



# THE KINGDOM I

REDISCOVERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD



DREAM  
CITY CHURCH



# THE KINGDOM I

REDISCOVERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Rediscover means to gain insight or knowledge of something previously forgotten and unknown, and that is the heart behind this class: to gain insight and knowledge of the Kingdom of God.

This is a kingdom we lost through the sin of Adam and Eve, but regained through the life and death of Jesus Christ. This material will awaken you to your original purpose in the Kingdom and show you how to walk in the authority that has been given to you.

I pray that by the end of this course, you will have a deeper understanding of the power and purpose of the Bible, and it is my hope for you to gain a true understanding of who Jesus was, why He came, and what He expects from us in His Kingdom!

- DON CASTLEBERRY, DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

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*Unless otherwise specific, all Bible verses are from The New King James Version Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982 HarperCollins Publishers*



# THE KINGDOM I

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## *Week One: Intro to the Kingdom*

THE KINGDOM IS A FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT OF THE BIBLE,  
BUT OFTEN THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD

**The Kingdom:** A governing influence of a King over His territory impacting it with His will, His purpose, and His intent, which produces a citizenry of people who express His culture and reflect His nature.

MANY HAVE READ ABOUT **THE KINGDOM** IN THE BIBLE  
BUT NEVER REALIZE IT IS THE **CENTRAL THEME** AND  
THREAD THAT RUNS FROM **GENESIS TO REVELATION**

“He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,” - [Colossians 1:13](#)

“I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.” - [Revelation 1:9](#)

### **THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE AND PLAN OF GOD WAS:**

1. To **extend** and **establish** His Heavenly Kingdom on Earth.
2. Ordain mankind as His representatives on Earth for Heaven as **ambassadors**.
3. To **Administrate** the earthly colony through His sons called mankind.

**Colony:** A territory under the control of a country called an imperialistic authority.

**Colonize:** Extend influence; to mirror the empire.

As goes the empire, so goes the colony. God wanted to colonize earth so it could function like Heaven





# HOW TO DISCERN THE KINGDOM FROM RELIGION

God often uses three words together when speaking to humans. These three words are related and come in a specific order:

1. **Knowledge:** Information.
2. **Understanding:** A comprehension of information.
3. **Wisdom:** The application of your comprehension of information.

Information never benefits you until you understand, and understanding is no benefit until you apply. This is why **wisdom is supreme**. But while wisdom is supreme, understanding is crucial.

Deception messes with perception, and a misperception of who Christ and what His Kingdom is can lead to religion, which is the greatest threat to the future of the world. Religious power is very dangerous, especially where there is no accountability. To combat the dangers of religion, we need more than knowledge, we need an understanding of the truth.

YOUR PERCEPTION BECOMES YOUR REALITY,  
BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN IT IS REALITY.

IDEA → THOUGHT → CONCEPT → DREAM/VISION

Today's reality was once someone's idea and then their dream. These ideas become thoughts that develop into concepts. Concepts are to life as blood is to the body. Solomon said, "As a man thinks so is he." You become your concepts, and concepts rise in value as we consider our perception of life.

If your ideas are wrong, then your concepts are wrong. Consequently, your understanding is inaccurate. Your concepts must be in alignment with the Word of the Kingdom found in the Bible.

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## WHEN DID JESUS RECEIVE HIS KINGDOM?

“Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.”- *Matthew 16:28*

The story goes on to the Transfiguration, where God transfers the Kingdom of the Father to the Son. This is where Jesus receives His kingdom, and it’s at this point Jesus begins to refer to the Kingdom as “My Kingdom.”

## WHAT KIND OF KINGDOM DID JESUS RECEIVE?

Melchizedek was a man who lived nearly 2,000 years before Christ. He was an extraordinary man, however, in that he was both king and priest of the Lord Most High, holding two offices in one person. When the law was given 430 years later, there were kings and there were priests—any king that tried to assume the role of the priest received leprosy.

When Jesus received His Kingdom, God merged these two offices into one again as Christ was the fulfillment of the law and prophets.

