

HOLY SPIRIT...GOD'S GOVERNOR

We as Christians should have a 'kingdom mentality'. The meaning of the word kingdom is revealed within its letters. Dom is a short version of 'domain'. A kingdom is a king's domain, a place where he rules. The theme of the Bible is not about religion, it is about a kingdom. God desired to extend his rule to a place called earth through beings he called man.

*The highest heavens belong to the Lord, but the earth
he has given to man. - Psalm 115:26 NIV*

Man was not to be the owner, but the steward or caretaker of this planet. God would remain as the king, landlord, master and owner, but man was to serve God and be his friend.

*The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world
and all who live in it. - Psalm 24:1 NIV*

When man was under God through the Spirit of God, he was over creation and walked in victory and dominion. However, after the rebellion, man was no longer under God nor ruled over creation. He became a slave to Satan, dark spiritual forces and the corrupt systems of the world. Man had been designed for three R's as he walked with the Spirit of God. It would happen through **Relationship**.

Reflect	Reflect God's image, likeness and nature.
Reproduce	Be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth.
Reign	Reign as kings over creation.

Adam lost that dominion when he and Eve listened to the deceiver instead of to God. Their close relationship with God had turned to **rebellion**. All the rest of the Old Testament is the story of the preparation for the restoration of God's kingdom back to earth. It would come through Jesus Christ. He announced it the first day of his public ministry. '**Repent** (change your mind and conduct, turn from sin and turn to God) **The kingdom of God is now here!**'

Jesus demonstrated perfectly the three R's. It was possible through **a relationship of total submission to the Father's will**. Jesus lived in full dependence on God. He said that he and the Father were one (in mind and purpose) and without him, he could do nothing. He reflected the perfect nature of God. Religion had distorted God's image to be more like the 'Godfather' rather than **God the Father**. Jesus demonstrated the pure nature of God's presence as seen in the fruit of the Spirit.

He also revealed the **best way to multiply God's influence was through personal discipleship training**. Although Jesus ministered to the multitudes, **he gave himself to a few**. Jesus emphasized quality over quantity. He knew that one can

impress a crowd, but the greatest **impact** is made when one is up close and personal, as he was with his chosen disciples.

Jesus reigned over Satan, sin, sickness and all worldly temptations. He lived a pure and sinless life and walked in the fullness of the Holy Spirit power and influence.

Jesus reintroduced the kingdom of God to the world at an opportune time. It was during the time of the Roman Empire, which had a kingdom structure with an emperor king who lived in Rome, a distant place from Israel. Throughout history, kings have desired to expand their territory, even to remote lands. Their goal was to transform the conquered peoples to reflect the values, culture and even the language of the king's homeland. The goal was assimilation. When a king would visit the conquered territories, he would want to feel like he was back in his home culture. Caesar resided in Rome, but sent governors to distant territories to govern on his behalf. One example would be the Governor Pontus Pilate, who was sent to Israel.

‘The governor is the presence of the absent king.’

Book: The Most Important Person on Earth / Holy Spirit Governor of the Kingdom
Dr. Myles Monroe / Whitaker House 2007

Jesus represented the kingdom of the Father who lived in a far away place. Although he wanted to make it possible for his followers to one day get to heaven with him, **his primary goal was to first get heaven into them!** (33 times the New Testament speaks of perfection /full maturity in Christ as the goal of our life. Except for the book of Revelation, heaven is spoken of only 12 times in the rest of the New Testament.) Source: E. Stanley Jones in his devotional book Growing Spiritually

After he left the earth, Jesus sent a new representative, one who was not limited by space or time. In essence, the **Holy Spirit would come as God's governor to expand the kingdom culture throughout the earth through human agents.**

A modern day example in the secular world is the way that the British Empire spread its language and aspects of its culture throughout the world. Their colonies which eventually reached independence, still retained various British influence such as drinking tea, speaking English, driving on the left side of the road, trial by jury of peers etc. The governor of the British Empire would have helped bring these ideas to the colony.

Jesus left his mark on this world in so many ways. We see the kingdom influence in all areas of society and it has continued now for 2000 years because the Holy Spirit has been working in the lives of millions of persons. In the coming messages we will examine the ways that the kingdom of heaven culture has advanced and continues to do so with the presence of the Holy Spirit. He is the one who displays more of the character and capability of Jesus through us. We will look at the fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit first of all in the life of Jesus.

It will be important to also cover the topic of Kingdom Language. As we know, having a common language can help unite people as we see in the story of the Tower of Babel.

- Genesis 11.

Jesus was sent from heaven to earth to begin to make it a colony of the kingdom of heaven. The Holy Spirit has now taken over that assignment. He is preparing God's people to live here on earth just like they would in heaven and reminds us of what Jesus taught about kingdom life.

The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things, and will remind you of everything I have said to you. - John 14:26

Set your minds on on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. - Colossians 3:2-3

One day Jesus and the Father will descend to earth and bring heaven with it. They will live with mankind forever and the culture of earth will become just like heaven intended. Revelation 21:1-5. They will feel right at home because the earth will be full of the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. - Habakkuk 2:14. The Holy Spirit will have done his job as God's governor, preparing believers before the return of King Jesus, who will bring full restoration to earth.

Repent then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you - even Jesus. He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to **restore everything**, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. - Acts 3:19-21

In the meantime, Jesus calls us to '**occupy** until he comes'. - Luke 19:13. The word occupy means to trade or do business. What business? We are in the **KGB**.....the Kingdom of God Business! (I thought of that word while in Russia for the summer of 1993). We are co-workers with Jesus through the Holy Spirit, seeking to draw others into the kingdom and also learning to live kingdom life here as salt and light in a corrupt culture.

The Spirit and the bride say, Come - Rev.22:17

We are here on earth to live as if the king was already here We can and should do so, because the Holy Spirit is here as the governor of the kingdom. He truly is the most important person on earth!

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