

- Now is the time for the dead to hear the voice of the Son of God
- The voice is the voice of the Son of God
- Those who hear will live!
- There is more for us
- We not only hear His voice but we see His form!

Matthew 16:28

- Some standing here who will not taste death till the **see** the Son of Man coming in His kingdom

Matthew 17:1

- Jesus took three up a mountain to get a revelation

v.2-5

- suddenly a Voice came out of the cloud
- “This is My Beloved Son...Hear Him”
- to receive the kingdom we must hear Him

v.6-8

- they saw no one but Jesus only
- now they only saw Jesus!
- the kingdom of God is in Jesus only

Hebrews 1:2-3

- God has spoken to us by His Son
- The Son is the “express image of His Person”
- The voice belongs to a Person
- The One speaking is the Son

Peter received the kingdom

Matthew 16:16-19

- You are the Christ, the Son of God
- Revelation came from the Father
- You heard His voice and saw Him
- Now he was ready to receive the kingdom
- Peter was given the keys to the kingdom
- Peter received the kingdom

Paul received the kingdom

Acts 22:14-15

- Paul was chosen to...**see the Just One and hear the voice of His mouth**
- He received the kingdom

Then Paul was given a mission

Acts 26:15-19

- The anointing is given to us so we can do the mission
- Paul saw Jesus
- **The mission was:**
- sent to the Gentiles
- to open their eyes
- to turn from darkness to light
- from power of Satan to God
- to receive forgiveness of sin
- to receive an inheritance

Paul received the kingdom – **Acts 28:30-31**

C) We are given a mission

- It is a kingdom mission
- All authority and power that was given to Jesus is give to us
- **Matthew 28:18** – the King talking, no room for our own agenda, self-interest, the flesh
- The kingdom was torn from Saul because he went into the flesh
- Take Jesus seriously – **Go!**

Dominion comes as we are faithful in the mission – **Gen.1:28**

Jesus gave the apostles power and authority to do the mission

Luke 9:1-6

- 12 disciples were given power and authority over all demons
- And to cure diseases
- Sent to preach the kingdom
- Heal the sick

The mission:

- Take nothing for the journey
- no money
- no bread
- stay in the house that receives us

If they had looked at the mission and thought to compromise would they have had the power to fulfil the mission? No

- Through obedience we receive the kingdom

They were successful, they were obedient

David

God's choice

1 Samuel 16:1

- YHWH rejected Saul
- "I have provided Myself a King from Jesse"

v.7

- Do not look at his appearance or his physical stature
- YHWH looks at the heart!!
- God's kingdom is about the heart

Acts 13:22

- What did God see when He saw David?
- I have found David...a man after My own heart
- He will do all My will
- That is the heart God is looking for
- This is a heart that can receive the Kingdom

In the New covenant God promises to give us a new heart – **Ezekiel 36:26-27**

- God gives us the heart to receive the kingdom
- We need to be growing in the revelation of Jesus the Messiah to receive a new heart and receive the kingdom

1 Samuel 16:13

- A big difference between Saul and David
- David was anointed
- The Spirit of YHWH came upon David from that day forward
- The Spirit stays with us
- **Matt.3:16** – The Spirit remained on Jesus, **John 1:32**

Isaiah 61:1-3

- The anointing of Messiah that we receive
- This is the anointing of YHWH
- This is what we receive to be kings and priests
- The kingdom mission is to preach, heal, deliver...

Isaiah 11:2

- The Spirit that we receive
- The Spirit remains and rests on us
- It is the Spirit enabling us to reign in wisdom, understanding, counsel...

2 Samuel 5:3-4

- David was anointed to be king much earlier but he still had to grow into receiving the kingdom
- They (the elders at Hebron) anointed David king over Israel
- David was 30 years old when he began to reign
- Jesus was 30 years old when He began to reign

v.17

- David had an enemy now
- David inquired of YHWH
- “Go up...”
- David heard the Voice and there was a breakthrough
- David was faithful in the mission

v.25

- David did what YHWH commanded him

2 Samuel 8:6,14

- YHWH preserved David wherever he went
- When we are in the kingdom, on the mission, anointed, YHWH will preserve us
- **Matthew 28:18-20** – Jesus will be with us

2 Samuel 3:1

- David grew stronger and stronger
- **Isaiah 9:7** – the government will increase – **Revelation 11:15**
- The kingdom increases through us receiving the kingdom

In receiving the kingdom:

There is an anointing – the Spirit of YHWH

Hear His Voice

See His form

Heed the mission – nations becoming obedient to the King, Jesus

The Throne

We want to discover the throne of the Kingdom.

Deuteronomy 17:18-20

- The throne of the kingdom (the kingdom has a throne)
- There was to be a copy of the teaching of YHWH with the king
- We need to have the Word with us (in us)
- The king was to read the teaching of YHWH all the days of his life
- Kings were to be keepers of the law (walking in obedience to YHWH)
- The heart of the king was not to be lifted up above the brethren (no pride allowed)
- The throne is actually ascended through humility (**Philippians 2:5-11** – Jesus humbled Himself and was obedient unto death, therefore He was highly exalted)

Throne – Hb SC#3678 *kiṣce* – means covered, a seat or a chair (a position of authority that is taken)

1 Samuel 2:8

- *...make them inherit the throne of glory*
- It is a throne of glory
- The poor of the dust and the beggar of the ash heap are raised up and seated in this place (**Ephesians 2:6** – God has raised us up and made us sit together in the heavenly places)
- It is God's intention for us to rule and reign with Him
- The throne of glory is inherited by those raised up by God from humble beginnings

A throne of glory

Matthew 19:28

- In the regeneration (regeneration means being born again)
- We have been washed by regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit (**Titus 3:5**) so that we can rule with Jesus
- The Son of Man is already seated on the throne of His glory (**Acts 2:33**)
- We are in the regeneration having been born again
- Those who have followed Jesus will also sit on thrones
- Judging – a governmental position
- Those who have left all to follow Jesus will be rewarded

Jeremiah 17:12

- A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary
- God has always wanted us to live and dwell at the throne
- We can find refuge at the throne of God
- The throne is the place of God's glory

Matthew 25:31-34

- The nations are judged from the throne of His glory
- The judgement in this account is based on how we treat the brethren of Jesus
- The brethren of Jesus are the ones who are following Jesus (Jesus said whoever does the will of My Father is My mother, brother, sister) – **Matthew 12:46-50**
- **Heb 2:11** – He is not ashamed to call us brethren

The Throne of David

2 Samuel 3:9-10

- King Saul had died
- YHWH had sworn to David – to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and set up **the throne of David**

2 Samuel 7:13, 16

- The throne of the Son of David would be established forever
- The throne of David is an eternal throne
- V.16 – David's throne established forever

What else is the throne of David called?

1 Kings 2:4

- The throne of Israel – another name for the throne of David
- Solomon sat on this throne

1 Chronicles 28:5

- He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of YHWH over Israel
- It is the throne of the kingdom of YHWH

1 Chronicles 29:23

- *Then Solomon sat on the throne of YHWH as king instead of David his father*
- the throne of David is actually the throne of YHWH
- God has always wanted a man on the throne of YHWH!
- The throne of heaven and earth being connected
- God in heaven ruling through a man in the earth

Exodus 17:15-16

- Context of Israelites in the wilderness
- Moses lifted his staff up and Aaron and Hur helped to hold up his hands – they got the victory
- 'YHWH has sworn' literally means 'a hand is upon the throne of YHWH'
- We can put the hand upon the throne by walking in the authority of Jesus – worshipping Jesus

A Man sits on the throne of YHWH.

- Ezekiel saw a Man on the throne of YHWH – The throne was full of glory –
Ezekiel 1:26-28

Psalm 89:14

- Righteousness and justice are the foundation of this throne

Jeremiah 23:5-6

- I will raise to David a Branch of Righteousness
- A king shall reign and prosper
- He will execute judgment and righteousness in the earth (the foundation of the Throne)
- He will be called YHWH our Righteousness
- YHWH is the Man – He is coming as the Man; as the King
- YHWH came in the lineage of David to take up the throne of David as a Man
- God as a man is sitting on the throne

Isaiah 9:6-7

- The Son is the Mighty God
- The Son will be called Everlasting Father
- Of the increase of his government – no end
- The Son (who is the Mighty God) will be upon the throne of David
- The throne where God as a man rules in the earth

Hebrews 1:8-9

- To the Son He says: *Your throne, O God, is forever and ever*
- The Son is God on the throne
- The Son's throne is God's throne

Isaiah 66:1-2

- Heaven is YHWH's throne
- The earth is His footstool
- God is ruling in heaven, governing the earth
- Jesus the Messiah is the Son who is on the throne of God
- He will live with those who are poor and of a contrite spirit and who tremble at His word

Acts 2:30-33

- What did Peter preach on the day of Pentecost?
- He preached the Messiah – Jesus
- The Messiah would be raised up to sit on the throne of David
- God raised Jesus up and exalted Him to the right hand of God
- The throne of David is called the right hand of God
- God exercising His authority through the Man He has appointed
- The outpouring of the Holy Spirit is proof that Jesus the Messiah is seated on the throne of David (the right hand of God)

God's people are the place of His throne

Ezekiel 43:7

- *This is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever*
- This place is the House of God
- The House of God is the place of God's throne

1 Timothy 3:15 – the house of God is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth

- **The throne is in the midst of us.**
- We can access the throne. It is not separate from us. His throne is in the midst of us.
- When we gather in the name of Jesus, Jesus the King is in the midst of us –
Matthew 18:20
- Heaven comes into the house

Jeremiah 3:17

- At that time Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of YHWH
- The city of God (the heavenly Jerusalem **Heb 12:22**)
- Jerusalem is coming down as a bride in **Revelation 21:2** – the church is the bride
- **Eph 5:22-32** – the church is described as the bride
- Jerusalem which is the bride is called the Throne of YHWH
- The throne is a spiritual reality
- He (Jesus) is seated at the right hand of God and He is in us

Revelation 22:1

- A pure river of water of life proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb
- The throne of God and of the Lamb – it is the same throne
- The word of God comes clear as crystal when we are at the throne

Matt 4:3 – we live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God

- It is a spirit empowered word proceeding from the mouth of God

John 7:37-38

- There is a river coming from the throne
- *He who believes in Me...out of his heart will flow rivers of living water*
- The water is proceeding from the throne out of your mouth, bringing drink to the thirsty

Revelation 22:2

- On either side of the river, the tree of life
- The river that is proceeding forth is the testimony of Jesus
- The leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations
- Where are the nations that need healing? They are on the earth
- **V.3** – there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it
- Wherever the throne is there is no more curse

- Sons of God manifesting – releasing the river from the throne

Revelation 7:15-17

- Overcomers are before the throne of God
- He who sits on the throne will dwell among them
- They shall not hunger or thirst
- The Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd us
- He will lead us to living fountains of waters

How do we approach the throne?

Hebrews 4:16

- It is a throne of grace and mercy (the Lamb is in the midst of the throne)
- Come boldly to the throne of grace to find grace and mercy

The Kingdom and its fruit

When we born again, baptised and filled with the Holy Spirit, our life becomes rooted in the Christ

We are rooted into everything Jesus is

Colossians 2:6-9

- Rooted in Christ
- Built up in Him
- He wants us to abound

Colossians 3:1-4

- Our life is hidden with Christ in God, we are in Him

Ephesians 3:17-19

- Christ/Messiah dwells in our hearts through faith
- Rooted and grounded in love
- We are in Him, we can be filled with all the fullness of God

v.20 – “abundantly” – in connection with fruit and life

- God is able to do abundantly more than we can think
- the power of God is working in us because we are in Him
- God has always been seeking for fruit

Jesus told us to pray for labourers for the harvest because He wants fruit

Matthew 20:1

- The kingdom of heaven is like a Landowner/Farmer who went out to hire labourers/workers for His Vineyard
- Jesus wants fruit from his crop and needs workers to get the fruit

Matthew 21:33-34

- A Landowner who had a Vineyard, set it up and leased it to vinedressers
- Sent servants to go and get its fruit
- Again, Jesus is looking for fruit

Matthew 21:28-30

- Go work in the vineyard
- He wanted to fruit

Matthew 13:1-8 – Sower, parable is about seeing fruit come forth, seed is the “word of the kingdom”

- **Matthew 13:19** – when anyone hears the “word of the kingdom” = the seed. This seed will produce a harvest
- **Not just any harvest, a vast harvest, immeasurable, cannot count it**

Parable of the barren fig tree

- **Luke 13:6-9** – he came seeking fruit on his fig tree. If no fruit, then cut it down because it is just taking up ground. He gave it one more opportunity to bear fruit.
- a grain of wheat if it dies and falls into the ground, then it produces much fruit – **John 12:24**

Parable of Wheat and Tares

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

- wanted a crop that grew to maturity

John 15:1

- Jesus said “I AM the True Vine”
- Jesus is never satisfied with some fruit, He always wants more fruit
- There is no end to the fruit He wants to bring forth out of us – **v.2**
- He prunes fruitful branches to bear more fruit
- **V.4-5** – abiding speaks of rest. The branch does not do any work it just has to abide, stay in the Vine. Then you will bear fruit.
- **V.6-8** – fruit brings glory to the Father
- Fruit is people being saved, but then it is those saved growing to maturity to bear the image and likeness of the Father

v.16 – Jesus chose you. Jesus appointed/ordained you to go and bear fruit

- why did Jesus choose you? To bear fruit, to come to maturity. The fruit will remain.