“The Lord has sworn and will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.’”- *Psalms 110:4*

“Yes, He shall build the temple of the Lord. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”- *Zechariah 6:13*

### WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE KINGDOM?

- GOD IS RULER
- THE KINGDOM IS GIVEN PRIORITY IN ITS WORD
- THE KINGDOM OF GOD TEACHES YOU TO BECOME A RULER
- THE KINGDOM IS GIVEN PRIORITY IN THE KING’S MINISTRY
- THE KINGDOM IS GIVEN PRIORITY FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT
  - THE KINGDOM SHOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY BY US
  - THE KING HIDES NOTHING FROM US
- THE PRINCIPLES OF THE KINGDOM ARE SPIRITUAL

*Explore more principles of the Kingdom in greater depth during next week’s lesson.*





# THE KINGDOM I

REDISCOVERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## *Week Two: 26 Principles of the Kingdom*

ALL KINGDOMS CONTAIN THE SAME CHARACTERISTICS.

*Supporting Texts : (all Scriptures from 1984 NIV Bible unless said otherwise)*

### **1. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF KINGS**

“The king is the central component of a kingdom and embodies the essence of the kingdom. The King is the ultimate source of authority in the kingdom and through his authority establishes the kingdom. The sovereignty of the king is inherent in his royal authority. “

Qualities about a King:

- A king is NEVER voted into power
- A king’s authority is by birthright
- A king cannot be voted out of power
- A king’s word is law in his territory (kingdom)
- A king personally owns everything in his domain
- A king’s decree is unchanging
- A king chooses who will be a citizen in his kingdom
- A king embodies the government of his kingdom
- A king’s presence is the presence of the entire kingdom
- A king measures his wealth by the wealth of his property (parable of the talents)
- A king’s home expresses his nature
- A king’s name is the essence (root) of his power

#### **Matthew 18:23**

“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

#### **Matthew 21:5**

“Say to the Daughter of Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

#### **Matthew 22:2**

“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.

John 18:37; 1 Timothy 1:17; Revelation 17:14

### **2. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF LORDSHIP**

“All true kings must have property or a domain over which they exercise rulership of dominion. Therefore, all true kings are personally legal owners of property, territory, or their domain. An-

other word for owner is “lord”. All true kings are automatically lords. Kings own all that is in their domain. Kings rule or command whatever is in their property or domain. Kings have absolute authority and control over their property. Kings can give their property to anyone they wish.”

### **Psalm 24:1-3**

“The earth is the LORD’S, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; <sup>2</sup> for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. <sup>3</sup> Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?”

### **Psalm 47:2**

“<sup>2</sup> How awesome is the LORD MOST HIGH, the great King over all the earth!”

### **Philippians 2:11**

“and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Romans 10:9-10

## **3. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF DOMAIN**

“The domain of a king is the territory over which he exercises authority, control, and dominion. The king owns his domain and can expand or extend it by the power of his might. The wealth of the domain determines the king’s glory. When the king impacts the domain with his influence it is called his “kingdom” (king- dom-ain). The king can delegate authority to others to share in the governing and administration of his domain.

**Isaiah 6:16** (see also Daniel 4:34-35 )

“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.”

## **4. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF CONSTITUTION**

“The constitution of the kingdom is the documented will, intent, desires, and purposes of the king for his citizens and kingdom.”

### **Ecclesiastes 8:4-5**

“Since a king’s word is supreme, who can say to him, “What are you doing?” <sup>5</sup> Whoever obeys his command will come to no harm, and the wise heart will know the proper time and procedure.”

### **Matthew 4:4**

“Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Psalm 119:89-93

## **5. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF LAW**

“The law of the kingdom is the proclaimed word, decrees and edicts of the king, and these laws determine the standards and the precepts by which the kingdom is to be governed.”

### **Deuteronomy 6:25**

“And if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD OUR GOD, AS HE HAS COMMANDED US, THAT WILL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”

Psalm 19:7-8; Psalm 119:72; Matthew 5:18

## **6. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF KEYS**

“The keys of the kingdom are the principles, precepts, laws, and the systems by which the kingdom functions. The keys must be learned and applied by the citizens in order to appropriate the benefits and privileges of the kingdom.”

