GOD has a KINGDOM

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Most People Don't Understand What it Means to be in The KINGDOM

They relate it to a Church or some historical denominational building, a Synagogue, or some traditional dogma, a set of moral rules and regulations setup by their leaders, etc... A Kingdom must have a King. And In Heaven God has a KING! The LORD Jesus Christ, and we live to do His will.

Why are the nations restless And the peoples plotting in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers conspire together <u>Against the LORD</u> and against <u>His Anointed</u>, saying, "Let's tear their shackles apart And throw their ropes away from us!" <u>He who sits in the heavens laughs</u>, <u>The Lord scoffs at them</u>. Then <u>He will speak</u> <u>to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury</u>, saying, "But as for Me, <u>I have installed My King Upon Zion</u>, <u>My holy mountain</u>." (Psa. 2:1-6) NASB

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire. (Heb. 12:28,29) ESVS

<u>The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens</u>; and <u>his kingdom ruleth over all</u>. (Psa. 103:19)

<u>Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom</u>, and <u>thy dominion endureth throughout all generations</u>. (Psa. 145:13)

Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. (1 Chr. 29:11,12)

Did you also know Satan has a Kingdom here on Earth, a deceptive illegitimate kingdom? It is full of lies, deception, and death (physical and eternal). You belong to one or the other whether you know it or not! Only two Kingdoms exist. You are either a child of the devil (un-saved), or a child of God (saved)! Your in one or the other, you can't be in both.

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. For <u>He rescued us from the domain of darkness</u>, and <u>transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son</u>, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

(Col. 1:12-14) NASB

Earth is an Extension of God's Kingdom

Our present body exists (is trapped) in a 3 Dimensional Universe (existing in matter, energy, time, and space); but our spirit and soul (if you are Born Again); are seated in Heaven connected to Jesus. In Heaven there is no time, space, or dimensional universe.

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. **Thy kingdom come**. **Thy will be done in earth**, **as it is in heaven**. (Matt. 6:9,10)

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our wrongdoings, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the boundless riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 2:4-7)

NASB

The World Does Not Fear GOD (It's KING)

The fear of the Lord to His Church means to greatly Respect Him, to greatly Honor Him, to greatly Reverence Him, to stand in Awe of Him. The fear of the Lord to His enemies means to greatly fear Him because they know they will be destroyed in an eternal Hell, forever burning in a consuming fire. Some even think that because God is Love He won't send anybody to Hell. Well friend, He is also a God of Justice, God must judge sin or He can't be a Righteous Holy God!

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. (Matt. 10:28) ESVS

But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. (Luke 12:5)

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (2 Pet. 2:4-7)

For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts. (Mal. 4:1-3)

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him. (Psa. 2:8-12) ESVS

God has rules to follow in His Kingdom. Everyone must operate by these rules. There is an opposing kingdom <u>called the world which is ruled by satan</u>. Satan's strategy is to get his rules into God's house (the Church). Satan's strategy is to cause conflict and confusion between the Kingdoms. God is having problems with some of His children because they want to bring the rules of the world into the Kingdom of God. God says <u>NO</u>; those are not my rules; the rules of my house (Kingdom). Some Churches confess God's Word but don't want to come under the rules of the house.

The Conflict of KINGDOMS "Worlds" (thank you Adrian Rogers) God Warns Us to "NOT LOVE the WORLD" (1 John 2:15-17)

What is He Talking about? We cannot love the Lord without hating evil, you will love one and hate the other (example 10 commandments). We have an enemy, and that enemy is the world. What exactly does God mean by; The World? The word "world" in this passage in (1 John 2) is the Greek word "cosmos," which means "a system or an order of things." It is a way of living and doing things. It is not talking about the planet Earth. There is nothing wrong with loving this planet, which God has made. When God made creation, He called it good. (Gen. 1:31 - Luke 12:27) He made it, and we ought to enjoy it. Nor is it talking about people. We're to love people of every race. God is Love:

It is the system that we are not to love; an ungodly, devilish system that is set against our Lord and His Christ. Although that world may be friendly to us, it is <u>a friendly enemy</u>.

Three Deadly Enemies are Hidden in this System;

- 1. The world has an evil prince "The Devil" (John 12:31)
- 2. The world has a philosophy. There is a networking of ideas and values that are skillfully woven together to entrap the most innocent. (1 Cor. 3:19,20) This world's philosophy extends from the children's school system to the Universities, to the News, Entertainment centers, and theme parks (Disney World etc...) This philosophy appears to be innocent and beautiful, and often alluring. But it will destroy the minds of the children and adults who are deceived by it.

