

The Kingdom of God, pt.14,

12.16.07

Your Role In The Kingdom of God

Introd.

1. What would our world look like today if Adam & Eve hadn't sinned?
Everything would be flourishing & living up to its God ordained potential – a picture of what the KOG would've looked like. Today, we live in a broken, dark, incomplete culture. As Kingdom representatives we restore, bring light and make complete that which is broken.
 - a. Like reclaiming land – that's eroded and become overrun with non-native plants.
 - b. Remodeling a house or restoring a car
 - c. Assisting a child in a developing country
 - d. As royalty in God's Kingdom we are using the resources he has given us (natural, spiritual) to restore humanity & the earth to its original purpose. This is more than kindness; it's restoration to the original intent in the sight of the King. The original purpose is that mankind walk in intimacy with God and each other & fulfill the individual & collective destiny God has for us all.
2. Review –
 - a. Gen.1 & 2 – reign, dominion, subdue, be fruitful.
 - b. The command to Adam & Eve; Israel; the Church; the focus of His return – it's about taking dominion. There's always a conflict between God's Kingdom & Satan. Satan is a squatter and doesn't want to give up ground. Like Israel entering the PL, the enemy fought, resisted, etc.
 - c. God has given us the Kingdom & we are to evict all squatters & establish God's reign.

The Relationship Between the King and His Court

1. He has an everlasting & ever expanding Kingdom – Isa.9.6f., Dan.2.44; 4.17, 34f.; 7.13f –
2. We relate to Him as a prince does to a King – Gen.1 & 2; Ex.19.5f.; Dan.7.25–27; Rom.8.17; Eph.2.6; 2 Cor.5.20; 1 Pet.2.9f; Rev.5.10.
 - a. It's His Kingdom & I'm to follow His will. We are kings & priests, a royal priesthood, co-heirs with Christ, ambassadors; Our priestly role is one of communion & intimacy; our kingly role is one of authority & expansion.
 - b. David was a forerunner of the kind of relationship we have with God. He was a king with authority who expanded His kingdom with force; he also was a priest of sorts who went directly to God. & offered sacrifices and praises (the tabernacle of David).
 - c. We are priest who go directly to God, and he's given us authority to subdue & create His Kingdom.

The Rights of Royalty

1. The right to be called the children of God – John 1.12.
2. The right of citizenship in His Kingdom. Heaven isn't our permanent home. The KOG isn't exclusively in heaven. It's on the earth too. God made man from the earth and the earth is where we will reign. Heaven is a vacation spot. God created earth for humanity & when Jesus returns He establishes His Kingdom fully on earth and we reign with him here.
3. He has delegated authority to us – John 20.21f.; Matt.28.20; Luke 10.19; Mark 16.15–18. He hasn't just given us an assignment but he's given us the authority to accomplish it. Wherever you have influence is where you have authority...not for
 - a. John 12.31 & Mark 16.14
4. The right to approach the King in boldness & confidence – Eph.3.12; Heb.4.16. As a child of the King, the Father hasn't recorded my failures & missteps. I can boldly ask & receive those things that the Lord has promised. Paul Keith Davis &

Rom.4 & Abraham as a great man of faith. You can confidently approach God when you know he isn't recording your failures & missteps. Example of dad's friend who had lost a lot of money in real estate development & no one would loan him money except one man who looked past his failures.

5. We have the right to share in all that belongs to Christ if we are faithful – Heb.3.12–14. The wonderful promises given to the overcomers. Equal standing but not equal rewards.
 - a. Joke of Jesus conversation with John Elway...that's not Tony Romo's house it's mine.

The Responsibilities of Royalty

1. It's His Kingdom & I'm to follow His commands. Servant
 - a. It's not about me. He's the king & I am to serve his purposes. This isn't a democracy where my vote is equal to his. It's a theocracy and he decides.
 - b. The key facet is hearing & obeying His voice – Matt.7.21f.; Luke 6.46–49; John 5.19, 30. Servants can't be selective; they must obey all the king's directives...not just the easy or fun ones.
 - c. Servants who disobey (intentionally or through neglect) are disciplined; then they lose the desire to serve him and grow disconnected in their relationship with the King.
 - d. Servants who obey are given more responsibility and greater influence. As it is at work, so it is in the Kingdom.
 - e. I am accountable to him & rewarded by him.
2. I am to take land for the King. Warrior/Conquistadors
 - a. The earth is his – Psalm 24.1–3 – and we are to reclaim it. The greatness of a King is evidenced by the amount of land & influence He has. The 7 mountains of society – we are to take each and claim it for the Lord.
 - b. Our Kings land is overrun with illegitimate land owners and we're to run them out.
 - c. We are to take the knowledge, experience, resources & giftings he has given to us restore the broken. Matt.11.4–

6 – Jesus isn't just doing some good deeds, but he's returning everything to its original condition. His command in Matt.28.18–20 is to return everything to its original purpose.

- i. Seeing people saved, healed, taught, growing, blessed...was all a part of God's original purpose. We won't experience the fullness now, but we can experience the firstfruits.
 - ii. Matt.11.12
- d. How? Through prayer, presence & process (engagement). Explain the three
- i. We change the environment around us when we begin to relate to it as a conqueror does to a new land.
 - ii. We are reclaiming that which has been stolen from God. It is now ours for the taking. SBC, Texas, US, The world all belong to God and he's given us the assignment to reclaim it. We can experience the first fruits of it now.
 - iii. Example of the air freshner. If I don't use it I'm contributing to the negative climate; use it some it will have a limited impact; if I use it in one area it will touch that area; if I join with others the impact will be greater
 - 1. You are emitting an odor. It's either changing the environment for good or bad. It's not only influencing everyone around you, but it's also drawing either the presence of god or evil. Remove yourself from the mix and you will be missed. "It's a Wonderful Life" story.
 - iv. Matt.13.31–33: The KOG is like a mustard seed & yeast

3. Represent the King wherever I go. Ambassador. 2 Cor.5.20

- a. Reflect the reign of the king. Bill Johnson: Heaven is full of trust, hope & joy; the earth is full of unbelief, worry & discontentment. You reflect the world system that you're a part of.
- b. We are to represent the views, values, lifestyle & purposes of our King & His Kingdom. Matt.5 – 7; Gal.5. We have a distinct culture and dialect and people should recognize a difference over time. People should see that the way I treat people, money, time, adversity, prosperity, etc reflects the values of the KOG.
- c. As ambassadors, we negotiate from a position of strength. We aren't like the ambassador from some small, island nation that has a loud voice, but no great influence. The Kingdoms of the earth are becoming the kingdoms of our God.
 - i. SBC Transformation sheet – this is God's will & I'm decreeing it & thanking Him for it now!
- d. We are destiny changers. In everything we do

The Resolve of Royalty

- 1. Complete devotion to the King – Luke 9.23f
 - a. Stories of those giving themselves for the King
- 2. An overcoming mindset. Rom.8.31–39. No problem is too great and no trial too difficult – they have an overcoming mindset. Rom.8 – “If God is for us who can be against us.” Royalty does not give up! It's hard & hurts, but royalty doesn't throw in the towel.
- 3. No fear of death, destruction or the Devil – Dan.11.32; Rev.12.11.
 - a. We're to be overcomers
 - b. Personal loss
 - c.