### **Matthew 16:19**

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

## **7. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF CITIZENSHIP**

“Citizenship in a kingdom is not a right but a privilege, and it is at the pleasure of the king himself. Citizens are chosen by the king and are beneficiaries of the king’s pleasure and promise.”

### **Philippians 3:20-21**

“<sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>21</sup> who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.”

### **John 18:36**

Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

John 8:23; John 17:16

## **8. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF ROYAL PRIVILEGES**

“Royal privileges of the kingdom are the benefits the king affords to his citizens. They serve as a security for the being in good standing with the king.”

### **Matthew 6:33** (also see Philippians 4:19)

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

## **9. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF CODE OF ETHICS**

“This is the standard of conduct established by the king for the behavior and social relationships of his citizens. This is also the expectation of the king regarding the values and moral standards the citizens must adhere to. The code of ethics becomes the foundation of the kingdom culture and manifests itself in the lifestyle of the citizens.”

### **1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

“<sup>9</sup> Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders<sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

## **10. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF COMMONWEALTH**

“All the kingdoms function on the principle of a commonwealth. Commonwealth is the king’s commitment to see all of his citizens have equal access to the wealth and resources of the kingdom. This is important to the king because the quality of life of the citizens of a kingdom reflects the glory and reputation of the king. When the welfare of the king’s citizens is excellent, then the king’s reputation is honorable. Kingdoms provide for all the needs of their citizens; and the king is personally committed to and involved in the welfare of his citizens.”

### **Matthew 6:31-33**

<sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

### **Psalm 84:11**

For the LORD GOD IS A SUN and shield; the LORD BESTOWS FAVOR AND HONOR; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

## **11. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF CULTURE**

“This is the lifestyle and way of life for the citizens manifested in their language, dress, eating habits, values, morals, and sense of self-worth and self-concept.”

### **John 17:15-19**

<sup>15</sup> My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

## **12. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF ECONOMY**

“All kingdoms operate on a system that secures and sustains the strength and viability of the kingdom. The system involves the kingdom government’s providing opportunity for the citizens to participate in the benefits program of the kingdom’s prosperity through contributing to the work ethic and culture of the kingdom. The kingdom economy usually involves a taxation system, investment opportunities, and creative development programs for the citizens.”

### **Luke 6:38**

<sup>38</sup> Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

## **13. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF TAXATION**

“All kingdoms incorporate a taxation system, which allows its citizens to participate in the process of maintaining the kingdom infrastructure. The system allows the citizen to share in the kingdom’s commonwealth and return a set portion of the king’s resources back to the king. In essence, everything in a kingdom already belongs to the king, including the taxes required from the citizen, therefore taxation is simply the government’s allowing its resources to pass through the hands of the citizen.”

### **Matthew 22:17**

Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

### **Malachi 3:8-12**

<sup>8</sup> “Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ “In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup> You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. <sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD ALMIGHTY, “AND SEE IF I WILL NOT THROW OPEN THE FLOODGATES OF HEAVEN AND POUR OUT SO MUCH BLESSING THAT YOU WILL NOT HAVE ROOM ENOUGH FOR IT <sup>11</sup> I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit,” says the LORD ALMIGHTY. <sup>12</sup> “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD ALMIGHTY.

## **14. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF ARMY**

“All kingdoms incorporate an army of security components to protect and defend their territory and citizens.”

### **Psalm 91:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;

<sup>12</sup> they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

## **15. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

“All kingdoms establish a representative system that delegates responsibility to appointed citizens to serve as envoys or ambassadors of the kingdom or state. Ambassadors personify and embody the king’s authority and the kingdom or state. Ambassadors are the property and responsibility of the state and thus do not concern themselves with their own personal needs. Their primary purpose is to represent the interest of their kingdom.”