 3. The world has a purpose. Its purpose is to draw us away from God. The world is against the Lord Jesus Christ. The world hates Jesus! And why does it hate Jesus? Is it because of His miracles, because He healed the sick, because He loved the people etc... NO: The world hates Jesus because He testifies that it is Evil! (John 3:19-21)

The world cannot hate you; **but me it hateth**, **because I testify of it**, **that the works thereof are evil**. (John 7:7)

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: **but be of good cheer**; **I have overcome the world**. (John 16:33)

Today's world tells us that we are to be tolerant of everything. It is a sin today to call sin "sin". The news media and it's cohorts will rip you to shreds if you denounce Sin. A person who is a friend to this world hates Jesus and is an enemy of God. This world's purpose is to draw away our hearts and seduce us from loving the Lord Jesus Christ as we ought. The corruption of the world (it's character) shows us what it is and what it does. Abortion, same sex marriage, homosexuality, lying, stealing, etc... The corruption of the world has Three main appeals; (1 John 2:16)

1. Lust of the Flesh:

This is Satan's appeal to our old nature. "The flesh" refers to our old, Adamic nature. The flesh is what we received from our first birth; the Spirit is what we receive from our second birth (Gal. 5:17). When we are saved, a civil war begins on the inside: Our new nature wants to serve God. The old nature doesn't want to die. The Bible calls the old nature "the lust of the flesh." The world tells us to pamper and satisfy our flesh. This deals with our passions. If it feels good Do It!

2. Lust of the Eyes:

The lust of the eyes deals with having possessions. This is the desire not merely to have and to own things (which is a legitimate desire), but to want more than we need and to be dissatisfied. (1 Tim. 6:10) does not say money is evil but that **the love of money is evil**. One can do a lot of good with money, feed the hungry, fund world wide missions etc... Money is a blessing from God if used according to His will. Are you more consumed with material things rather than spiritual things? Have you tried to put God in second place when the Bible says to seek first the kingdom of God? (Matt. 6:33). Is there any material possession you would not depart with for the glory of God?

3. Pride of Life:

This deals with position. The world tells us to be somebody and to make a name for ourselves. They buy things they do not need with money they do not have to impress people they do not like. This is the reason people gossip. They think that if they pull others down that they will somehow elevate themselves.

The Devil Works on us today in these Same Three Areas:

Every temptation is a perversion of something that is good. The devil is a liar and a pervert. God wants to give us good things but the right way, we must develop a Godly character within us. We should ask ourselves what is more important to us: The pleasures of the flesh or the joys of the Spirit? That which is seen or that which is unseen? The praise of man or the glory of God? This world is passing away. Decay will take away all of the toys and trinkets that we have. Satan sails a sinking ship and rules a doomed kingdom (John 16:11). Those who live for Jesus in this world will live forever (1 John 2:17). The devil is a counterfeiter, and his world will never satisfy your heart. You were made to serve God. If anyone loves the world, it is simply because the love of the Father is not in him. The love of the Father is in Jesus Christ. (1 John 5:1-4):

Heavens Courtroom; Judgment of All Evil (thank you Tony Evans)

Did you know there is a Courtroom in Heaven. Yes, the KING (Jesus) holds court in Heaven. Heaven's rules (Laws) and written in the Bible. Everyone and everything in Heaven obeys the King and is in perfect order. The only part of Heaven that is out of order is the Earth. But that will change very soon according to the scriptures. Amen.

As I looked (*Daniel's vision*), thrones were placed, and <u>the Ancient of Days took</u> <u>his seat</u>; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; <u>his throne was fiery flames</u>; its wheels were burning fire.

A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. (Dan. 7:9,10) ESVS

Notice; The King took His Seat (His Throne) the Court sat down and the Books were opened! The Throne is where the King rules. Verse 10 says the Throne room is also a Courtroom. God is seated on the Throne but the Ruler is also a Judge because He is in a Courtroom. Everyone in God's Kingdom understands the King's rules in order to operate correctly in the Kingdom because GOD is both King and Judge.

In every courtroom there are two sides (Prosecutor and the Defense Attorney).

The Judge is there to make sure Justice is served according to the Law. Everyone knows the Judges decision is Final and cannot be changed, whether good or bad.

Satan is the Prosecuting Attorney in God's Courtroom

Scriptures tell us satan acuses us before God day and night. God tells us satan is the accuser of the brethren. His goal as the prosecuting attorney is to kill, steal, and destroy you. (John 10:10)

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: **for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night**. (Rev. 12:10)

Satan and all his armies (evil angels and evil men) throughout the ages will be brought to court. In Heavens Court the sovereignty and dominion of God will overrule him. The Court will charge him and all his cohorts with the great crime of trying to subvert God's Righteousness in Heaven and Earth.

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire.

