

KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

Mark: 1:35 & Matt: 11: 11-12

From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury

Dynamics for Kingdom Advance

Kingdom Advance has everything to do with the Government of God being made manifest in the earth by the activities of a Spirit-Filled, wise, bold, tenacious, militant, aggressive Church. **Understanding the operations of the Kingdom of God must begin with the recognition that it is always associated with the God's Will.**

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' Matthew 7:21-23

Matthew gives us an account that clearly demonstrates that the Kingdom can only be advanced via the channel of the absolute Will of God. But, as is revealed in these verses, **adherence to His Will does not express itself solely in the activities themselves, but only in as much as those activities reflect the divine and perfect (rather than permissive) Will of God.**

Kingdom, as the Government of God, divides between lawlessness and righteousness – lawlessness being defined by the rejection of God's Will and righteousness by the adherence to God's Will. **Hebrews 1:8-9**, states that the 'sceptre' of righteousness is the 'sceptre' of God's Kingdom. The Sceptre represents the authority of God that establishes His Kingdom. Righteousness is the very foundation of the Kingdom. It has an inherent hatred for lawlessness because it prevents the hand of God from moving. In

lawlessness hated, God promised to release His favour. This same dynamic operates today in the Kingdom of God.

The vision that Daniel had in **Daniel 2:31-35** reveals another important Kingdom dynamic.

"You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendour was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

The Kingdom has an increase potential and a dominating dimension that is virtually unstoppable. In the vision, the Kingdom grows and grows until it has consumed all other existing earthly kingdoms. The Kingdom does not make treaties of peace with that which is not of its kind. The Kingdom's reality is one of conflict, aggression and advance as demonstrated in **Matthew 11:12**

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."

Its sole purpose and desire is to have the Government of God occupy every dimension

verse 9, because righteousness was loved and underscores this point but, also adds greater understanding about the Kingdom.

“Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches." Another parable He spoke to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.”

Here Jesus clearly states that the Kingdom of God does not simply have the growth potential of the mustard seed, but that this growth potential is only activated when man sows that seed in his field. **The Kingdom must begin with the individual commitment to plant, nurture and cultivate the attributes of a Kingdom Lifestyle in his/her own life.**

In the natural, the mustard seed grows at an extremely rapid rate. Once the conditions for growth are in place, the mustard seed can grow from a seedling to between 10-12 feet in the space of a few months. Therefore the extent to which the **Kingdom advances** in our lives is dependent upon our provision of an ideal environment for its advance. This is important because the power of a Kingdom Advancing Church in the earth is dependent upon the extent to which the members of that Church have the power of the Kingdom residing within them. **Our corporate action in (Kingdom Advancing Prayer) presupposes that there is the existence of individual will and commitment to the single purpose of advancing God's Kingdom.**

The increase potential of the Kingdom of God is as infinite as God Himself. In **Matthew 13:11-13:**

“He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of

of human existence. **Matthew 13: 31-33** also heaven but to them it has not been given For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.”

Christ clearly explains this to His disciples. However, locked in His explanation, is the revelation that accessing this Kingdom dimension requires more than just the ability to operate in the natural (religious activity). “All heard, but all did not hear and all saw, but all did not see” seems to be the paradoxical message of Christ.

The communication system of the Kingdom is prophetic. There can be no advance in the Kingdom of God without a prophetic vision. As a Kingdom-Minded people, we are to discern the intent of God and act accordingly in the natural, out of conviction from our understanding in the spirit.

Understanding the Kingdom is critical to us (pray-ers) because it comes with a culture that needs to be appreciated, a language that needs to be known, a lifestyle that needs to be expressed, a doctrine that needs to be known and demonstrated and a Divine Agenda that must be fulfilled.

The Kingdom of God must come but it can only do so through the expressive existence of a Governmental, Kingdom Advancing Generation in the earth.

We declare “**Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be DONE in the earth as it is in heaven.**” Come Kingdom of God, Come!

Let this be the cry of our hearts as we continue our forward movement in the Plan and Purpose of God for us here in Canada and in the nations of the earth! Blessings.

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