### **John 17:18-19**

<sup>18</sup> As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

### **John 20:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

## **16. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF AN AMBASSADOR**

“An ambassador speaks for the kingdom and does not represent himself, only his kingdom. The ambassador is the kingdom’s agency for conveying its will, desires, and purposes in the territory to which he or she is assigned.”

### **2 Corinthians 5:19-20**

<sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

## **17. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE EDUCATION**

“All kingdoms establish a system and program for training and educating their citizens. The education system is designed to transfer, re-enforce, and inculcate the laws, values, morals, and manners of the king and the kingdom to succeeding generations and new citizens.”

### **John 14:25-26**

<sup>25</sup> “All this I have spoken while still with you. <sup>26</sup> But 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.

## **18. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE ADMINISTRATION**

“All kingdoms establish a system through which they administer their judgments and programs to the citizens. The administrative program is also designed to protect the right and privileges of the citizens and their access to the king’s favor.”

### **Matthew 5:16**

In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

## **19. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE GLORY**

“The glory of the king is all and everything in the kingdom that represent sand manifests the true nature of the king himself. The glory literally means “true essence or full weight.”

### **Exodus 15:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> “Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you— majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders? <sup>12</sup> You stretched out your right hand and the earth swallowed them.

### **Psalms 19:1**

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

### **John 15:8**

<sup>8</sup> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

## **20. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE WORSHIP**

“The worship of a king is the expression of the citizen’s gratitude and appreciation to the king for his favor, privileges, and security of being in his kingdom. Worship is also an indication of the perceived worth that the king is to the citizen. Worship always involves the offering of gifts to the king, indicating the citizen’s awareness that all things that he enjoys are at the pleasure of the king and the acknowledgment that it all belongs to the king. Worship also expresses one’s dependency on the king, which activates the king’s obligation to care for citizens who proclaim his name as their king.”

### **Exodus 23:25-26**

<sup>25</sup> Worship the LORD YOUR GOD, AND HIS BLESSING will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, <sup>26</sup> and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span.

## **21. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE PROVISION**

“In all true kingdoms the king is obligated to provide for his citizens and thus he makes provisions at his own expense for their security and welfare.”

### **Psalms 37:25-26**

<sup>25</sup> I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. <sup>26</sup> They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed.

### **Matthew 6:31**

So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

## **22. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE INFLUENCE**

“All kingdoms are committed to making the influence of the king and his will felt throughout the entire kingdom.”

### **Matthew 13:33**

<sup>33</sup> He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

### **Matthew 28:19-20**

<sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

### **23. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE ROYAL FAVOR**

“Royal favor is the sovereign prerogative of the king to extend a personal law to a citizen that positions that citizen to receive special privileges and advantages that are personally protected by the king.”

#### **Exodus 33:19**

<sup>19</sup> And the LORD SAID, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.”

### **24. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE DECREE**

“A royal decree is a declaration of a king that becomes law to all. It is sustained by the king’s personal commitment to bring the declaration or promise to pass.”

#### **Daniel 6:15** (see also Matthew 5:18)

<sup>15</sup> Then the men went as a group to the king and said to him, “Remember, O king, that according to the law of the Medes and Persians no decree or edict that the king issues can be changed.”

### **25. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE REPUTATION**

“The king’s reputation is important to the king and is the source of the glory of his name. A king’s reputation is created and sustained by the conditions of his citizens and his kingdom. Therefore, kings act in ways that are favorable to their name’s sake.”

#### **2 Samuel 7:21** (see also 1 Samuel 12:22)

<sup>21</sup> For the sake of your word and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made it known to your servant.

### **26. THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF GIVING TO A KING**

“Giving to a king activates the king’s obligation to demonstrate his glory and power to the giver and to prove that he is a greater king than all other kings. Giving to a king in his kingdom is the acknowledgment that all things belong to that king and the citizen is grateful. Because giving to a king is impossible (since all things already belong to the king), the act of giving benefits the citizen more than the king. Thus one should never come before a king empty-handed.”

