

“Developing A Kingdom Mindset”
Colossians 3:16
April 29,2018

INTRODUCTION:

- God is in the **PROCESS** of bringing about a **SHIFT** in the church at large and GFC in particular (meaning each of us individually)
- The **SHIFT is NECESSARY** for two reasons:
 - For us to **BE EQUIPPED** to **EXPERIENCE** and **SUSTAIN** the coming **REVIVAL!**
 - To **ENABLE** us to **FULFILL** our **KINDOM ASSIGNMENT** in the earth at this time. (both INDIVIDUALLY and CORPORATELY)
- **RESULT:** We will have a **TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPACT** on this generation and the ones following us in **EXTENDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD!**
- **TODAY:** Plant the SEEDS for the SHIFT and resulting TRANSFORMATION NEEDED TO US **“DEVELOPING A KINGDOM MINDSET”**

I. THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST:

What does this mean?

- The disciples didn't have the RED LETTER EDITION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT with Jesus' words in RED
- Is the message the process of salvation? That Jesus died, was buried, rose again to SAVE US FROM OUR SINS?
- IF THIS WERE THE 'SIMPLE' MESSAGE, WHY WOULD THE HOLY SPIRIT TELL US TO LET IN DWELL IN US RICHLY IN ALL WISDOM?

It MUST mean more than that:

- To understand how much more, we must understand that it is the message of CHRIST: (not the message of JESUS)

CHRIST:

- This is NOT A SURNAME (Jesus' last name)
- It is HIS TITLE! He is **The MESSIAH, The Anointed ONE!**
- Usually written as The Christ, but dropped in most English translations
- 50x in gospels; 20x in Acts; **300x in the Epistles**

NOTE:

IT IS USED IN THE EPISTLES TO DEFINE OUR POSITION AND STANDING BEFORE GOD. WE ARE IN HIM AND HE IS IN US!

- PAUL uses this TITLE: to bring his readers back to the OLD TESTAMENT! – **Jesus is the CHRIST, The MESSIAH, The PROPHET, PRIEST AND KING to whom Moses and all the Prophets gave witness!**
- The “message” of Christ is that HE IS THE KING – **when that dwells in us in all wisdom, we will have developed a KINGDOM MINDSET, resulting in a KINGDOM LIFESTYLE:**

II. OUR IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST:

- There are **FOUR STEPS** TO DEVELOP OUR KINGDOM IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST

1. CRUCIFIXION:

Galatians 2:20 New Living Translation (NLT)

²⁰ My old self has been crucified with Christ.^[a] It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Romans 6:6 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.

- I grew up in a denomination that ALWAYS DEPICTED CHRIST ON A CROSS
- It made me CONSTANTLY FOCUS on my SIN – repeating the cycle of confession, repentance, forgiveness over and over

2. RESURRECTION:

Romans 6:4 (NLT)

⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

Colossians 3:1 (NLT)

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand.

3. ASCENSION: (AUTHORITY)

Matthew 28:18 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.

Luke 10:19 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹⁹ Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you.

Colossians 3:1 New Living Translation (NLT)

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand.

Ephesians 2:6 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁶ For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

4. PENTECOST: (POWER)

Acts 1:8 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Luke 11:19-20 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, *surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.*

FULL CHRIST-LIKENESS:

Ephesians 4:13 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, *measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.*

1 John 4:17 New King James Version (NKJV)

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; *because as He is, so are we in this world.*

NOTE:

JESUS IS NO LONGER ON GOLGOTHA; HE IS NO LONGER IN THE TOMB; HE IS NO LONGER IN THE UPPER ROOM; HE IS ON THE THRONE ABOVE ALL THRONES AND WE ARE SEATED THERE WITH HIM UNTIL HE RETURNS. OUR GREAT CO-MISSION IS TO EXTEND HIS KINGDOM RULE ON THE EARTH UNTIL THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD HAVE BECOME THE KINGDOM OF OUR LORD AND OF HIS CHRIST!

III. EXPRESSING A KINGDOM LIFESTYLE:

- There MUST be AN OUTFLOW of the Kingdom of Heaven from within us to the world around us!
- Are we a Sea of Galilee or a Dead Sea? (Key: There is OUTFLOW from Galilee)
- “Teaching and Counseling” each other...

Teaching:

- means to instruct one another – to shape the will, rather than only inform the intellect
- To exert an INFLUENCE on one another that will lead a person to “come up higher” in their EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND HIS KINGDOM

Counseling:

- Admonishing one another in order to BRING ABOUT CHANGE in one another. This is NOT just doctrinal, but includes WORDS OF WISDOM from the Spirit of God!

HOW?

- Psalms: = Scriptures set to music; accompanied by sophisticated musical arrangements
- Hymns: = Songs of Praise and Worship
- Spiritual Songs: = songs born of the Spirit; utterances from the Holy Spirit that are sung rather than spoken, as the Spirit led them.

CONCLUSION: (v17)

As REPRESENTATIVES of the Lord Jesus:

As directed/authorized by the Spirit; bringing REVELATION that flows out of being in His Presence!

1 John 4:17

As HE IS, so are we in this world!

COME UP HIGHER!!