This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:10-15)

But <u>for the cowardly</u>, and <u>unbelieving</u>, and <u>abominable</u>, and <u>murderers</u>, and <u>sexually immoral persons</u>, and <u>sorcerers</u>, and <u>idolaters</u>, and <u>all liars</u>, <u>their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone</u>, <u>which is the second death</u>." (Rev. 21:8)

NASB

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life, and may center the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral persons, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying. (Rev. 22:13-15) NASB

The word <u>adversary</u> (1 Pet. 5:8) means a complainant in a Lawsuit. The only way satan can destroy you is by taking you to court. Because he has no legal right to touch you unless God allows it, and the only way God can allow it is if your guilty of breaking the Law. Satan takes you to court when he sees something he can accuse you with. So in the courtroom of God as the prosecuting attorney, he approaches the bench and declares to the Supreme Judge (God) your guilt and violation of the Law. The Bible is the Legal Law Book of Heaven. The prosecuting attorney is very familiar with God's Laws and will use them against you in court. Satan knows that God operates His Kingdom Legally.

And The Books Were Opened (Daniel 7:10)

Everyone in Heaven has a life book which bears record of everything they've done since they were created by God. A book of acts if you will. So, all our days are in God's Books.

Your eyes have seen my formless substance; And <u>in Your book were written</u>

All the days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them.

(Psa. 139:16)

Jesus Also Has a BOOK

When Jesus became a man, God the Father had to give Him a Book, a Book of His Acts. Because every man has to have a record in Heaven, a Book of Life.

For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I,

Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

(Heb. 10:4-7)

Jesus BOOK is to do The Will of the FATHER

When God became 100% man, He also had to get a Book from Heaven. His entire Book was to do the perfect will of the Father. Our book must be like His Book, because we are being transformed into His image (2 Cor. 3:18). Satan tried to temp Jesus like he does us; to get us to break the Law and take us to court. You can be assured that that evil prosecuting attorney will always be in Court to steal, kill, and destroy you.

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: (Col. 1:16)

The Church has a PERFECT DEFENSE ATTORNEY (who has never lost a case) When you go to Court you'd better have a good Defense Attorney by your side. Because satan is a shrewd and clever Prosecuting Attorney. Thank God the Church has a Perfect Defense Attorney from Heaven, who has never lost a case (Jesus Christ).

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: (1 John 2:1)

An Advocate in legal terms is a courtroom Lawyer. A Christian has the legal Right to be defended by God's Defense Attorney, and remember this Heavenly Defense Attorney has never lost a case. The Cross of Jesus Christ forever settled the Lawsuit of Sin against us in Heavens Courtroom.

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross: (Col. 2:14)

The Cross of Jesus Christ has legally paid for all charges against us by satan; Hell's Prosecuting Attorney. (past, present and future): The Blood of Jesus has the Power to Overrule satan's power of attorney against us. So when satan organizes a case against us the Judge of Heaven's Court (FATHER GOD) says; OVERRULED by the Blood of Jesus Christ! No case in Heaven can overrule the Blood of Jesus Christ. So if you are not Born Again you'd better accept Jesus Christ before it's too late.

Lastly, I'll Leave You with a Heavenly Story

A man died on Earth and suddenly found himself in Heaven's Courtroom. He looked around and was astonished at what he was seeing... He saw God the Father behind the Bench as Judge, he looked to his left and saw satan standing there as the Prosecuting Attorney (accusing him), looking to his right he saw Jesus Christ (his long time friend), and worst of all he found himself to be the defendant in this court case. The entire courtroom sat down as the Judge began his case. His eternal life was at stake! Jesus Christ his Defense Attorney approached the Bench and simply stated the case that that man belonged to Him. Then the Prosecuting Attorney (satan) approached the bench and began to rail all sorts of legal accusations against him which were true. After satan finished his long list of accusations the Judge told the man to rise and make a plea. How do you plead, the Judge asked; "Guilty or Not Guilty;" the man stood there frozen with fright because the charges were true. He then looked at Jesus and thought counsel with his Defense Attorney. After a brief council with Jesus, he then turned to the Judge of Heaven and said; you asked how I plead; "I Plead the Blood of JESUS." The Judge of Heaven immediately picked up His Gavel and Declared the defendant "NOT GUILTY, <u>CASE DISMISSED</u>" The entire courtroom erupted with great Praise and Thanksgiving toward <u>THE ONE WHO SAT ON THE THRONE</u>. The Angels, Righteous men as witnesses, and everyone else, began to Praise God! Satan on the other hand (as the Prosecuting Attorney) threw a fit of rage and ran out of the Courtroom. Alleluia, Praise the Lord, Jesus has delivered us from all Sin!