#### **1 Kings 10:10** (see also 1 Kings 10:23-25)

<sup>10</sup> And she gave the king 120 talents of gold, large quantities of spices, and precious stones. Never again were so many spices brought in as those the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

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# THE KINGDOM I

REDISCOVERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## Week Three: Origin & Purpose of Man

### WHY DO YOU EXIST?

Remember, Goy always uses three words when teaching man:

1. **Knowledge:** Information.
2. **Understanding:** A comprehension of information.
3. **Wisdom:** The application of your comprehension of information.

### QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

- Who is man?
- Why was he created?
- Why were we put on this planet?
- What were we made to do?
- Where did we come from?
- Are we just a link in an evolutionary chain?
- Where are we going?
- What happens after we die?

To fully understand how any product works, you must understand the original idea and heart of the creator. To understand our purpose, man's purpose, we must understand the mind of the One who created us.

"... fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."- [Philippian 2:2-5](#)

**IF WE SEEK TO UNDERSTAND THE CREATION, WE MUST FIRST UNDERSTAND THE CREATOR. AFTER ALL, NO ONE KNOWS THE PRODUCT LIKE THE MANUFACTURER.**

## THE ORIGIN OF THE FIRST KINGDOM

It is essential to understand that before anything was, God is. The word “God” denotes “self-existing or self-sufficient one” that does not need anything or anyone to exist. God is not a name, but rather a description of character. When this independent God created the world, he became known as one above nature, creating the concept of a ruler. **Another word for ruler is king.**

## DIVINE MOTIVATION FOR CREATION

The motivation for creation has to do with God’s character.

“He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”- 1 John 4:8

“For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son.”- John 3:16

1 John 4:8 does not say that God **has** love, it says God **is** love. Because He is love, his actions are a manifestation of the nature of love. One obvious quality of love is that love has to give and share itself. That being said, God’s very nature causes him to desire to share his rulership.

Man was created with the original purpose of fellowship, rulership, and leadership.

**God’s motivation for creating mankind was to share his Kingdom with His offspring.**

## THE CONCEPT OF COLONIZATION

Another crucial concept to understand the purpose and plan for creation is colonization.

**Colonization:** A process whereby a government or ruler determines to extend his kingdom, rulership, or influence to additional territory with the purpose of impacting that territory with his will and desire.

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## THE KINGDOM SEEKS CITIZENS, NOT RELIGIOUS MEMBERS

God's purpose is to establish a commonwealth of citizens, not members of a religion. This understanding is essential to grasp the concept of the message of Jesus Christ concerning the Kingdom of Heaven. In fact, it was never intended for those who believe in Jesus as Messiah to be referred to as Christians.

Kingdoms are built on the concept of legalities. Religions are built on groups and sympathies.

### MEMORIZE THIS:

Right or wrong, most unbelievers have a definite idea of what they think a Christian should be. If we are not careful, we can identify too strongly with their label and fall into the trap of trying to live up to their expectations. We should stop trying so hard to live like Christians and all of the false assumptions associated with that term, and instead work harder at living like sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Christ, and citizens of the Kingdom of heaven.



## THE KING AND HIS DOMAIN

Whatever a king rules over is called his domain. Without a domain, the title of king has little meaning and carries little weight. In fact, the word kingdom comes from king and domain. God's king domain includes both the seen and unseen. This is why God needs a body.

“All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

- John 1:3

This law of divine delegation creating human dominion over Earth has made the body of man indispensable and a prerequisite for legal activity on Earth. This is why God's Spirit could not stop the fall of man, not because He was weak, powerless, or impotent, but rather because He was faithful to His word. The fall of man, therefore, is in essence a result of the faithfulness of God. However, this is also why the promise of the Kingdom being taken from the adversary had to include and required the promise of the coming of the Spirit of God in a human body.

“Then Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.’” - John 5:19

“Then Jesus said to them, ‘When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.’”