Matthew 21:43

- Jesus had been looking for fruit for over a thousand years with the Israelites but had found none
- The kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruit of it
- Jesus is looking for fruit of the kingdom

Genesis 1:11-12

- God created the fruit trees that yield fruit
- God was being fruitful Himself
- He created in abundance

v.14-15

- can you count the stars?
- God’s creativity is awesome and abundant

v.20

- waters were to “abound with an abundance of living creatures”
- waters were full of life

v.22

- even after making an abundance of living creatures He blessed them to be fruitful and multiply!!!

The Creation that He made was full of life because Jesus is life

v.26

- Let Us make man in Our image and according to our likeness
- let them have dominion

v.27 – Man created in the image of God, male and female

v.28 – Be fruitful and multiply...

- produce offspring in God's image and likeness
- God wants His image and likeness all over His creation, filled with a family like Him

Genesis 12:2

- God speaking to Abram
- I will make you a great nation
- One man will become a great nation

Genesis 13:16

- And I will make your descendants/seed as the “dust of the earth”
- So numerous you cannot count
- God wants a vast harvest

Genesis 15:5

- God spoke again to Abram
- God took Abram outside and said “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them”
- So shall your descendants/seed be
- The quantity of the harvest that God is seeking is huge, innumerable!!

Genesis 49:22

- Joseph is a fruitful bough...by a well
- His branches run over the wall
- Joseph went to Egypt as one man, a slave, a prisoner, then the 2nd most powerful man in the land
- Joseph was so fruitful that he provided a place for his family (of 70) to reside
- They ended up becoming a nation by the time they left Egypt

Deuteronomy 1:9-11

- YHWH your God has multiplied you...as the stars of heaven in multitude (God was thinking of the promise to Abraham)
- May YHWH God of your fathers make you a thousand times more numerous
- God wants a huge family

Deuteronomy 7:7-8,13

- They began small in number when they first chosen
- Because He loved His people He would bless them and multiply them

- Bless the fruit of the womb, the fruit of your land...
- God wants an abundant people

Deuteronomy 8:1

- By obeying the commandments we will live and multiply

v.7-8

- a description of the kingdom of heaven
- good land, of brooks, fountains, springs, wheat, barley, vines, fig trees...
- in the Spirit this is the kingdom of God
- it is a land of plenty
- this is the land in which we now live
- it is a fruitful kingdom

Israel never produced the fruit

Isaiah 5

- a song of His beloved, Israel, His vineyard
- He expected Israel to bring forth good grapes, good fruit, but it brought forth wild grapes
- God did everything necessary to cause it to bring forth good fruit
- God would destroy His vineyard, Israel
- Fruit = justice but instead oppression
- Fruit = righteousness but instead a cry for help

But God still had His plan for a fruitful nation

Jeremiah 23:4

- God will set up shepherds who will feed them
- v.5-6** – God will raise to David a Branch of Righteousness
- the name of the Branch, the King is “YHWH our righteousness”

Isaiah 11:1

- A rod from the stem of Jesse
- A **Branch** shall grow out of His roots

Jeremiah 33:14-16

- I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness
- **She will be called YHWH our righteousness**
- This is now a corporate Branch, we are joined to the Messiah

Zechariah 3:8

- The companions are a wondrous sign
- I am bringing forth My Servant the Branch
- It is a corporate Branch
- It is Jesus and His body that will be fruitful

Hosea 14:4-8

- Your fruit is found in Me (God)
- The fruit that is growing from this corporate Branch is in God

This links to **John 15** – Jesus is the Vine and we are the Branches

Revelation 21:1-3

- New heaven and new earth
- Holy city coming down from heaven from God
- This is a now reality

v.4 – partly true already as we do not sorrow as others sorrow

- we are in the beginning of this change
- we will live forever, only waiting for the eternal body
- we are starting to inherit and walk in these things
- many things that caused pain before do not do so anymore

v.5 – all things have been new since the resurrection

v.6 - It is done! **John 19:30** – “It is finished” through the work of the Cross

Adam was never created to “work”

The work was always to be done on the 7th day, the rest. Out of abiding. Out of the rest we are to do the work and bear fruit.

When Jesus rose, the rest began. It is finished. He has done everything He can do, we are to believe and enter into His finished work.

Fruit does not come out of frenetic activity.

Fruit comes out of rest and abiding in the Vine.

Farmers bring to the plants everything they need.

Revelation 22:1-2

- Tree of life bore 12 fruits
- Yielded fruit every month
- Leaves of tree were for the healing of nations
- We are the corporate Branch, the corporate Tree bringing healing to the nations

Isaiah 58:11-12

- We will be like a watered garden
- This is how we bring healing to nations
- Repairing the breach, restoring streets to dwell in

Isaiah 61:3-4

- This is our job
- We are to be called trees of righteousness
- We are the planting of YHWH
- They (the trees) will rebuild the ruins and raise up the former desolations

This is the corporate branch, the Body of Christ bringing forth the fruit of the kingdom of God

Ezekiel 47:9-12

- Multitude of fish – a big harvest
- The river will cause life wherever it goes
- Healing
- Trees bearing fruit, watered by the river of God
- It is talking about the people of God, the new creation, the Body of Christ

Romans 8:18-21

- The purpose of a vast harvest brought to maturity
- Due to Adam's sin the world was cursed
- Glorified together with the Messiah
- The glory will be revealed in us
- The longing of creation eagerly waits for the manifestation of the sons of God
- Creation itself (the whole universe) will be delivered from its bondage to corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God
- There needs to be a harvest of maturity
- Through the corporate body of Christ growing to maturity as sons, the whole creation will be delivered into fruitfulness and abundance!!

The sons of the Kingdom

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 – The Parable of the Wheat and Tares

Jesus spoke in parables – Matt 13:34-35

- This was fulfilling **Psalm 78:2**

Matthew 13:10-17 – why did Jesus speak in parables

- To us it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom
- Jesus spoke in parables to fulfil **Isaiah's prophecy – Isaiah 6:9-10**
- We are a blessed people because to us who are sons of the kingdom we have been given to understand the mysteries of the kingdom
- To those whose hearts are hard the parables are just stories
- But to those who are born again understanding is given by the Spirit

The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares is about the end of the age
A natural story to explain a spiritual reality

The Man sowed good seed in his field

An enemy came and sowed tares

Both grew to harvest time (every seed is precious to Jesus as He does not want the seed He sowed disturbed by uprooting the tares too soon)

Reapers would gather tares at harvest time first and burn them

Then reapers would gather the wheat

Every soul is so precious to Jesus

At the beginning you cannot tell the difference between the wheat and tares

As the head appears you begin to see the difference

When the grain is mature it is clearly seen

Tares stand up (proud) and wheat bows over (humble)

When you eat grains of tares you become sick

Grain of wheat is good for food

There is a time of harvest

- Farmers plant with expectation
- There will be a time when the seeds will come to full head and we can reap a harvest
- As sons are planted in the earth God has an expectation of harvest

Growth

- In three of the parables in **Matthew 13** they speak of growth
- Parable of Sower – good soil produced 30, 60 and 100 fold

- Parable of Wheat and Tares
- Parable of Mustard seed (**Matt.13:31-32**)

Sons of the kingdom are expected to grow

- Not by own self-willed efforts

Mark 4:26-29

- The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground
- The seed sprouts and grows, we do not know how
- The expectation of sons of the kingdom is that they will grow and produce

1 Peter 2:1-3

- We are to lay aside all wickedness
- As newborn babes we are to desire the pure milk of the word that we may grow thereby
- God expects growth when we are given the right nutrients
- If no growth there is something wrong

2 Peter 3:17-18

- Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Messiah
- We grow in the grace of God
- It is not by our own hard labour, trying to get His favour

1 John 2:12-14

- **2 Tim.2:2** – we and our disciples are to be growing, we are to be teaching others what we are taught
- 3 stages of our growth in Christ
- Little children, young men, fathers
- This gospel is about growth

Little children – Gk “napios” – immature, baby, childish

Gk 5040 – “teknion” – an infant, plural ‘darlings’, “little children”

Gk 5043 – “teknon” – children, produce, offspring

Gk 5207 – “huios” – son, used of kinship or family

Gk 5206 – “huiiothesia” – the placement of a son (mature)

Little children = 5040 = an infant, darlings, comes from “teknon”, a child

Young men = Gk 3495 = youth, is under 40, a youth being used as an attendant or servant

Fathers = 3962 = pater – father, parent, a title of honour for teachers as those to whom disciples trace back their knowledge and training they receive

The gospel that says you are saved to go to heaven does not bring the revelation of the need for growth

We are to grow from little children, to young men, to fathers

We are to grow to maturity as sons

We must grow up to reveal who our Father is

We grow to represent our Father

The process of sonship begins when we are born again

We enter the kingdom through being born again (**John 3:3-6**), not through “going to church”

We are to have the foundations laid – repent, faith, baptism, filled with Holy Spirit through laying on of hands, walking in resurrection power and the knowledge of eternal judgement – **Hebrews 6:1-3**

James 1:21-25

- Lay aside all wickedness
- Receive the implanted word which is able to save your souls
- Be doers of the word not hearers only
- If you are a hearer only you are deceiving yourself
- **1 Cor.6:9-11** – we will not inherit if we practice unrighteousness
- **Do not look into the mirror (the Word) and forget who you are**
- we need to change otherwise we will not grow up
- This law is a law of liberty = freedom
- We are to continue in it (discipleship) – **Acts 2:42**. Continuing steadfastly. We are sons all the time so we continue all the time
- **V.25** – “doer of the word” and “doer of the work” – now you are starting to do the work, working with the fathers in the gospel business
- **We are to train our children for life and for the life to come**
- this one (the one who is a doer of the word, receiving the implanted word, a doer of the work...) will be blessed in what he does

Stepping through the 3 stages

1. Little children – babes –

John 1:12-13 – as many as received Him

- we are born of God by receiving and believing in Him and then we have the right to become children of God
- **John 3:3-6** – to see and enter the kingdom we must be born again
- we are babes in Christ and need to grow

How do we grow?

1 Peter 2:2 – by the milk of the word

Hebrews 4:12 – the Word is living and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword...

- the Word causes growth

Hebrews 6:1-2 – the milk is the foundations of our faith (**Heb.5:12-14**)

Acts 19:1-10 – the apostle Paul checked foundations of the disciples in Ephesus to see where they were at and found their foundations needed to be properly laid

Young men

- a) strong (spiritually) – **Eph.6:10**
- b) word of God was in them – not playing “churchianity”, the word was coming out of their mouth, they were well disciplined and the word had changed them
- c) they overcame the wicked one – **Romans 6:1-14** – baptised believers are “dead to sin” and “alive unto God in Christ Jesus”
- d) **the young men are working with the fathers** – disciples are not out by themselves (that is out of order)

God gave five ministries to equip and father – Eph.4:11-12

The young men are submitted into the Body, working with the fathers

Fathers (male and female, parents)

- **they know Him**
- they have walked with God
- Fathers are sons who have come into the adoption and are able to father others

Matthew 13:37-43

- Good seeds are sons of the kingdom
- Sower is Son of Man
- Field is the world
- Tares are sons of wicked one
- Enemy is the devil
- Harvest is end of age
- Reapers are messengers/angels

This is happening

v.43 – then the righteous shall shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father

These sons are the mature ones

Those grown from little children, to young men, to fathers

The wicked will be removed from the kingdom

Follow Me The Way of discipleship

Follow Me – the Way of discipleship that Jesus was on about
The call is to follow.

Matthew 4:18-19

- Jesus called Peter and Andrew
- Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men

What is salvation? It is about being rescued from a worldly lifestyle (aimless behaviour) that produces death and living in a lifestyle that produces life (**1 Peter 1:18**)

- A total change – a whole new way of life
- The new nature comes into us when we are born again (**2 Cor 5:17**)
- The old ways of thinking need to die
- We need to learn how to live out of that new creation, not try to better the old

Follow – means to walk behind, or to come to the back of someone or something

- We need to get behind the King
- Then we will walk in continued breakthrough

Micah 2:13 – the One who breaks open will come up before them and they will break out

The king will pass before them, with YHWH at their head.

- Disciples are those who break out
- They follow the One who is breaking open

Matthew 4:19

- When we follow Jesus, He will make us something
- We can't make ourselves anything; do not try
- Follow Jesus and He will lead you and break things open before you

Discipleship is the key and discipleship is the way.

Discipleship will change us.

Matt 4:20 – they immediately left their nets and followed Him

Followed SC Gk#190 *akoloutheo* – See Word Wealth in John 13:36 – it means to accompany, to go the same way with, to be in union on the same road, this word was used for soldiers, servants and pupils

- Walking on the same way with Jesus
- Accompanying Jesus on the road
- This is the 'following' that is mostly used regarding discipleship in the gospels

We are invited by Jesus to join Him. Jesus is the Way (**John 14:6**). He is the only way to the Father. He is the way to know and be in relationship with the true God.

Discipleship brings us to the Father.

Matthew 16:24-25

- Jesus spoke to His disciples

- Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Me
- Jesus is not asking you to do something that He has not done
- Whoever loses his life for My sake will find it

Jesus is the One who breaks us out of all the religious formality. We can be free to follow Jesus. We can go after what is written.

