

Message Four  
**Living in the Kingdom of the Son of God's Love**

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:12-13

- I. The Father has “delivered us out of the authority of darkness” and has “transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love”—Col. 1:12-13.**
- II. *The authority of darkness* denotes the authority of Satan; God is light, and Satan is darkness:**
  - A. Satan's authority of darkness is the authority of evil in the heavenlies, in the air—Eph. 6:12.
  - B. The authority of evil, of rebellion, in the heavenlies is the kingdom of Satan, the authority of darkness—Matt. 12:26.
  - C. To be delivered out of the authority of darkness is to be delivered from the devil, who has the might of death—Heb. 2:14; John 17:15.
  - D. We have been delivered from the devil, Satan, by the death of Christ and by the life of Christ in resurrection—Col. 2:15; John 5:24.
- III. The Father has “transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love”—Col. 1:13:**
  - A. The kingdom of the Son of God's love is the authority of Christ—Rev. 11:15; 12:10.
  - B. The Son of God is the embodiment and expression of the divine life; therefore, the kingdom is of the Son as a realm of life—1 John 5:11-12:
    1. To be transferred into the kingdom of the Son of the Father's love is to be transferred into the Son, who is life to us—Col. 3:4.
    2. The Son as resurrection is now the life-giving Spirit, and He rules us in His resurrection life with His love—1 Pet. 1:3; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 15:45b.
    3. When we live by the Son as our life in resurrection, we are living in His kingdom, enjoying Him in the Father's love—John 6:57.
  - C. The fact that we have been transferred into the kingdom of the Son of God's love indicates that this realm of life is in love, not in fear—Col. 1:13:
    1. The kingdom in which we find ourselves today is a realm full of life, light, and love—1 John 1:1-2, 5, 7; 4:8, 16.
    2. The Son as the object of the divine love becomes to us the embodiment of the divine life in the divine love with the authority of resurrection; this is the kingdom of the Son of God's love—Col. 1:13.
    3. The Father has transferred us into a realm where we are ruled in love with life:
      - a. Here, under the heavenly ruling and restriction, we have genuine freedom in love, with life, and under light—Matt. 7:13-14.
      - b. Here in the kingdom we enjoy Christ and have the church life—Col. 1:12; 4:15-16.
- II. The kingdom of the Son of God's love is a crucial aspect of God's will—1:9; 4:12:**
  - A. God is a God of purpose, having a will of His own pleasure, and He created all things for His will so that He might accomplish and fulfill His purpose—Rev. 4:11; Eph. 3:9-11.
  - B. The Father's eternal will is to build up the church upon Christ the Son as the rock—Matt. 16:18; Eph. 2:21-22; 4:16.
  - C. The will of God is to obtain a Body for Christ to be His fullness, His expression—Rom. 12:2-5; Eph. 1:5, 9, 11, 22-23.
  - D. The kingdom is absolutely a matter of God's will and completely fulfills His will; in fact, the kingdom is God's will—Matt. 6:10.
  - E. As the kingdom people, those who are living in the kingdom of the Son of God's love, we are here on earth to do the Father's will—7:21; 12:50.

- III. In the kingdom of the Son of God's love, there is only one person—the all-inclusive Christ—and one way—the cross—Col. 2:9; 14-15:**
- A. The one person, Christ, is the center, the focal point, of the universe—1:15-17.
  - B. God's intention is not to give us many items; He intends to give us one person, the all-inclusive Christ—2:10.
  - C. The cross is the center of God's government—vv. 14-15:
    - 1. By the cross God has dealt with all the negative things in the universe.
    - 2. God governs everything by the cross and deals with everything by the cross.
- IV. In the kingdom of the Son of God's love, Christ has the first place, the preeminence, in all things—1:18:**
- A. Both in the old creation and in the new creation, in the universe and in the church, Christ is the first and occupies the first place of preeminence.
  - B. If we see the vision of the preeminence of Christ, our Christian life and our church life will be revolutionized, for we will realize that in all things Christ must be first:
    - 1. To give the Lord the first place in all things is to love Him with the first love, the best love—Rev. 2:4.
    - 2. In order to give Christ the preeminence, we must be willing to be adjusted, to be broken, and to be made nothing so that He can have a way in us, through us, and among us for the building up of His organic Body.
- V. In the kingdom of the Son of God's love, we experience and enjoy Christ in His all-inclusiveness—Col. 1:12, 27; 2:9, 16-17; 3:1, 4, 11:**
- A. Christ is the embodiment of the Triune God, the One in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily—2:9.
  - B. Christ is our allotted portion, our good land—the divine inheritance for our enjoyment—1:12.
  - C. Christ is the reality of every positive thing in the universe—2:16-17.
  - D. Christ is the One sitting at the right hand of God—3:1.
  - E. Christ dwells in us as our hope of glory—1:27.
  - F. Christ is our life—3:4.
  - G. Christ is the constituent of the one new man—vv. 10-11.