- John 8:28

**GOD WILL NOT DO ANYTHING ON EARTH  
WITHOUT ACCESS FROM THOSE ON EARTH TO  
WHOM HE GAVE DOMINION.**



# THE KINGDOM I

REDISCOVERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## *Week Four: Kingdom Concepts*

### ALL THE KINGDOMS OF EARTH WERE MERE ATTEMPTS TO IMITATE THE PERFECT KINGDOM

Our modern democracies are also an attempt to achieve the goals of the perfect Kingdom, but we're without the necessary relationship with the Holy Spirit. Added to this confusion, and even ignorance, concerning the Kingdom, religion has further diverted our understanding by converting the message of the Kingdom of God into a moral belief system.

Many religions take pride in the separation of religion and state and see the two opposing entities with no common relationship. The dilemma is that the Kingdom is a state government with all the characteristics of a state.

**JESUS CAME TO EARTH TO RESTORE WHAT ADAM LOST, AND HE BROUGHT A KINGDOM MESSAGE.**

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## CHARACTERISTIC OF AN AMBASSADOR

An ambassador is a unique political creature in all kingdoms, and his disposition must be understood fully in order to appreciate the power and distinction of this revered position. Here are some very paramount qualities of an ambassador:

- Appointed by the king, not voted into position.
- Appointed to represent the state or kingdom.
- Committed only to the state's interests.
- Embodies the nation-state or kingdom .
- Totally covered by the state.
- Is the responsibility of the state.
- Totally protected by his government.
- Never becomes a citizen of the state or kingdom to which he is assigned.
- Can only be recalled by the king or president.
- Has access to all his nation's wealth for assignment.
- Never speaks his personal position on any issue, only his nation's official position.
- His goal is to influence the territory for his kingdom government.

## THE ASSIGNMENT OF JESUS: RESTORE THE KINGDOM

Everybody in the world was born to fulfill an assignment. God created each one of us to solve a problem. There is something that God wanted accomplished that required our existence—every one of us. None of us are an accident. None of us are here by mistake.

## REVERSING THE CURSE OF MAN'S DEFECTION

God's purpose for us is the same as it has always been: to exercise dominion and authority over the earthly realm under His sovereign kingship. That has never changed. What has changed is our position. Adam and Eve's abdication of their rightful place of authority allowed Satan, an unemployed cherub, to usurp the throne God intended for us to occupy. Relegated to the status of helpless subjects of a devastating kingdom of darkness, we cannot return to our original place without God's help.

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## THE ASSIGNMENT OF JESUS: PREACH THE KINGDOM

Jesus rarely spoke about being born again, neither did He make these other themes the focus of His preaching: prosperity, healing, baptism in the Holy Spirit, or many of the other things we preach so much about today.

Jesus taught about those things, and He demonstrated them in His day-by-day ministry, but He didn't preach them. There is a big difference. Jesus had only one message: the Kingdom of God. That was His assignment, and He passed it on to us. His assignment is our assignment.

## THE POWER OF AN AMBASSADOR

A parallel to this dominion authority is best illustrated in the function of ambassadors and embassies. Ambassadors are diplomats who carry out diplomacy for the government they represent. As Christ's ambassadors, we represent the Kingdom government of God. We are diplomats of His Kingdom in this world.

**LEARNING TO SEE OURSELVES AS AMBASSADORS  
WILL CHANGE THE WAY WE THINK AND LIVE.**

Whenever two nations establish formal diplomatic relations with each other, they open embassies in each other's capital city. The land on which each embassy is located is regarded as the sovereign territory of the nation whose embassy is located there. That sovereignty is recognized and respected by the government of the host nation as well as all other nations.

"The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me." - [Leviticus 25:23](#)

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## A NEW ORDER IS COMING

Although none of the Old Testament prophets experienced the Holy Spirit as an indwelling presence, some of them did receive glimpses of this future relationship. The prophet Joel wrote:

“And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.” - Joel 2:28-29

Although John appears in the four Gospels of the New Testament, he was in fact the last of the Old Testament prophets. His death at the command of Herod Antipas and the initiation of Jesus’ public ministry marked the end of one era and the beginning of another. More specifically, the baptism of Jesus by John was the point of transference.