John 10:27-30

- My sheep hear My voice, and I know them and they follow Me
- Following Jesus brings us into eternal life
- Discipleship brings us into the way of life
- If we stay following Jesus, we can never be snatched out of His hand
- Discipleship brings us into a deep revelation of the Father and the Son
- Jesus said, 'I and My Father are one'
- Discipleship brings us into sonship
- We have to get on the highway with Jesus

Isaiah 35:8

- A highway shall be there and a road
- The Highway of Holiness (holiness – being totally separated unto God)
- Whoever walks the road shall not go astray, even a fool can walk on it
- This highway is for everybody
- **V.9** – no lion shall be there (**John 8:31-32** – the truth will make you free from the lies of the devil)
- the redeemed shall walk there

Matthew 8:21-22

- another of Jesus' disciples
- follow Me and let the dead bury their own dead
- this disciple was caught between loyalties
- when we choose to follow Jesus, we give over our own terms and conditions
- we need to trust Jesus in the way
- we need to stay in union with Jesus

Finding true riches

Matthew 19:20-22

- a young rich man came to Jesus
- he wanted to know what he needed to do to inherit eternal life
- if you want to fulfil that for which God created you for, go, sell what you have and give to the poor
- follow Me
- you will have treasure in heaven

When we are willing to follow Jesus and lay aside things, He promises us true spiritual riches (**Col 1:27** – Christ is you, the hope of glory)

The Call to Discipleship

1. A call to learn

- Being willing to learn and grow

- We must take the attitude of a learner if we are to be fruitful and effective

Matthew 11:28-30

- Come to Jesus if you labour and are heavy laden
- Take My yoke upon you and **learn** from Me
- We are to learn from Jesus
- He is gentle and lowly in heart
- We will find rest for our souls – entering the rest that is in the kingdom of God
- Jesus' yoke is easy
- **Easy** – means useful, pleasant, good, comfortable, serviceable and suitable
- His yoke fits well
- It is good for us to settle down and learn

2. A call to serve

Matthew 10:24-25

- A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master
- It is enough that a disciple be like his teacher
- Through serving, we become like our teachers
- What is in them is being imparted to us
- If we give ourselves to serving we will learn many things
- **2 Kings 3:11** – Elisha served Elijah and ended up receiving a double portion of Elijah's anointing (the right of a firstborn son)
- **Phil 2:22** – Timothy served Paul as a son to a father in the gospel
- **He served as a son, not as a servant**
- Discipleship is a call to serve in the family business together

John 12:26 – if anyone serves Me, let him follow Me

- Where I am, there My servant will be also
- The one who serves will be honoured by the Father
- Where Jesus is, we will be also (the position that Jesus has in the Father)

John 21:19

- Jesus said to Peter, 'Follow Me'
- Peter asked Jesus about John
- Jesus said, 'What is it to you?'
- Don't compare your discipleship to others – You follow Jesus

3. A call to be trained

Luke 6:40

- Everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher
- A call to be trained
- **Perfectly** (Word Wealth **Heb 11:3**) – means to arrange, to set in order, same root word as used in **Ephesians 4:12**, to be equipped, made ready for service
- **Eph 4:11-12** – Jesus has released gifts into the body to train us
- We need eyes to see Jesus in the ones who are training and equipping us, otherwise we will run away

4. A call to be fathered

John 15:9

- Discipleship is a call into continual transformation
- Jesus said, 'As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you'
- Being fathered by Jesus
- Jesus loved His disciples as the Father
- The ones discipling are to carry the Father's heart for the disciples
- The body of Messiah needs fathers
- Not an organisational relationship but a family relationship
- Jesus is the model for us
- **Mal 4:5-6** – He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the sons and the sons to the fathers
- Not a servant/master relationship
- The whole earth is crying out for fathers
- Fathers impart true identity

5. A call to be friends

John 15:14-15

- As we enter into the reality of sonship, we can enter into friendship
- Jesus said, 'You are My friends if you do whatever I command you'
- He can trust us as His friends
- A friend is loyal – you can trust your heart with a friend
- No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what His master is doing
- All things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you
- Friends don't have to be told what to do, they have the commands and instructions written in their hearts
- Friends don't leave when things get difficult
- Discipleship is a call into friendship with Jesus

Imitate me as I also imitate Christ

1 Corinthians 4:15-16

- The apostle Paul said, 'Imitate me'

1 Corinthians 11:1

- Imitate me as I also imitate (follow) Christ

The goal is to have a lifestyle in Christ that others can follow and imitate.

Philippians 4:9 – the things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do

- Put these things into practice and the God of peace will be with you
- Paul was walking in the peace of God and could confidently tell the Philippians that if they lived like him they would know the God of Peace

We want to attract Jesus into our lives, by honouring Jesus in our daily life.

1 Corinthians 4:16 – imitate me

Imitate – Greek *mimetes* - means copying, imitating

- For this reason, Paul sent Timothy
- If they received Timothy, they received Paul
- Paul was successful in raising up true disciples and sons
- The Corinthians could imitate Paul by receiving Timothy

- We are to imitate the apostles as they are imitating Christ.

- Copying the apostle in the way he follows Jesus

- **Phil 3:17** – we are to **imitate** the apostolic company (be followers together with me)

- Note those who so walk

- We are to imitate the apostolic team (Paul, Silvanus and Timothy) - **1 Thessalonians 1:6-8**

- As we imitate the apostolic team, we become examples as well

- Imitate the elders – **Hebrews 13:7** – remember those who lead you, whose faith **follow/imitate**

- Imitate the faith of those who lead us (look for the fruit, considering the outcome of their conduct)

- Imitate God – **Ephesians 5:1** – be imitators of God as dear children – walk in love, light and wisdom (**Eph.5:1-17**)

- Learning how to have Jesus formed in us
- Finally in imitating the apostle, imitating the apostolic company, imitating the apostolic team and imitating the elders it is all to lead us to **Imitate God as dear children!**

What is the Eternal Plan

This is an intentional walk

We are to be led by the Spirit

When we are taught by the Spirit of God we do not have to fall into pitfalls

We are to progress in our walk, in our maturity with the Father, the gifts that He gives us

“Time” is not the indication of maturity

Maturity is embodying, incarnating, the Word

This comes from obedience

As we follow the Lord He will see to it that our load is lightened and we are able to walk fully with Him

We become more and more like Christ

Every member of the Body has value and has been given gifts and anointings

Without each member of the Body we are missing something

How to bring the kingdom of God to the earth – How to apply His authority in the earth

What is God's plan?

Ephesians 3:11

- His “eternal purpose” is mentioned here
- God is intentional, He is purposeful
- **Isaiah 46:10** – God has known the end from the beginning – “He declared the end from the beginning”
- **God wanted to bring heaven to earth**

What makes heaven, heaven?

- Heaven is heaven because it is the place where the will of God is always done
- **There is nothing outside of His desire in heaven**
- God is God because He needs nothing and needs no one
- He is completely self-sustaining and self-sufficient and needs nothing from outside of Himself
- God is love – **1 Jn.4:16**
- Love needs a manifestation
- God created Adam to extend His love through Adam into the earth
- **Genesis 1:28** – Adam was to rule and have dominion – do the will of God
- **When the will of God is done on the earth then heaven comes on the earth**
- There is no plan B
- God always had one plan – Jesus was crucified from the foundation – **Revelation 13:8**
- God wanted to bring heaven to the earth through the Man He created
- **Adam was a son – Luke 3:38**

- Heaven was going to come through a son ruling, bringing the expression of His will to the earth

When Adam and Eve were in obedience heaven was on the earth

- Adam and Eve were clothed with the glory, His Presence
- When they disobeyed, things changed, but the plan never changed

The Kingdom of God

- The kingdom of God is not to be confused with a physical kingdom
- “kingdom” – Gk ‘basilea’ – ability to rule or govern
- This is not a word describing physical land or territory, but the authority to reign
- There has to be a delegation of authority
- **Luke 19:11** – the nobleman went to another place to “receive a kingdom” – meaning to get the authorisation, the right, to rule in a certain place
- **Authority comes by delegation**
- **Delegation comes from a person who can give the authority**
- The man left some servants with some money to do business till He came
- The servants who did well would be “given rule over ten cities”
- How could He do that? He was given the kingdom, the authority
- As the One with authority He had the right now to delegate rulership to others
- The King extends Himself through the faithful servant!!!!
- We are shifting now. We are given new revelation. This was the plan from the beginning. He has been implementing that plan from the beginning of the ages till now.
- It is not the time to be ignorant

The citizens of the kingdom are under the rule of the King of the kingdom

- The faithful servant who was given authority was a citizen because he was under the rule of the King
- We have loyalties to natural kingdoms but we are called to a higher loyalty
- We must be born again to see the kingdom of God – **John 3:3**
- When we enter the authority of the kingdom then we have entered the kingdom
- A citizen is under the reign, the authority
- We are governed by that authority
- There are rights, privileges and benefits of being a citizen
- When we are born again we change kingdoms

Colossians 1:13

- He has delivered us from the power of darkness
- This is talking about two kingdoms
- We were living under the authority of darkness
- We were citizens of that kingdom
- That kingdom governed us
- **Heb.2:14** – we are delivered from the “empire of death”
- **The devil has a kingdom, an empire of death**
- We were the children of disobedience (**Eph.2:2-3**)

- Something happens to us when we believe – **Romans 10:9**
- We are to confess Jesus is the Lord, the great One, the Boss
- We are to believe that God raised Jesus from the dead
- We change kingdoms
- We are translated/conveyed/transferred/transported into the kingdom of the Son of His love
- Now we are under a different authority
- Your citizenship is determined by the King you are submitted to
- The good news is that when you are born again you are delivered from the authority and power of death

Ephesians 2

- You cannot be a sinner and a son
- You can be a son and sin sometimes
- A sinner is not who you are
- We must know the truth that makes us free – **John 8:31-32**
- Disciples are ones coming to know who they are
- We need to have the right confession. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks

v.1-3 – that is how we once lived, it is not how we live now

- we “were” once dead in trespasses and sins
- but now we no longer live in that way
- we **were** ruled by the “Prince of the power of the air”
- we **were** in that condition, we **were** sons of disobedience
- we **were** by nature children of wrath

v.4 – BUT GOD

- He loved us even when we were dead in trespasses
- But He made us alive together with Christ
- we were delivered from the power of darkness

This is the dominion that governs us

Kingdom has to do with authority

James 4:7

- This is why we need to “submit to God”
- When we submit, we come under the authority of God, then we have delegated authority to “resist the devil”
- Submission is the key to receiving authority

We must understand this so that we can bring heaven to the earth

Matthew 3:1-2

- John the Baptist came preaching
- “Repent, the kingdom of heaven is at hand”
- The authority of God is coming near
- His rule, His reign is at hand

- Heaven is coming to the earth, it is close

Matthew 4:17

- Jesus came preaching the same message

Matthew 4:23

- Jesus went about... **preaching the gospel of the kingdom**
- He was healing all kinds of sickness and disease among the people
- There are manifestations of the gospel of kingdom message

Matthew 9:35

- Again "preaching the gospel of kingdom"
- Healing

Matthew 16:16-18

- Upon this Rock I will build My church and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it

v.19 – the keys of the kingdom of heaven were given to Peter

- that which you bind on earth is what is already bound in heaven...
- whatever is so in heaven, is to come to the earth
- **Matthew 6:9-10** – bring heaven to earth
- Jesus gave Peter the authority, the keys to open and shut/lock

Luke 9:1-2

- Jesus gave them power/authority
- Jesus authorised the disciples to do what He had been doing and preaching

Luke 10:1-2,9

- Jesus authorised the 70 others to "heal the sick and say the kingdom of God is near"
- This is the pattern from the beginning
- This is the will of God
- This is the introduction of the kingdom

Jesus is the first Son, the Pattern

Jesus came to bring something to the earth

We are the continuation of what God began with the first Son

What does the fully manifested kingdom of God look like?

When we know the goal, we can determine the progress

If we do not know what the end looks like we do not know how we are going

1 Corinthians 15:24

- Then comes the end
 - Jesus delivers the kingdom to God the Father
 - Jesus puts an end to all rule and authority and power
 - Jesus presents/delivers the kingdom to God the Father
- v.25** – Jesus must reign (ruling authority, kingdom expression, governs)

- till He has put all enemies under His feet

v.26 – last enemy is death

- all authority and rule are put down, under the dominion of the kingdom of God

- no other enemies that have not been subdued

- Jesus will have accomplished the goal, the plan of God

- any rebellious ones have been put down

- rebellious ones will have no authority, being governed by the superior kingdom of God

The kingdom will manifest fully

The only power will be the power of God

Session 17

Ap Paul Galligan

The Church that meets in the house

Part 2

The purpose of ministry in the house

- 1. To plant the Biblical Church**
- 2. To release it to function**

It is good to have congregational meetings, good praise and worship, good preaching and teaching

- However, this is still not the pattern of the church in the New Testament
- How is the church you are part of equipping you and building you up in the Word?
- How is the church you are part of disciplining you?

The basic instructions of Jesus to the 70

Luke 10:1

- Sent out two by two
- This is a pattern of ministry
- Try to take someone with you
- Always look to be raising a "Timothy"
- Many pastors resign without having raised up anybody to minister
- Where are the sons you have raised to continue your work on the earth?
- The work of the ministry is not just "to do the work of the ministry"
- We need to raise sons and train "Timothys"
- Who is your Timothy? Who can replace you?
- Timothys will be able to fill in the gap to release the fathers to go further

Luke 10:5-7

- Whatever "house" you enter, say, "Peace to this house"
- If your peace is received stay there, remain
- Do not go from house to house
- These are some of the original ministers that Jesus sent out
- This is fairly basic gospel teaching
- We are to find a friendly house

- In 1999 as a ministry we were locked out of church buildings in Australia
- From there mostly in houses
- When you start doing authentic gospel ministry, you will be locked out

Many start in the house and the “progress” to hiring a hall when the numbers increase

- The right way is to send some of the original house church out to begin another one
- At home base in the last 3 years there have been three house churches sent out to begin in their localities

Because there needs to be a Bible based, soul winning, Holy Spirit empowered church in the midst of every group of people everywhere so that every soul is contacted and impacted with the gospel of Jesus Christ

When the church starts to meet in houses more and more people will be contacted and touched with the gospel

Luke 10:1-9

- There are more than 9 points of instructions that Jesus gave
 - a) Jesus appointed workers, He authorised them
- They did not begin out of being resentful of the churches they left
- These ones were authorised by Jesus to go two by two and find a house
 - b) They were sent
 - c) They went into the harvest
 - d) They were as lambs among wolves – was not going to be easy
 - e) They had to trust God for everything, no travel money, no salaries, no money bag
 - f) Find a house of peace
 - g) Do not move from house to house, minister from the house that receives you
 - h) Preach the kingdom of God

14 references in Acts of church in the house

1. Acts 1:12-26

- Disciples with 108 others were meeting in same upper room where Jesus held Last Supper
- Probably a very big room – accommodating 120
- They were meeting in a house
- Peter was led by Holy Spirit to appoint a replacement for Judas Iscariot
- Scriptures were opened in the meeting at the house

2. Acts 2:46

- 3000 converts who had been baptised
- They continued daily in once accord...breaking bread from house to house
- They did not need the ordained minister there but they did what Jesus commanded
- The restoration of the breaking of bread in the midst of disciples happened in the house

3. Acts 5:42

- The apostles taught daily in the houses (every house)
- Preached and taught Jesus the Christ

4. Acts 4:23-31

- The apostles went to their own companions/friends when they were set free
- They did not go to the hotel or the synagogue
- They went to the house where their companions were meeting
- They reported everything
- When they prayed the place was shaken
- The place we assume was a house

5. Acts 9:11-19

- Saul was in the house of Judas in a street called Straight
- What happened?
- Saul received the laying on of hands
- He met his first Christian brother, Ananias – “Brother Saul”
- Saul received healing
- Saul received the Holy Spirit
- Saul arose and was baptised immediately (in the house)

6. Acts 9:33-34

- Peter found a paralyzed man in a house
- Lying on a bed
- Peter healed in the house

7. Acts 10:24-48

- Cornelius was a wealthy man
- A big Roman house
- Brought many in to hear Peter preach
- First Gentile to officially receive an apostle in his house
- They were converted supernaturally and filled with holy Spirit sovereignly

- They baptised all of them there also

What happens in the house?

- Sharing of meals
- Breaking bread
- Share testimony, revelations of the Word
- Prayer, laying on of hands
- Read the Scriptures
- Included washing up at the sink

8. Acts 12:12 (still no church building)

- Gathered together praying
- Not in an dedicated church building
- In a house

9. Acts 16:15-40

- Lydia came to salvation at the river bank hearing Paul preach/share
- Lydia was baptised at the river
- Lydia urged the apostles to come to her house
- The church in Philippi was planted in the house of Lydia
- Paul and Silas went back there after being released from prison
- The church was already meeting regularly

10. Acts 16:32-34

- The conversion and baptism of the Philippians jailer and his family
- The jailer took Paul and Silas into his house
- Spoke the word of the Lord to all the house

We need to face what the Scripture says about the church meeting in the house

- Church meeting in the house is not “inferior” to getting some public building
- The foundation of this ministry was meeting house to house daily
- The public building is a training centre like the school of Tyrannus (**Acts 19:9-10**)
- We can function without the public building

11. Acts 18:7

- Paul departed from the Synagogue and went to the house next door and began to meet as the church
- There is a lot of confusion about the rights of churches

- The apostle Paul was a “sheep stealer”

Acts 19:8-9

- Paul went into the synagogue and for three months preached the kingdom of God, reasoning and persuading
- Some were hardened and spoke evil of the Way
- Paul departed and took all the disciples with him
- Be free to share the truth of God’s Word
- It is God who takes His people out of denominations

12. Acts 20:20

- Paul testifies that he taught publicly and from house to house
- He taught publicly in Ephesus in the school of Tyrannus
- Paul taught in that centre every day and the disciples reached the whole province with the word of the Lord Jesus
- In our case, the “school of Tyrannus” has many campuses, many established places to teach

13. Acts 21:8

- This was an exciting house meeting
- They got the gold star!!
- This was the house of Philip the Evangelist
- He had four virgin daughters who prophesied
- Philip was a deacon, a table waiter (**Acts 6:1-7**), who had moved to Caesarea, brought up a family who can minister and started a house church
- Paul the apostle and his team stayed in the house
- Then Agabus the Prophet turns up as well
- We have an Evangelist sharing, apostle and team sharing and reporting, and a prophet, Agabus, sharing. Many days (more than three days) they met for!
- In the house
- Three leading five-fold ministries turning up

14. Acts 28:30-31

- Paul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house
- He received all who came to him
- Paul was not a wealthy man but he had the true spiritual riches
- He ministered everyday
- What were his two topics:
 1. The kingdom of God
 2. The Lord Jesus the Messiah (who is Jesus)

All other doctrines must flow out of those two subjects

Nine examples in Epistles

1. **Romans 16:5 – house of Priscilla and Aquila** (women can minister)
2. **Romans 16:10 – household of Aristobulus**
3. **Romans 16:11 – household of Narcissus**
4. **Romans 16:14 – Asyncritus and the brethren with him**
5. **Romans 16:15 – group of saints that Paul knew by name**
6. **1 Corinthians 16:15 – household of Stephanus**
7. **1 Corinthians 16:19 – Priscilla and Aquila in Ephesus**
8. **Colossians 4:15 – house of Nymphas**
9. **Philemon 1-2 – he led the church in his own house**

3 Major points

- a) The apostles in the Bible minister publicly and house to house
- b) the normal life of the church was lived out (conducted) in the homes, from house to house
- c) the goal is the multiplication of disciples who meet in houses to hear the apostles' doctrine, fellowship together (meeting each other's needs), to break bread regularly (weekly, preferably daily), to pray together to discover God's purpose day by day, to nurture new converts and disciple new believers

Stop going to church!

The experience of church in an assembly on Sundays is not the expression of the New Testament church

We need to return to the pattern in Scriptures and release the church to function daily from house to house

Start being church!!

What are the four primary works that should be prioritised?

Acts 2:42

- apostles' doctrine
- fellowship
- breaking of bread
- prayer

We need to authorise the church to meet in the house

It can begin with as little as two – **Matthew 18:20**

The kingdom of God

The kingdom is the place where God's will, reign and authority are present and done.

What does it look like?

1 Corinthians 15:24

- When all rule and authority are put down, subdued

How does He desire to do this?

1. God wants to do this through sons
- God could have chosen to represent Himself in any form He desired
 - God has chosen to present Himself as the Father
 - God did this for a reason; so that His rule could come through sons

When we begin to think in this family context we notice words in the Scripture like:

- Inheritance
- Love
- Houses
- Land
- Identity and belonging
- Name
- Heritage

These help us understand the communication of God by giving us the right context to receive the Word

- When we do not understand the context we can hear God rightly and implement it wrongly

The foundational context is in God being a Father and Him having a family

John 3:16

- God so loved the world...gave Son...
- Jesus the Son is called "the only Begotten Son"

Romans 8:29

- But now Jesus is the "Firstborn among many" sons
- He is the First of many

We must cooperate with heaven

Our obedience on earth releases the resources of heaven

Ignorance (lack of knowledge) causes us to grieve the Holy Spirit as we end up doing good things but not "God things"

If we cooperate fully and move with God's intention we will be part of God's plan

We need to consider and honour the culture of the Scripture to understand fully

John 5

- Jesus healed the man on the Sabbath (**v.1-15**)
- v.16** – the Jews sought to kill Him
- v.17** – Father and I have been working
- v.18** – They sought all the more to kill Him
 - He said God was His Father, making Himself equal with God, saying He was the Son of God
 - understood in the culture that fathers and sons are equal
 - Father and Son are equal
 - The kingdom comes through sons
 - Sons cooperate with Father and bring His kingdom, His will into the earth
 - God is joining camps together, brothers together to bring the full revelation of what God is doing together
 - this is that day
 - we are moving into a purposeful cooperation with the Father
- **Matt.3:17** – This is My Beloved Son (an announcement), God proclaimed Jesus as the Son of the Father, meaning they are equal, the Son is God. In the culture the son would go through the growth process, come to the age of maturity (usually 30) where the father would take him to the elders of the city and announce that this is his son. He is fully qualified now to represent me. If you shake hands with him, you are shaking hands with me.

John 10:30

- I and Father are one

John 14:6

- No one comes to the Father except through Jesus
- v.7** – If you knew Me (Jesus), you would have known My Father also
 - Jesus said “Now you know Him and have seen Him (the Father)”
 - disciples did not understand this, our revelation is progressive
- v.8** – “Show us the Father”
- v.9** – He who has seen Me, has seen the Father
 - I am in the Father and Father is in Me
- v.10** – Father dwelling in Me does the works
- v.11** – Believe Me

God desires to bring heaven to earth through sons

Hebrews 1:1-2

- God spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets
- In these last days God has spoken to us by Son
- God speaks the language “Son”
- This is how God communicates
- He speaks by “Son”

- God is now speaking in a different context
- God has appointed this Son heir of all things
- Through Son he made the worlds (ages)

v.3

- Son is brightness of His glory
- “brightness of glory” means – shining forth or out raying/flash
- the sun shines out “rays”
- are “sunrays” sun? Sunrays are extensions, manifestations, of the sun.
- Son is the out raying of the glory of the Father
- The Son shines out the Father
- The Son is God, is the Father
- The Son is the extension of the glory of the Father
- The Son extends the Father’s glory

Son is express image of Father

Image = Gk ‘charakter’ – the example, the representation of the Father

The invisible Father is extended, manifested by the Son, by design and by His will

This was always God’s will

Through Adam His son (**Luke 3:38**) that was the plan

God knew the end from the beginning

Romans 5:12

- This is not taught and expounded on much in the church
- Through one man, sin entered the world
- Because of sin, death entered and death spread because all sinned
- Adam was meant to do the will of God and bring heaven to earth
- Eve was deceived, Adam was rebellious
- Adam died – he was separated from the life of God
- Through that sin, death entered the world
- Adam was not just one man
- Adam was the first man
- Inside Adam was all men
- We and the whole human race were inside Adam – Adam is our father in the flesh
- When Adam sinned, he did not only die alone
- This sin affected the whole human race, we all came under the sentence of death
- We were in the garden in Adam

v.13

- sin is not accounted to you where there is no law

v.14

- still though, death **reigned** (a kingdom, governing word, ruled)
- this is the kingdom of death
- death ruled over Adam to Moses
- Adam was a type of Him to come (Jesus), there was someone coming like Adam

- there was no law from Adam to Moses
- Moses brought the law

v.15

- Adam came as the first man with the whole human race inside him
- now, another Man came like Adam
- Jesus the Son, came with a whole new family inside of Him
- the Son came full of sons inside Him
- Jesus did not sin like Adam, He walked in righteousness and obedience
- just like Adam's disobedience came to all those inside of him, so now Jesus' obedience comes to all inside of Him

v.16

- second Man, Jesus, brought justification

v.17

- by receiving abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness we **reign** in life (a new government)

v.18

- through Jesus' life of obedience and righteousness now many are justified

v.19

- through Jesus' obedience we are made righteous in the same way that through Adam we were made sinners
- this gift came through the obedience of the Man, Jesus Christ

We were in Jesus on the Cross

We were in Jesus when He walked on the earth as a Man

We are pleasing to the Father by being in Him

Hebrews 2:14

- Jesus came in the flesh
- Jesus partook of humanity
- Through death – he had to come in a body to die
- Through death He destroyed him who had the power of death – the devil
- To release all of us who, through fear of death (death reigned over us), were all our lifetime subject to bondage
- This is “so great a salvation” – **Heb.2:3**
- God beat death through death
- **“Destroy”** = Gk 2673 - to disarm, to unemploy, to cause to be idle, to be inactive, no job, fired
- **1 Corinthians 15:24** – “put down” KJV, “put an end” NKJV – is same word as “destroy” (Gk. 2673)
- The devil still exists
- The resurrection has taken away the authority and the power of the one who had power over death
- Why is there still a problem in the earth? People do not know what Jesus has done

- We need to preach the good news – that God was in Christ Jesus reconciling the world to Himself and has given us the ministry of reconciliation -2
Corinthians 5:19-20
- Jesus gave us authority, power and His name

Through Adam we came under the guilty sentence of death

Now, through Jesus, we were in Jesus when He went to the cross and when He died and was buried and when He was raised

The devil was disarmed through the resurrection of Jesus and we were in Jesus

Ephesians 2:6 – we were raised up together with Him, seated in Christ

- **Eph.1:21** – this place is far above all other powers and authorities
- **We are in Him, we were in Him**

How do we get into Jesus?