“The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it.” - Luke 16:16

## CITIZENS OF A NEW ORDER

After Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan River and was “full of the Holy Spirit,” the Spirit led Him into the wilderness where He fasted for 40 days and nights and was tempted by the devil.

Emerging victorious from His temptation, Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit without measure as the vanguard of the new order.

**JESUS CAME TO RECONNECT US TO HIS FATHER AND HIS GLORIOUS KINGDOM. THE CONNECTION IS THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

## GOD COMES TO LIVE WITH MAN

The authority and power we now possess as Spirit-filled ambassadors of the King gives us a taste of what Adam enjoyed before the fall. With the Holy Spirit in control and leading us day by day, we can make wherever we are a little bit of “heaven on earth.”

## REPRESENTING THE KING: THE POWER OF OUR POSITION

Understanding ourselves as ambassadors of Christ and representatives of His Kingdom relieves a lot of self-imposed pressure. Being Christ’s ambassador is a wonderful privilege, but it also comes with tremendous responsibilities, which are:

- Speaking the words of the King.
- Being concerned with only the interests of the King.
- Speaking only on behalf of His government.
- Maintaining connection and communication with the King.
- Carrying out the policies established by the King.

“Then Jesus said to them, ‘When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.’”

-John 8:28

“These things I command you, that you love one another... If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” - John 15:17,19

An ambassador who strays across the line into the territory of personal opinion risks jeopardizing his nation’s reputation and possibly even its security and sets himself up for possible censure and recall. **An ambassador who understands his role will simply communicate the position of his government, regardless of his private views.**

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## WHEN GOD HEARS MY HEARTBEAT, DOES IT BEAT KINGDOM?

Any time the Church becomes obsessed with “advancing the Kingdom for Jesus’ sake” to point of abusing and even killing people, seizing other people’s property, and fighting amongst ourselves, then we cease to accurately and effectively present God in this world. We literally cease to be the Church. We may carry the name of Jesus, but we strayed far from His Spirit.

## DO I CARRY THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Our mission is not to overrun nations and take people by force into the Kingdom. God has invaded Earth, but His target is human hearts, not geographical territory.

“The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.”

- Psalm 24:1

God does not need to conquer the Earth because it already belongs to Him.

## LEAVING AN INHERITANCE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

A critical part of our introduction to the powerful truths of the Kingdom is about our inheritance as children of God.

“<sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’

“<sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? <sup>39</sup> Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ <sup>40</sup> And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’” - Matthew 25:34-40

## GETTING YOUR INHERITANCE

In the spiritual realm, Christ is the mediator between God and man. He stands between the Kingdom and us. He mediates between our inheritance and us.

When we take Jesus at His word, when we trust Him as the One who can cleanse us of our sin, when we give Him control and acknowledge Him as Lord of our lives, we meet all the qualifications necessary to receive our Kingdom inheritance.

## THE FIRST STEP: BEING BORN AGAIN

Through Jesus, we can enter the door of the Kingdom and begin to live and think and act like who we really are: children of the King. In the Gospel, Jesus refers to this step as being “born again.”

BEING BORN AGAIN IS MERELY **THE FIRST STEP** OF A WHOLE NEW LEVEL, A JOURNEY OF LEARNING TO KNOW, APPRECIATE, AND EXPERIENCE OUR RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS **KINGDOM CITIZENS**.







## OVERCOMING THE WORLD

Scripture promises us not that Jesus would rescue us from a world on the brink of overcoming us, but that in Him we would overcome the world:

“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” - [John 16:33](#)

“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” - [1 John 5:4-5](#)

What this means is that when we live and think and act like Kingdom citizens, we can experience success, victory, and fruitfulness—not in the “sweet by-and-by,” but right now, today.

**NOTHING OUTSIDE OF US IS BIGGER THAN  
WHO IS INSIDE OF US.**





# THE KINGDOM I

REDISCOVERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## *Week Seven: Servant Kings, Prophets, and the Kingdom*

EVERY CITIZENS IS DESIGNATED A KING

### **A KINGDOM OF SERVANTS**

The Kingdom of God is the only Kingdom in which every citizen is designated a king. However, their rulership is not over people, but in a specific area of gifting.