1. **Romans 10:9** – confess (agree with) the Lordship of Jesus and believe He rose from the dead (destroying the devil)
 - We will be saved
 - When we believe Jesus was raised we also believe we are raised in Him
 - **We also destroyed the enemy in Him**

This is all connected with sonship

Father desires to bring heaven (His will) to the earth

Father will do it through sons

Sons extend the Father

If we walk in the earth we can bring the will of God into the earth

Because the Spirit of His Son is in us

Luke 24:49

- The Promise of the Father
- Endued with power from on high
- “Tarry” = Gk 2523 – to be seated, to be positioned (appointed) – to have a kingdom conferred on one (Thayer’s)
- When you receive the Holy Spirit, the Promise, the kingdom will be conferred to you
- In **Acts 2** Jesus sent the Spirit, the victory, the kingdom came, authorised and they went and turned the world upside down
- Now the apostles had the Spirit of the Son in them
- The Spirit of the King was in them
- Now they could go in the name
- Sons walking in the authority of the Father and bringing His will into the earth
- It only works through sonship
- Gifts need to be seen in context of sonship

My Table in My Kingdom

Luke 22:14-15

- Where are we?
- The upper room at the “Last Supper”
- This is the night that Jesus was going to be betrayed
- Jesus fervently desired to eat this Passover with the disciples

v.16

- Jesus would not eat of it again until it was fulfilled in the kingdom of God
- Feast of Passover most important Feast to the people of Israel (even though Tabernacles may be the greatest)
- But the Feast of Passover is what brings you in to everything else
- Jesus is not only being obedient to “keep the Feast”
- Jesus is about to change history forever
- do not get too shocked when someone close to you, even the best friend, gets demonized and cuts off friendship with you
- Jesus would no longer eat the Passover until it was fulfilled in the kingdom
- Passover was going to be fulfilled in the kingdom
- there is a greater fulfilment of Passover than what took place in Egypt
- No longer relevant to celebrate the deliverance in Egypt
- What is relevant now is who Jesus is and how He fulfilled Passover
- Our participation of Passover is what gets us into the kingdom
- Now Passover is only found in reality in the kingdom

v.17-18

- The cup was taken
- Jesus will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes
- those still waiting for the kingdom of God must be very thirsty
- many are very negligent of the Table of the Lord because they do not understand the kingdom and the Table of the Lord as a Kingdom table
- Jesus moved the Passover from being a Jewish feast to be a feast in the kingdom
- Now we are the people of God, anyone who is in the kingdom
- Historic church has been very anti-semitic (Anti Jewish)
- The Jewish people, though, have always known that they are a people, set apart
- just like indigenous people of Australia, they are a people
- according to the Word of God, we are the people of God
- in the Passover Meal and the declaration of the New Covenant (**Heb.8:12, Jer.31:33**) – “He is our God, and we are His people”
- The Jewish people are not “the people of God” but the New Covenant people are the “people of God”
- it is not based on race, gender or other identity, but those who have received Jesus the Messiah – **Gal.3:28**

- the New Covenant is the covenant of the Kingdom
- by the Table of the Lord, the New Covenant, we find ourselves in the Kingdom of God
- that night the Old Covenant finished and the New Covenant being made and three days later the kingdom manifested
- God became a Man
- He is no longer a “Man” – He went back into the glory
- He would drink of it “new” in the kingdom of God
- God keeps giving more revelation of the Table of the Lord
- The Table is in the Kingdom!!!

v.19-20

- there are two cups in Luke’s account (in v.17 and v.20)
- the **v.17** cup was like a “toast” to the new kingdom about to come
- Do not believe “one day Jesus will be King”
- in the days of Judges, because there was no King in Israel, everyone did what was right in their own eyes
- We have a King, and we are to do what He has shown us to do

It is a Kingdom and a Covenant Table
The New Covenant is the Law of the Kingdom

v.19-20

- The Body and Blood of the New Covenant

v.21

- Jesus recognizes the betrayer

v.22

- where was Jesus going? He was going to the Cross according to the predetermined will of God
- Jesus is on the count down on all the stages toward His death
- in the process Jesus is releasing the understanding of great mysteries
- not only is this the New Covenant in His Body and Blood but He is about to confer a kingdom on His disciples
- God is truly speaking to the church today about the absolute reality of the kingdom of God
- this kingdom was only here in type until Jesus came
- David was a type of the King in the kingdom of God, but was not the real thing
- Here we see Jesus bringing in the Kingdom
- His suffering, death and resurrection brought in the Kingdom

Matthew 28:18 – Jesus had not yet officially ascended

- “All authority (of the King) has been given to Me in heaven and on earth”

Jesus is going to the Cross, determined to go through with the plan

- The Cross is always the fulcrum, everything comes through the Cross
- All things are balanced and find their place through the Cross

v.23

- the disciples get nervous, questioning among themselves
- Jesus has not identified the betrayer but only said there is one
- they are all wondering if it is them
- what is wrong with these guys
- they are questioning their own loyalty to Jesus
- it is a tumultuous time, an uncertain time
- Jesus is speaking things they do not understand

v.24

- then they got into a dispute about which of them is the greatest
- Jesus is about to die, history is in the making, the kingdom is coming and all they can talk about is who is the greatest

v.25

- Jesus addresses the situation
- Jesus gives a mini-sermon, taking the opportunity of the moment
- Gentiles exercise authority over each other

v.26

- but not among you
- this is real kingdom theology
- the one who is greatest should be as the younger
- the one who governs as he who serves
- what a correction!
- in the kingdom, we do not exercise authority like the lords of the nations
- instead we are to be as the younger and serve
- a totally different system of government in the kingdom of God
- this is in the context of the Passover Feast being fulfilled in the kingdom
- the one with authority in the kingdom will be a servant
- the one who is great in wealth and benefaction will be as a young person respecting the others

v.27

- who is greater?
- the one who sits at the Table waiting to be served of course is greater
- yet Jesus, as the King, said He was among us as the One who serves
- even though we are all predestined to be the sons of God, to walk in great grace and divine enablement, walking in the pre-ordained inheritance reserved for us – we will only survive and flourish if we learn to serve
- the greatest Son Himself made Himself of no reputation and became a servant
(Phil.2:5-8)

As we truly come into and appreciate the kingdom of God on the earth, our attitude, motivation and commitment is never selfish, is not parading ourselves

- We are servants

- The greatest behaves as a younger person (not as a fool), having respect for elders, honouring everybody

v.28

- His disciples had continued with Jesus in His trials
- so many times it is recorded that the disciples misbehaved, were unfaithful, acted immaturely but they had not deserted Him
- but Jesus still said to them that they were among those who continued with Him in His trials
- **John 6:66** – from that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more
- **John 6:67** - Jesus was not perturbed about a multitude of disciples turning their backs on Him, He was not insecure
- **John 6:68** – to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life
- **John 6:69** – we have also come to know that you are the Messiah, the Son of God
- this was now a tenet of faith, not only a revelation from heaven; we know who You are and will not go anywhere else
- how was Jesus able to say “you have been with Me in My trials”?
- despite their shortcomings they had faith in who Jesus was!

v.29

- Jesus told the disciples “I bestow upon you a kingdom...”
- if you will “tarry”, wait upon God, He will give you a kingdom
- Jesus is giving the disciples a kingdom
- the disciples have not even been behaving very well this night
- instead of smacking them around, Jesus wants to appreciate them for not walking away
- Jesus was so impressed that He was going to give them a kingdom
- we do not deserve a kingdom
- we need to come out of the kingdom of the church, into the kingdom of God
- we will be given a government, a rulership, a responsibility, authority

Luke 12:31 (Matt.6:33)

- Seek for the kingdom of God
- This is the primary instruction that Jesus gave His disciples
- Our Father knows our needs even when we do not know them
- He gives us what is necessary
- God in His kingdom provides for His children

v.32

- do not fear little flock
- God wants to give you the kingdom
- it is the good pleasure of your Father to give you the kingdom
- it is number one on His priority list
- it is not some future Messianic kingdom in Jerusalem
- it is a kingdom of unlimited authority and power
- He wants to give it to His people in the earth

- if you want that kingdom, give up what you are doing, sell what you have and give it to the poor
- where your treasure is, there your heart will be also
- Jesus tells us how to behave in the kingdom and receive the kingdom
- to receive the kingdom, get rid of what you have and stop competing in this selfish world that tells us you have to have the best....
- that is not kingdom!
- If you want the kingdom, sell what you have, no mixture in the kingdom
- “to hell with the rest”
- we need zealots full of knowledge
- we need to have our treasure in the heavens

Luke 12:42

- Who is the faithful and wise steward whose Master will make ruler of his household, to give them their portion of food in due season?
- We are sons but we must wrap ourselves in the servant’s towel, to serve with all our heart
- The greatest service of all is to give God’s people food, a good diet of the Word

Luke 22:29-30

- Jesus bestows a Kingdom
- Just as His father bestowed on Him
- The result = eat and drink at My table in My kingdom
- And sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel

What is the result of receiving the kingdom?

Eating and drinking at Jesus’ Table in His Kingdom

The Table of the Lord has very little to do with church and everything to do with the kingdom

The disciples were now to sit on “thrones”

Thrones have got to do with authority and manifested power

What thrones will we be sitting on? What will be judging?

The Nations!

Galatians 2:8 – Peter was recognized with the apostleship to the circumcision

- Paul was recognized with the apostleship to the Gentiles/Nations
- Our commission is to judge nations because we are sitting at the Lord’s Table in His kingdom. It is time to receive the Kingdom!

Heaven

We need a good scriptural understanding of heaven. There have been many carnal ideas about heaven.

- Jesus never preached that we are saved to go to heaven.
- We need to come back to what is in the gospels and preach what they did.

John the Baptist and Jesus came preaching the kingdom of heaven. (It is at hand)

- The kingdom is of heaven
- The origin of the kingdom is heaven

John 18:33-36

- Pilate said, 'Are you the King of the Jews?'
- Jesus said, 'My kingdom is not of this world'. (It does not work according to the way that this world works.)

The kingdom is at hand.

The kingdom = the rule, the reign, the government of heaven is at hand

- Heaven was now invading earth through the King who had arrived.
- The One who carried all the authority was about to be revealed

Heaven Rules

Dan 4:26

- Heaven rules
- God rules
- Heaven and God are synonymous
- Heaven = the realm where the will of God is done
- Heaven governs even in the affairs of men
- The true authority comes from heaven

Luke 15:18

- Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you
- You sin against a person, not a thing
- Heaven is used to refer to God Himself

Matt 19:23-24

- The Kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven are used interchangeably
- 2 different descriptions of the same kingdom

Daniel 2:28

- There is a God in heaven
- You find God in heaven
- He reveals secrets

- **V.44** – the God of heaven will set up a kingdom
- It will be set up on the earth
- It is a heavenly kingdom

John 19:5-

- Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe
- Pilate said, 'Behold the Man!'
- **V.7** - They wanted to kill Him because He made Himself the Son of God
- **V.10** - Pilate was trying to exert his authority over Jesus
- Jesus said, 'You could have no power at all unless it had been given you from above.'
- Authority comes from above (from heaven)
- Heaven is the realm of authority, the realm and dwelling place of God
- All authority comes from heaven (ordained by God) – therefore we are to submit

Heaven is the throne of God

Isaiah 66:1

- Heaven is My throne
- The earth is My footstool
- Heaven is the seat of all authority (the throne)
- When you enter the realm of heaven, you enter the realm of God's rulership
- Isaiah, Ezekiel and John all saw the throne when they had visions of heaven
- Stick with the word of God in order to understand heaven
- When you get the word of God as it is, you get the right context to understand what He is really saying

Ephesians 1:19-21

- Christ is seated at the right hand in the heavenlies
- This place is far above
- Jesus' authority is far above – the place of all power and authority
- The right hand is the place God governs through (through the Man on the Throne)
- The Man on the throne is a heavenly Man
- He is in a literal body but it is heavenly
- Jesus is far above every name
- Jesus is now ruling from heaven. He rules the earth from heaven.
- Rule in the midst of your enemies
- The heavens are open – we are connected to the Head (the Throne)
- We are welcome to approach and access heaven

Hebrews 4:16

- Let us come boldly to the throne of grace
- Jesus with His blood has passed through the heavens

Revelation 4:2

- We access heaven (the throne) in the spirit
- Heaven is a spiritual realm, not a geographical location
- Heaven is above in authority, not above geographically

Revelation 3:21

- To him who overcomes
- He will sit with Me on My throne, just as I sat down with My Father on His throne
- Jesus' throne is the Father's throne
- Jesus invites us to sit on this throne too
- We are talking about a position
- **Ephesians 2:6** – He has raised us up and made us to sit together with Him in the heavenlies

What comes from heaven?

1. Ministry gifts

John 3:27 – a man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven

- Ministry callings and giftings come from heaven
- **Ephesians 4:8-11** – When Jesus ascended on high (heaven), He gave gifts to men (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers)
- These gifts come with the authority of the throne. We need these gifts

2. The Holy Spirit

1 Peter 1:12

- The Holy Spirit was sent from heaven to enable us to preach the gospel
- This gospel is heavenly

3. Jesus

1 Corinthians 15:47

- The second Man is the Lord from heaven
- Jesus is the Lord from heaven (YHWH in the flesh)
- As is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly
- We shall bear the image of the heavenly
- We are now of a different nature – we are heavenly

4. The New Jerusalem

Revelation 21:2

- The New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God
- Prepared as a bride adorned for her husband
- **Ephesian 5:23** – the church – the bride
- We are being prepared in the heavenlies, ready to be revealed in the earth
- Things get revealed from heaven in the earth

5. A new way of life

Philippians 3:20

- Our citizenship is in heaven
- Citizenship has to do with people functioning in the affairs of the state
- Our conversation (conduct, way of life) is in heaven

The Mystery of His will

Ephesians 1:9-10

- He has made known to us the mystery of His will
- It pleases and delights God to make the mystery of His will known to us
- Revelation comes from heaven
- At the right time He might gather together in one all things in the Messiah
- Both which are in heaven and which are on earth – in Him
- When it is in the Messiah, it is in the new creation
- Starting to see all things in Christ

Colossians 1:19-20

- It pleased all the fullness to dwell in Him (literal)
- By Him to reconcile all things to Himself
- The result of what Jesus accomplished on the cross is so vast
- There is peace between heaven and earth now, through the blood of His cross
- No more heaven and earth but one in Christ (heaven and earth coming together)
- Jesus is the picture of heaven on earth – He is heaven walking on the earth

2 Corinthians 5:19

- God was in Messiah reconciling the world to Himself

Matt 3:16 – when Jesus came up from the water of baptism, the heavens were opened

- The heavens remain open – Jesus cleansed the heavens
- There was a Man on the earth walking under an open heaven
- Jesus overcame all the temptations of the devil and walked in victory

John 3:13

- No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven
- Jesus was in heaven and on earth at the same time
- Now this is true for those who have been born again and placed into the resurrection, seated with Jesus in the heavenlies
- In our flesh we are on the earth, in our spirit we are in the heavenlies (positioned at the right hand of God)

The house of God the Gate of Heaven

Genesis 28:10-12

- Jacob dreamed
- He saw a ladder (a staircase)
- It was set up on the earth, its top reached to heaven
- Messengers of God were ascending and descending
- There was a connection between heaven and earth
- **V.13** – YHWH stood above it

V.16-17 - this is the house of God and this is the gate of heaven

- the dwelling place of YHWH on the earth is the house of God, it is the gate of heaven
- there are messengers accessing heaven (ascending and descending)
- they bring the will of God in heaven to the earth

John 1:51 – the fulfilment of Jacob's dream

- You shall see the heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man
- The house of God is in the Messiah, in Christ
- When Jesus died and rose again He raised up a corporate body (the house of God)
- We are the gate of heaven – the channel through which heaven comes on earth
- Jacob got a revelation of the House of God – we are the House of God
- The gate of heaven prevails over the gate of hades – **Matt.16:18-19**

Heaven will come on the earth through the house of God, whose house we are!

Heb.3:6

Sonship and the Kingdom

We are to know what God is doing and how He is doing it

Many times, we try to apply what He is doing into our old understanding

This is a new season

What He revealed before has prepared us for now

Revelation produces faith – hearing with understanding – **Romans 10:17**

We need the faith of the day we are in, hearing what He is speaking and how He wants us to do it

We have been designed and created for this moment in time

These are glorious days

The vehicle, the revelation that will enable us to move in what God is doing in these days is an understanding of sonship, knowing who we are, sons of God, the offspring of God, His life is in you, we are born from above

Our character, nature, attributes and essence are of Him

We are the children of God and should look like our Father

We are born again to receive life and to do what we were created to do from the beginning

How we function as sons

John 14

v.1-6

- Jesus was ultimately going to the Father
- Jesus is the Way to the Father

v.7-11

- Jesus is communicating to them things they do not quite understand
- Jesus continued to bring this revelation and understanding to them
- the flow of the chapter is about the Father and the Son

v.12

- in many settings people have heard this verse and linked it to simply having an incredible anointing on His ministry to do miracles
- the intention that has been preached is that we are to do all the works that He did and more, and to encourage everyone to start doing something, to try to stir everyone up for zeal to “do the works of Jesus”

From **John 14-17** there is a flow. We need to see this in context.

v.10

- Believe that Jesus is in Father and Father in Him
- Father who dwells in Jesus does the works
- we cannot just decide ourselves to do the works of Jesus

The chapter began with Jesus saying He would go to the Father and prepare a place for you

v.9

- If you have seen Jesus you have seen Father

v.11 – The works Jesus did were the work of the Father

- the works testify that the Father is in Jesus

Jesus only did what He saw His Father doing – **John 5:19**

- Jesus was a revealing of the Father, the invisible One
- If you want to know about Father, look at the Son
- The Son is the extension, the out raying of the glory of the Father
- Jesus is the Pattern Son, the First Son of many sons
- Jesus came as a Son, full of sons in Him
- This is the One who is communicating to and preparing His disciples for what was coming

v.12

- These are the words of a Son, the first Son of many
- we will do works that Jesus did and greater

v.13

- if we ask in Jesus name He will do it so the Father will be glorified

v.14-16

- We can ask anything in His name and He will do it
- We can pray the Father and He will give us another Helper (not just speaking of getting the anointing of power by the Holy Spirit)
- The Helper's name is the "Spirit of Truth"
- He dwells with you and will be in you
- Jesus was walking with them but not in them
- There is coming a time when the Helper will come and live inside of you
- Jesus had been their Helper but He was not living in them at that time
- Another Helper would come and live in them

v.17-18

- Jesus will not leave us orphans
- He said He will come and not leave as orphans
- He will be a Father to us
- The Holy Spirit coming was not just for power to do things

Romans 8:14

- As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God

Romans 8:15

- We did not receive the spirit of bondage to fear – **Hebrews 2:14-15**
- **We have received the Spirit of Adoption**

The Holy Spirit is also called the Spirit of Adoption

When the Holy Spirit comes, He will confirm we are the children of God, we have a Father

- **Romans 8:16** – The Spirit Himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are the children of God

When the Holy Spirit comes to us it is not just for an anointing

- Jesus did not just function out of the “anointing” but as an Anointed Son

Jesus was saying that we will receive the Helper and have the same Father as Him

Acts 1:1

- Jesus **began** to do and teach
- The other sons behind Him are to going to continue the work He began

When we enter sonship we become extensions of the Father

- We do the works of Jesus and greater by being sons of God, the Father working the works through us

The Holy Spirit comes in us and testifies, confirms and affirms we are a child of God

The Father’s plan is to fill the earth with sons, to fill the earth with his family, to bring heaven to the earth

- Sons can represent Him like no one else can
- These sons have come out from the Father
- They are true representations of His very self
- A good ambassador will be a representative of the One who sends them – not only a messenger but the message itself, embodying the message
- We as the sons of God are ambassadors, not trying to take on the attributes of the King, we are the children, so the attributes and the will of God are in us
- He is in us, His Spirit is in us
- We are not duplicating Jesus, but we are the message, the expression of the Father, Jesus is in us
- The Spirit of adoption is in us, we are the children of God and we can do the work of the Son
- The reason you can do what He did is because you are a son as I am a Son

Galatians 4:6

- Because we are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba, Father”

When Jesus was sending the Spirit of truth, He was saying that He was sending His Spirit

= the Spirit of the Son

- The Spirit of His Son says "I have a Father"
- We have the life of the Father
- God designed it that His sons would do the works of the Father, bringing His kingdom and glory into the earth
- We lay hands on people in the name of Jesus, the first Son
- This will motivate us properly
- This is how the kingdom comes
- The kingdom comes through sons because they are filled with the Spirit of the Son, who is the King

How are we going to do these works?

- Many are into the supernatural, talking about anointings, giftings
- But they are building above the foundation, not on the foundation
- Even though miracles happen the glory does not go to the Father
- We are to do the works of the Father

John 14:19

- We will see Jesus, and will live because He lives

v.20

- We have come into the Son and He is in us and we are in the Father
- our identity is not the old man anymore
- our identity is not Adam
- our identity is in the Son, Jesus
- we gain our value and understand who we are
- we live from this place, this position now
- we entered this place by grace, through faith, as a gift, not of yourself
- when we believe this we become born again, entering into the Son, the life of the Son, having the Spirit of the Son
- we are there!
- our minds need to be renewed so we can grasp this and lay hold of it
- we need to believe who we are
- it is the devil trying to deceive you that you are not, that you need to do this or that to become a son
- the devil drives you to gain what you already have
- now we walk free from condemnation
- the price has been paid
- we walk in the favour of our Father
- we are part of His plan

"Reconciled" = to be restored to favour
God loves me and I am in His favour

God loves us and He likes us and He wants us to come near to Him
God even loved us when we were his enemy
As sons of God, we extend the heart of the Father
Sons will love the world like their Father
Sons will have good news
Sons walk in prosperity (which means “to have a good journey”)
Sons have been commissioned and empowered to extend the Father in the earth
Sons allow the world to “taste and see that the Lord is good”

John 15:1

- Jesus is continuing from John 14
- “I am the true Vine”

v.2 – this all makes more sense when we know the context of the Son being in the Father and the Father in the Son, and we are in the Son, in the Vine

- Father takes away unfruitful branches and prunes fruitful branches to become more fruitful

v.3-5 – Abide in Jesus and Jesus in us

- this abiding comes from understanding as sons we are already in Him – so stay in Him

- live from the revelation, produce fruit from this revelation
- you do not need to try to abide
- you need to agree that you are abiding in Him as a son already
- then live from that revelation and reality
- it is by being in Him that we can do His works
- we are in Him
- Jesus is the Vine, we are the Branches
- if we are not in Him, we are not of Him

v.6 – if the Spirit of Christ is not in you, you are not His – **Romans 8:9**

- at the end of the age, there are only two types of people – sons of the kingdom or sons of the devil (**Matt.13:36-43**)

- abiding is the place of producing

v.7-8

- by abiding we bear fruit and the Father is glorified

The Father has had a plan from the beginning to bring His rule, His kingdom, His government into the earth

- He desires to manifest Himself through that government
- The way He has chosen to do it is to be a Father having sons
- The first son Adam rebelled
- But God was revealed in another Son
- In this Son was a whole new family of spiritual sons
- We were in Jesus the Son
- The Son was obedient
- We are born again into Christ

- We can then continue the work of the Son in the earth
- We have been authorised
- We walk as citizens of the kingdom, having authority to bring His will on the earth
- We have been authorised to do the works that the first Son did and even greater works
- We are anointed as sons for this work

This Jesus

Acts 2:36

- God has made **this Jesus**...both Lord and Christ
- Why did Peter say, “this Jesus”?
- Who is this Jesus?

Acts 2:22

- Peter begins to explain and unfold the revelation of “this Jesus”
- Jesus **of Nazareth**: He has a place where He came from
- The name “Yeshua” was a common name at the time
- Peter had to clarify “this Jesus”
- A Man attested by God by miracles, signs and wonders
- “attested” = in KJV “approved” – SC Gk #584 – *to show off, to exhibit, to demonstrate, to accredit, to point out, to show forth, to prove what sort of person someone is, proving by demonstration so bringing about an approval*
- “Attested” in English = to say or prove something is true, to authenticate
- “This Jesus” is true, He is the genuine article, He is authentic, God set His seal on Him
- God approved of Jesus by doing miracles and signs through Him
- The people had seen and witnessed the signs
- The people rejected Him but God approved Him
- It is foundational for us to “know whom we have believed”
- We are not believing in “that Jesus” but “this Jesus”

v.23

- no other “Yeshua” was delivered to be crucified by predetermined purpose and foreknowledge of God
- Peter charged them with crucifying Jesus and putting Him to death, and it was all in the will of God
- this Jesus was crucified, died and buried

v.24 – this Jesus was raised from the dead

- no other Jesus was resurrected from the dead

v.25-31

- Peter unfolds from the Old Testament the prophecies of Messiah
- David spoke of Him, this Jesus
- David prophesied in **Psalms 16** the resurrection of Messiah, “this Jesus”
- David prophesied that this One who God approved is the One who would be raised from the dead to sit on the Throne of David
- He would not be left in the grave to rot
- this Jesus never decayed or corrupted

v.32

- This Jesus God raised up
- there were many witnesses

v.33

- This Jesus has a seat of authority
- He is seated at the right hand of God
- He is pouring out the gift of the Holy Spirit

v.36

- HE is both Lord and Christ

v.37

- the people were cut to the heart
- they had murdered the Messiah that they were expecting for over a thousand years
- they were devastated
- what shall we do?

v.38

- Repent, be baptised and receive the Holy Spirit

v.39 – the promise is for us and those afar off

The people believed what Peter said to them

- Signs point to something
- Wonders make you stop and consider something
- The outpouring of the Spirit was a sign and wonder
- The people believed what Peter was saying because God was attesting to Peter's preaching

What does “Lord” and “Christ” mean?

Christ

Christ = SC Gk#5547 – “Christos” – from “Anointed”, comes from “Chrio”; *to smear or rub with oil, to consecrate to an office, the title “Christ” signifies the Anointed One*
Daniel 9:25 – Word Wealth on “Messiah”

Hb Maschiach – *anointed One, derived from “Mashach”, to anoint, to consecrate by applying holy anointing oil to an individual. Maschiach describes anointed priests and kings. Particularly used for David's Anointed heir, the king of Israel and Ruler of all nations.*

He is Jesus the Messiah. Yeshua Ha Maschiach.

Peter was proving that “this Jesus” was the Messiah!

The Promise of the Messiah

2 Samuel 7:12-14

- God will establish the son of David's kingdom...forever
- God will be His Father and He will be God's Son
- This Messiah was prophesied to come from the body of David – **Acts 2:30-31**

Matthew 28:18

- Jesus said, "All authority...in heaven and on earth"
- This King has total authority

Acts 2:33

- This Jesus who is the Messiah has been exalted to the right hand of the Father

Matthew 16:16

- Peter received the revelation of Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God
- When Peter was filled with the Spirit of God was when he began to preach this with boldness

Lord

"Lord" is used 7838 times in the Bible

Lord – is of God

Lord – a human title of honour

748 times in New Testament is used of God

Four different words used in New T

Mark 10:51

- In **v.48** blind Bartimaeus knew Jesus was the "Son of David"
- "Rabboni" – My Great One, he recognized that Jesus is God, the Great One Gk. #4462 – Lord, John 20:16 "Master"

Romans 14:9

- Lord Gk #2961 'kurio' – to rule, to have dominion, to exercise lordship over, to be Lord of lords
- Jesus is the Lord of the dead and the living
- He is Lord over all

'Kurios' Gk #2962 – Lord – (same as in **Acts 2:36**) – supreme in authority, the Controller, 667 times in New Testament, Lord, Master, Owner, One to whom service is due on any ground, of an emperor or king, New T equivalent to YHWH, it also occurs in **1 Peter 1:25** referring to "God"

1 Peter 1:25

- The Word of God – the Lord – endures forever

John 6:68 – Word wealth

- Originally an adjective signifying authority or having power

- Kurios in Old T was YHWH, while in the New T the title is transferred to Jesus

Gk #1203 - “Despotes” – an absolute Ruler, 5 times as “Lord and 5 times as “Master” in New T

- A man is a “despotes” to his slaves (complete control without restrictions or limitations)
- Kurios has more to do with relationship
- This Jesus has unrestricted power and domination
- Unlimited power arising from ownership

Revelation 6:9-10

- How long O Lord (despotes)
- This is the One who has unrestrained power and domination
- The saints who had been slain for the Word were crying out to the “Despotes” to avenge their blood

Jude 4 (word wealth) – “Despotes” is used in judgement

- Fear the “Despotes”
- False teachers deny the only “Despotes” God
- This is the origin of the English word “Despot”
- This requires total submission on our part

He is the Absolute Ruler

When Peter said that God has made this Jesus “Lord”

Jesus calls Himself “Lord”

John 13:13

- Jesus is washing the disciples’ feet
- You call Me “Teacher and ‘Kurios’ (Lord)”
- Lord has total authority, He is God, YHWH
- And so “I AM”

v.14 – if the Lord and Teacher washes feet and serves then so should we

Mark 5:19

- This reveals the compassionate heart of the “Lord”
- The demon possessed man who was healed wanted to go with Jesus
- Jesus said to go and tell other what great things the “Kurios” (Lord) has done to you

Luke 8:39 – instead of “Kurios” it is “God”

Jesus is God. Jesus is the Lord. Jesus is YHWH in the flesh.