“A man’s gift makes room for him, And brings him before great men.” - Proverbs 18:16

### **A KINGDOM THAT CANNOT BE OVERTHROWN**

The Kingdom of God is stable. It cannot be moved. Unlike the kingdoms of this world, God’s Kingdom is founded on eternal principles that never fade or pass away.

Jesus’s missions consisted of five specific goals:

1. Reintroduce the Kingdom of God to man.
2. Restore the righteousness and holiness of mankind.
3. Restore the Holy Spirit in man.
4. Retrain mankind for Kingdom leadership.
5. Restore the Kingdom rulership of God on Earth through mankind.

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## THE ORIGINAL ORDER OF THE KINGDOM

The prefix “re” means to “do again” or to “go back to the original state.” Whenever we “re-” something, we move backwards.

This prefix is one of the most important prefixes in scripture. Virtually every word used in the Bible to describe God’s program for mankind begins with it:

- Redeem
- Revive
- Restore
- Repent
- Reconcile
- Resurrection
- Return
- Recompense
- Renew
- Reward

All these words relate in one way or another to God’s plan for the salvation of mankind.

## THE SPIRITUAL AND NATURAL

To begin, we must understand as God is the three parts of what we call the Trinity, we too are three parts. As we’re made in His image, it only makes sense.



God’s purpose was for man to rule the Earth in His name and under His authority.

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## ENTER THE HOLY SPIRIT

In order for God to rule the Earth through man He created, there had to be a spiritual connection linking the two realms. This is why God created man with the capacity to receive His Spirit.

## JESUS CAME TO REINTRODUCE THE KINGDOM

Just as man was given woman as a helper, so was humanity given the Holy Spirit to be a comforter, helper, and helpmate in advancing the Kingdom.

“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

- John 14:16-17

God want us to have the Kingdom manifested through us, so the Holy Spirit makes that possible.

<sup>10</sup> But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup> For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

<sup>13</sup> These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” - 1 Corinthians 2:10-13

**WITH GOD’S SPIRIT LIVING INSIDE HIM AND DIRECTING HIM,  
MAN COULD MANIFEST GOD’S KINGDOM ON THE EARTH.**









# THE KINGDOM I

REDISCOVERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## *Week Eight: the Priority of the Kingdom*

PERCEPTION CHANGES EVERYTHING

### HOW IMPORTANT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” - *Matthew 6:33*

Frankly, without the Kingdom of God, the Body of Christ has nothing to preach or teach. If we’re doing our job, everything we are about will be Kingdom focused. Jesus gave us no other commission.

### THE VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE WORLDS

**The Visible World:**

The physical world that engages our five senses.

**The Invisible World:**

The world beyond our natural, physical senses.

In truth, the spiritual world is more real than the natural one. The invisible is larger and serves as the originator of the visible. All things were created from the mind of a powerful Maker, and what He imagined and planned in His mind, He brought forth by the power of the Word.

“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.” - *Colossians 1:16*

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## ON NOT LOVING THE WORLD

Do not love the world or anything from it, because everything in the world comes not from the King, but from the world. Paul addresses the duality of the two worlds here:

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” - 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

God’s original purpose for creating the visible world was to establish His Invisible Kingdom in that visible world, to manifest the spiritual in the physical. To do this, He needed children who inhabited physical bodies. He created them with a spirit, soul, and body with capacity to communicate with both realms.

## CREATED TO BE KINGS IN GOD'S WORLD

God created us as spirit men, put us into visible bodies, placed us in the physical world that he created, and told us to establish dominion over it. Through us, His rule of the heavenly Kingdom would be extended over the Earth.

When Adam and Eve forfeited their Kingdom rights, Satan illegally usurped their throne. Ever since, he’s confused our minds and blocks our ability to see God.

**SATAN ATTACKS OUR THOUGHTS TO CONFUSE US  
CONCERNING OUR IDENTITY.**

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