“This Jesus” – is the Lord, who is God

Jesus is Lord over all

Revelation 19:11-16

- **King of kings and Lord of lords**

- a sharp sword out of His mouth strikes the nations – this sounds like “Despotes”, He has unrestrained authority and power without limits
- **“Lord of lords” = kurios**

1 Timothy 6:15-16

- “King of kings and Lord of lords”

Daniel 2:47 – Lord of heaven and earth

Deut.10:17

Acts 10:36 – “Lord of all”

- Jesus the Messiah – He is Lord of all
- This Jesus the Messiah is Lord of all

The Lord revealed

1 Corinthians 15:47

- The Second Man is the “Lord from heaven”
- “kurios”
- This Jesus came from heaven, He is the Lord

Acts 9:1-5

- “Who are You, Lord?” – “kurios”
- Saul recognized this was “the Lord”, God but He did not know Him
- “I, I AM Jesus” – in Gk ‘ego eimi’
- The emphasis on I AM, YHWH

Exodus 3:13-14

- Moses says, “who will I say sent me? What is His name?”
- I AM who I AM
- Tell the “I AM sent you”
- Jesus said “I, I AM Jesus”
- Jesus revealed Himself to Saul that He was I AM

Acts 26:12-18 – parallel verses of Paul’s testimony

- Paul called Him, “Lord”

This Jesus is the Lord, I AM, YHWH, the Messiah

Acts 2:36

God has made this Jesus...both Lord and Messiah

A Covenant People

The church in general has not understood covenant. Our relationship with God is not based on our feelings. It is based on a covenant, an unbreakable commitment.

God has a covenant people, so He can give His people the kingdom.
We are in days of restoration – **Acts 3:19-21**

The Table of the Lord is being restored. It is a reality. We come to meet with Jesus at the Table. This Table is in the kingdom (**Luke 22**).

Luke 24:30-31 – Jesus was revealed in the breaking of bread
The word of God prepares us - our eyes are opened

Luke 22:20

- This cup **is** the new covenant
- We drink of this new covenant when we partake of the Table of the Lord
- When we drink of the cup, we drink of the new covenant in His blood

We are the covenant people of God!
God has made a covenant with us in the earth.

Covenant

Covenant is legally establishing a relationship based on commitment and promises. It also involves severe consequences when commitment is not honoured.

1 Sam 20:12-16

- May YHWH do so and more also
- You shall not cut off your kindness to my house forever
- Jonathan made (cut) a covenant with David
- David kept this covenant

2 Sam 9:7

- Years later David continued to keep the covenant made with Jonathan
- David showed kindness to Mephibosheth – he ate bread at the king's table continually
- His kindness was based on a commitment made to Jonathan

Jesus was cut as a covenant for us. Now we can eat bread at the King's table continually. All the provision necessary for our life is now there. All we need to do is receive.

2 Sam 9:11 – he shall eat at my table like one of the king's sons

- This covenant actually brings us into sonship
- The kingdom and sonship are given by covenant

Cut Covenant

Genesis 15

- This is the foundational covenant of the new covenant
- The new covenant is the fulfilment of the covenant made to Abraham
- Abraham believed
- When we enter into this new covenant all that is required is for us to believe
- **V.8-9** – the animals Abram brought were cut in two
- This is how covenant was made
- They would walk between the animals and say, 'My God do so and more also if I do not keep the words of this covenant'

When you are in covenant you are obligated. The enemies of the one you are in covenant with become your enemies. It is not based on feelings.

God has made a covenant with us and this should give us great confidence. He has covenanted with us to protect us from the enemy. God made this covenant with us willingly.

By covenant He has promised us the kingdom.

Genesis 15:17-18

- A smoking oven and a burning torch passed between the pieces
- Abram did not actually walk between those pieces (the cut animals)
- YHWH walked through, but not Abram
- We can have full confidence that God Himself will fulfil His covenant
- A covenantal commitment made by the creator of the universe
- Every covenant has a declaration of purposes

Gen 17:7 – see Word Wealth on 'covenant'

Mark 14:24 – Word Wealth on 'covenant'

Covenant – SC Gk#1242 – means a will, testament, pact, contract, most often it is a declaration of one person's will

- God makes covenant for a purpose, to get His will done

All your worst fears can go away when you know that you are in covenant. Our adversaries are now His adversaries. We are the body of Messiah by covenant.

God's declaration of purposes

Hebrews 8:7

- Jeremiah 31 – covenant has a lot to do with us understanding that we are the bride (YHWH was a husband to them)
- A new covenant was cut
- **V.10** – I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts
- God will give us the ability – He will do it in us by giving us the Spirit of the living God
- Now we can have the mind of Christ

Ezekiel 36:24

- God says, 'I will...'
- I will take you from among the nations
- I will cleanse you
- I will sprinkle clean water on you
- **V.26** - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you
- This is the new covenant
- I will take the heart of stone out and give you a heart of flesh (a heart that is sensitive to the promptings of the Spirit)
- **V.27** – I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and judgments
- It is in the Spirit
- The Spirit of God comes in to govern us and causes us to walk in His ways (cause us to walk in obedience)
- **V.28** – then you shall dwell in the land
- you shall be My people and I will be your God

Hebrews 8:10

- we are fully identified as the people of God
- the new covenant people are the people of God
- the old covenant has vanished

Revelation 21:7

- he who overcomes shall inherit all things
- I will be His God and he shall be My son
- **V.3** – behold the tabernacle of God is with men – He will dwell with them and they shall be His people
- this is the covenant – it is assured
- God has always wanted a special people

Romans 10:9-10 – the word 'confess' means to speak the same word, to agree
The word confess has the connotation of a binding public declaration by which a legal relation is contractually established

If we agree with the covenant, we enter into it.

Jeremiah 32:37-40

- They shall be My people and I will be their God
- I will give them one heart (Acts 4:32 – the multitude of believers were of one heart)
- I will give them one way (Jesus is the Way – Acts 24:14)
- I will cut an everlasting covenant with them
- I will not turn away from doing them good (He will not do us any evil)
- I will put My fear in their hearts
- **v.41** – I will rejoice over them to do them good
- I will assuredly plant them in this land, with all My heart and with all My soul

God makes covenant with us so that He can plant us in the land for His kingdom. We are a covenant people!

Bringing forth the New Man

Ephesians 2:14-16

- He (Jesus the Messiah) is our Peace – Isaiah 9:6
- He has made both one (Jew and Gentile)
- Let's stop dividing and be one
- He has broken down the middle wall of separation
- Jesus the Messiah is the answer to every problem
- He has abolished in His flesh the enmity (between any opposing groups)
- So as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace
- This is a creation
- The new creation is in the Messiah
- The new heavens and the new earth are in Messiah

Create – means to manufacture, to fabricate, always used of God or Messiah
This new man is totally of God (no creation of man in it)

New – SC Gk #2537 *kainos* – means new, especially in freshness
From Vines – that which is unaccustomed, unused, not new in time (not recent), new because of the form and quality, of a different nature in contrast to the old

The new man is not Jewish or Gentile. It is new.
In the kingdom of God there is a new man created.

Ephesians 2:10

- For we ... (corporate)
- We were saved to become a part of something
- We are His workmanship
- **Workmanship** – *poiema* – signifies that which is manufactured, a product, a design produced by an artisan
- Created in Messiah Jesus
- There is a new creation – **2 Cor 5:17** – in Christ
- Old things, old systems have passed away, everything now is new
- Created in Messiah for good works
- John 14 – good works come out of a knowledge of who we are
- Our individual good works are part of the whole – We have good works

Eph 2:11-13

- at one stage we were without the Messiah
- aliens from the commonwealth of Israel
- we are now joint heirs of Messiah
- all of us have the same inheritance
- this is the kingdom – we are part of a commonwealth
- at one time we were strangers from the covenants of promise
- now we are the covenant people of God

- But now in Messiah Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah
- Now we have access and can approach God
- God was manifested in the flesh – He is in Messiah
- When we get in Messiah we are with God
- The whole new creation is in Messiah – Messiah is huge!
- We have an entirely different nature now

Acts 2:23-24

- God raised Jesus up, having loosed the pains of death (birth pangs)
- Jesus was birthing something
- He was bringing forth a whole new creation
- Jesus appeared to His disciples after His ascension
- He was different

John 20:21-22

- He breathed on His disciples
- He released peace to His disciples
- He sent them, just as the Father had sent Him
- Jesus was bringing forth the new man when He breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'
- Jesus is a life-giving spirit
- In the very beginning God breathed – Adam was made alive

1 Corinthians 15:45

- The last Adam became a life-giving spirit
- **V.46** – the nature of this new man is spiritual
- **V.47-49** This new man is heavenly
- It is spiritual
- It is heavenly
- We have been born from above
- We have received the nature of heaven

The nature of the new man

Colossians 2:9-10

- In the Messiah dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily
- Everything of God is found in Messiah
- Nothing lacking of God in Messiah
- The Father was on the earth in Jesus
- **V.10** – you are complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power

The new man also has the fullness of God

We are in Him, so we are also over all principality and power.

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

- If one died for all, then all died (we were in Messiah)
- That those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and rose again

- Therefore, from now on we regard no one according to the flesh
- There is a new man now
- **Romans 1:3-4** – The nature of Jesus the Messiah is God – He was declared the Son of God
- V.16 - We know Christ according to the flesh no longer
- If anyone is in the Messiah, he is a new creation

Ephesians 4:24

- Put on the new man created according to God
- In true righteousness and holiness

Colossians 3:9-11

- Do not lie to one another
- Don't lie to one another about your nature
- Stop speaking out of your old nature – that is a lie
- If you have been born again, there is a new nature in you
- Don't pick out the old man in others
- Face issues in the knowledge that you are a new creation (you have a new nature)
- **V.10** – renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created Him
- **V.11** – there are no divisions, no distinctions, but Messiah is all and in all
- We don't see each other after the flesh any more

The Messiah

John 19:5

- Behold the Man!

Zechariah 6:11-13

- Joshua is the longer version of the name Jesus (YHWH is salvation)
- Son of Jehozadak (YHWH is righteous)
- **V.12** - Behold the Man whose name is the Branch!
- Crowned with glory and honour – not a crown of thorns here!
- From His place He shall branch out (extensions coming forth)
- There is going to be growth out of this Branch
- He shall build the temple of YHWH
- He shall bear the glory and shall sit and rule on His throne
- He shall be a priest on His throne
- Counsel of peace between them
- After Jesus finished the High priestly work, He sat down at the right hand
- From this place He will branch out
- This is linked to the building of the temple (the house) of YHWH
- He will extend Himself
- This one is a King and a priest
- We have the nature of this new man
- **Rev 1:5-6** – He has made us kings and priests to His God and Father
- He is extending Himself in a people
- He washed us in His blood for this purpose

Revelation 5:9-10

- They sang a new song
 - Redeemed by His blood out of every tribe, tongue, people and nation
 - He has made us kings and priests to our God and we shall reign on the earth
- Behold the Man whose name is the Branch!

Zechariah 3:8-10

- for they are a wondrous sign
- behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH
- this branch is a stone – v.9
- I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day (when He took His blood and placed it on the mercy seat in the heavenlies)
- A picture of the kingdom - **1 Kings 4:25** (the kingdom was at rest)
- Bringing forth the kingdom of God – a realm of peace to enter in to

The Messiah (this Branch) branches out – one new man

Jeremiah 23:5

- A Branch of righteousness
- This Branch is a king
- A picture of the kingdom – salvation
- This is the name by which He will be called, YHWH our Righteousness
- His nature is YHWH

Jeremiah 33:15-16

- Here we see the branching out
- This is the name by which she will be called, YHWH our Righteousness
- They are one
- In Messiah, He is creating in Himself one new man
- A perfect marriage

Isaiah 4:1-2

- In that day seven women will take hold of one man
- Seven speaks of completion
- Seven women (complete) will take hold of one man to find protection and a covering
- Saying, 'Let us be called by your name'
- Take away the reproach
- The true body of Messiah needs to be called by that name alone
- In that day the Branch of YHWH shall be beautiful and glorious
- The fruit of the earth shall be excellent and appealing
- The fruit = sons of God in the earth

How is this new man coming forth?

Ephesians 4:7

- when Jesus ascending He released gifts to men (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers)
- the gifts are to bring forth the new man
- these gifts come from the king (Messiah)
- they are given to serve the saints so the saints can possess the kingdom
- **Dan 7:18, 21** - the kingdom is given to the saints
- These ministries are given to arrange and make ready the saints, given for the work of serving (governing)
- Till we all come to the unity of the faith, to the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah

1 Corinthians 12:12

- The body is one and has many members
- This one body is Messiah

Jesus is forming a people who are one new man (a many membered King/Priest).

- The corporate Messiah in the earth coming forth

How to bring in the Kingdom

It is time to reap the nations and be that threshing instrument

He has called us to be those reapers

There has been an alignment, we have crossed over and said "Yes"

There is something in motion now

It is not like it was before

We are being enlightened, awakened

The things that have been in us, that had to wait, are on now

There are pine cones that will only release their seed when the right conditions are present – some of them need fire to open them up to release their seed

There has been a fire released that is now opening up ones among us that are now able to release the seed in them

The purpose of the vision, the revelation is to be able to run with it – **Hab.2:1-3**

- Revelation comes to increase our faith so we can walk in it
- Resources will come as we are obedient to move forward

What do we do with this? How do we move forward?

1 Corinthians 15:24

- The fully manifested kingdom looks like this
- When all rule and authority has been put down (destroyed – **Heb.2:14**, unemployed, disarmed, made idle)
- Jesus the Messiah, the First Son of many sons disarmed the devil

Jesus began to do and teach – **Acts 1:1**

- The sons that come after Him continue the work

Heaven must come to the earth

The invisible Father is to manifest in the earth

The kingdom (the right to rule) of God needs an expression in the earth – it is invisible

The kingdom needs a vehicle or instrument of expression – this is the sons

As the sons are doing the business of the kingdom, the kingdom's will happens through the citizens of the kingdom

Under this kingdom we are authorised as citizens of the kingdom to express the rule of God

The kingdom of darkness is the same in the sense it is a government that is invisible and needs a vehicle or instrument to express itself in the earth

The enemy kingdom puts demons or spirits in the earth by putting them in people (humans) to express its will in the earth

We were under this dominion at one time – **Ephesians 2:1-3**

We were selfish, angry, moved by murderous thoughts

We were citizens of that kingdom

BUT GOD

We were brought out of that kingdom

Romans 6:13 – yield your weapons (the members of your body) as instruments of righteousness

We are spirit beings that need an earthly expression – our bodies

The kingdom of God fully manifested is all rule and authority no longer influencing human beings in the earth

Matthew 12:22-28

- It is silly to think that a bigger demon would cast out a lesser demon
- A kingdom against itself will not stand
- Jesus casts out demons by the Spirit of God – the kingdom has come upon you
- When Jesus casts out a demon it is a picture of the superior kingdom of God overpowering the inferior kingdom of the devil
- One manifestation of the kingdom (the rule of God) is when demons are cast out
- This is the authority, government and rule of God
- The demon was cast out of the “vehicle” that the kingdom of darkness was using to accomplish its will

v.29

- to enter a strong man’s house, we first must bind the strong man to plunder his goods
- the kingdom of God comes to plunder the kingdom of darkness
- when a lost one is saved they are brought out of the kingdom of darkness and conveyed into the kingdom of God (**Col.1:13**)
- now the kingdom of darkness has lost a soldier to use for its service
- when we come to reap nations, we are coming to rescue the lost
- the lost are those who are under the authority of the kingdom of darkness
- when the gospel of the kingdom is preached then faith gets released to the listeners which causes them to cry out
- whoever calls out on the name of the Lord Jesus, He saves them, delivers them and rescues them out of the domain of darkness
- the strong man has been disarmed
- Jesus destroyed the Strong Man
- the enemy has been defeated and destroyed and his authority has been taken away from him
- we are not weak or unable
- Jesus is not fighting the devil now, He has destroyed his power already

- now we as His sons/children have the authority
- we come to plunder that kingdom now and bring it home

Matthew 16:13-18

v.16 – You are the Christ, the Son of the living God

v.17 – Father in heaven revealed this to you

v.18 – Jesus is building His church

- gates of Hades will not prevail
- It is superior to the authority of death
- this is a reference to the kingdom of darkness

v.19 – Jesus gives the keys of the kingdom of heaven

- we have been authorised
- we can open doors
- we are called to plunder the Strong Man's house
- when demons are cast out it is God confirming His superior kingdom
- when we speak in the name of Jesus, demons have to bow the knee
- when we are a child of the King, a citizen of the Kingdom, we walk in the authority of the King
- there are countless hopeless ones waiting for an answer
- when the Father sends us, He does not send us empty handed
- we have everything we need to plunder the Strong Man's house
- This is who we are and this is what He has planned for us
- we are to express the superior kingdom of God
- the devil's kingdom is inferior and cannot compare in any way to the kingdom of God

Luke 10 – Kingdom invasion

- An example of a kingdom invasion
 - This is what it looks like to reap, to take land
- v.1** – Jesus appointed 70 others also
- two by two
 - to every place He was about to go
 - we are to go and make ready for Jesus' coming

v.2 – It is the Lord's harvest

- pray to Him to send out labourers/works
- into His harvest

v.3-8 – find the place that receives you

v.9 – “heal the sick”, do not pray for them, heal them

- Jesus commanded healing to come

Say to them “The kingdom of God has come near to you”

- An expression of the kingdom is healing
- This is where we see the superior kingdom of God take authority over the inferior kingdom of darkness
- In the kingdom of God there is full provision for spirit, soul and body

They went and did these things

v.17 – the 70 returned, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name”

- they were filled with joy
- healing the sick is connected to the demonic
- healing the sick is taking authority over the devil, his kingdom

v.18 – Jesus said, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven”

v.19 – Jesus gives us authority over the ability of the devil/enemy

- nothing shall by any means hurt

v.20 – rejoice that your names are written in heaven, sons of God

The kingdom came with the 70 that were sent

- Jesus authorised them
- Jesus was with them
- They came in the name of the Lord
- They obeyed Him
- They announced the Kingdom and the authority showed up
- The inferior kingdom was plundered
- That city was the Strong Man’s house and they went and took it

Let’s bring the authority of heaven and enforce what Jesus has accomplished by His resurrection

The world is hopeless and the world is looking for answers and they need a demonstration

- They need a solution
- Taste and see that the Lord is real and good and powerful
- That is who we have been called to be
- Do not follow signs but let the sign follow you

John 4

- It is time to reap the nations
- There are things that will hinder us
- He wants us to supernaturally reap the nations

v.1-7 – Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman

- Jesus was speaking Spirit, the woman was thinking natural
- Jesus asked her for a drink

v.9 – Why do you, being Jew, ask me, Samaritan, for a drink?

- Jews have no dealings with Samaritans
- there was no interaction in that culture
- in Jewish community the men did not have interaction with other women often
- Jesus did not let the culture or tradition of that day hinder Him or box in Him or stop Him from doing what God wanted Him to do

- Jesus broke those laws, rules and assumptions
- as we go into nations we can be held back by cultural things and assumptions
- Jesus did not allow those things to keep Him from doing the will of God

v.16 – Jesus tells her to go and get her husband

v.17-25 – This was a Holy Spirit set up

- Jesus worked in the word of the knowledge

- you know all things – the Messiah would know all things
- Jesus was willing to break the norms and what seemed unnatural
- the woman was so touched and went back to the village

v.31 – the disciples came back with some food

v.34 – My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to do His work

v.35 – the fields are already ripe for harvest

- do not wait for the harvest

Because Jesus stepped over the norms, He then was able to talk about the supernatural harvest

- Do not look at the natural harvest
- “Look up” = “up, up” – in the Spirit the harvest is ready

v.40-42 – Jesus, because He was not boxed in, He stepped into a supernatural harvest, that town heard the word of the Lord and many believed on Him

- we must be able to be bold
- we must be able to hear the voice of the Lord well and trust Him beyond our own culture and norms
- we must be obedient to the Lord and step over
- when we are obedient we are going to the place that He has prepared the harvest

Jesus is calling us to supernaturally reap the nations

He is calling us to be radical

He is calling us to the place He has authorised us to go

Acts 10

- Cornelius the Gentile
- Was a God-fearing Gentile

v.1-2 – prayed, gave alms, feared God with all his household

- he was not a Jew

God supernaturally shows Peter to break the norms, the rules, the cultural tradition

v.15 – what God has cleansed you must not call common (unclean)

- God was visited by Holy Spirit and told to enter a Gentile’s house
- Peter would never go into a Gentile house, he was governed by laws that disallowed it
- Peter was sent by God into the forbidden place
- through Peter’s obedience, the door to the kingdom of God was opened to the Gentiles

We must step over and step outside

The Holy Spirit is going to lead and guide us

The nations are waiting to hear and receive us

They are calling out for help

He obeyed the Holy Spirit beyond his own reason, culture and understanding

This Gospel of the Kingdom **Must be preached**

Matthew 24:13-14

- He who endures to the end will be saved
- This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations and then the end will come
- Jesus is certain that the gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world
- The decision for us today is whether or not we will be a part of it
- We can join in what God will do
- God wants to send us with this gospel – the good news that God reigns (governs)
- God's rulership and dominion in the earth through men has been restored
- We need to preach the victory of Jesus over the devil
- He has destroyed sin
- The gospel of the kingdom challenges the governmental systems of this world
- It will be difficult but this gospel of the kingdom will be preached

Preached – Gk *kerusso* – means to herald as a public crier, to proclaim, to publish

This gospel of the kingdom needs to get out there.
Jesus preached openly, heralding the good news.
It is time for some heralds to rise up.
We need to be straightforward about this kingdom.

What happens when we preach?

Titus 1:2-3

- God manifested His word through preaching
- Somebody needs to speak it out
- It is necessary to use words
- Yes, our life should match what we preach
- When the word is proclaimed and published, it will manifest

When the seed of the word of the kingdom comes into our heart, it produces growth.
Where the word of the king is, there is power.

This gospel of the kingdom will be preached as a witness (as a testimony).
The gospel of salvation has been preached far and wide, but this is not the gospel of the kingdom.

The gospel of the kingdom must be preached.

Isaiah 52:7

- How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news

- This kingdom of God is good news
- It is a message of deliverance from oppression
- It is a message that sets people free
- *Upon the mountains* – prophetically these mountains are other kingdoms and governments (**Dan 2:35**)
- The kingdom of God is seen as a great mountain that fills the whole earth
- Your feet are above the governments of this world and they are bringing good news
- There is a rulership that has no lack (provision is unlimited in the kingdom of God)
- We can walk on the mountains
- V.7 – *Who proclaims peace*
- We are being sent out with this gospel
- *Who brings glad tidings of good things*
- We have so much good to share and offer to people
- *Who proclaims salvation (deliverance, rescue)*
- The gospel of the kingdom delivers people – the king destroying enemies

Zion your God reigns! This is the gospel.

We do not need to fear. We can walk in the authority of God today. We have been authorised to go into the nations with this gospel of the kingdom.

Demonstrate to others what it is to live far above all principality and power.

Romans 10:14-15

- Someone needs to preach so people can call on the one they believe in
- This is how the kingdom comes – the word coming through a vessel
- The Word of the king speaks to the spirit of man (it goes past the mind)
- The word is truth
- God has committed the kingdom to the foolishness of preaching
- Preach this gospel to every creature
- He who believes and is baptised will be rescued and delivered

Romans 10:15 – How shall they preach unless they are sent?

- God wants us to be equipped and then sent with this message of the kingdom
- The sending is the authorisation
- The sending is the delegated authority to go
- **Sent** - *apostello* – we are sent with the authority of the sender
- We have the authority of the king to proclaim His kingdom
- The King is with us as we go, sent in the gospel of the kingdom

There is a generation of preachers arising.

1 Timothy 2:7

- Paul was a preacher, an apostle and a teacher
- God wants us to know the authority that we have been given to preach the gospel of the kingdom

Acts 28:30-31

- Paul dwelt 2 years dwelling in his own rented house

- He received all who came to him
- He preached the kingdom of God
- He taught the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, the King
- With all confidence, no one forbidding him

The message is:

1. The kingdom of God
2. The things which concern the Lord Jesus the Messiah

We need to come back to this gospel.

The Vehicle of the Kingdom

- The kingdom is expressed through a house

Ezekiel 43:7

- In the context of God showing Ezekiel the house of God
- This (the house of God) is the place of My throne
- The throne of God is in the house of God

What is the house?

Ephesians 2:19-22

- Now you are no longer strangers and foreigners but fellow citizens of the kingdom of God
- We are members of the household of God
- The house is built on the foundation of apostles and prophets
- Jesus the Messiah being the chief cornerstone
- The whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord
- Being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit
- This is what Jesus is building in the earth
- The most amazing thing about the house is what the house is made for
- This house is made for God to dwell in
- This house is made for God to sit on His throne in
- This house is the place of His throne
- This house is where He will rule from

God is bringing everything together, so that He can rule out of His house.

We are the house.

1 Peter 2:4-6

- Coming to the Messiah as to a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious
- You also, as living stones (lively stones) are being built up a spiritual house a holy priesthood
- V.6 – Behold I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone
- The house is built in Zion
- Zion is the place of God's government
- Zion is where God ruled from in the days of David

Micah 4:1-3

- The prophetic scriptures have their fulfilment in the kingdom, in Messiah
- The mountain of YHWH's house is Zion
- It is established on the top of the mountains
- It is exalted above the hills (far above all)
- It is the place of authority
- The house of God is built on Zion
- The authorities of hell cannot stop it
- The authority is in the house
- People will flow to this mountain of YHWH's house
- Many nations shall come
- They shall find the kingdom of God
- The house of the God of Jacob is the house of the Gate of Heaven – the house that was revealed to Jacob in a dream
- He will teach us His ways (discipleship – discipling nations)
- Revealing the kingdom of God and Jesus the Messiah so that people believe
- Discipleship is happening in the house
- We shall walk in His paths
- As He is so are we in this world
- We will walk in the good works that He prepared for us beforehand
- Out of Zion shall go forth the law (the teaching) and word of YHWH from Jerusalem (the Bride)
- God will judge and rebuke strong nations afar off
- They will learn war no more
- This is the result of the gospel of the kingdom being preached
- Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end