

The Kingdom Comes Not With Observation

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I do not have a testimony like my father or many others where I did a lot of drugs or carried a gun ran the streets. Instead, my is one not of malice and mischief but mistakes and rebellion non-the-less. Raised in a Christian home, having been taught the precepts and principles of God, I was a young man searching for purpose and some affirmation in success and the praises of men. Having no clue of what I was destined to become or what purposes were before me, I joined the Army. I knew I wanted a career that was absolute, secure, and challenging. I wanted a career that provided honor and prestige. I knew I wanted a good education and to marry. I knew that the woman I married I wanted to be the only one for life. I even had plans of how I would accomplish each of these goals. I could see and vision out my whole future. What I had no clue of was what type of man I was, wanted to be or was becoming in terms of the most important necessity in life, what I valued. Through it all, every decision, was built upon a value of selfish dreams and ambitions. ***I could not see beyond me.***

Matthew 11:

John the Baptist, a cousin of Jesus, had went out to prepare the way for the Messiah. Now John went throughout the cities teaching repentance according to the Law of God so that the Law may be made clear and be fulfilled even before the eyes of the people. The Scripture says that John was to make straight the pathways for Jesus. John was preaching and presenting the precepts and principles of expectation of the Law of God before the people even as it and the prophecies thereof were being fulfilled in Jesus.

Jesus then comes teaching the same repentance but from a whole different angle. ***Jesus brought repentance out of something that you do into something that God does. He brought the changing and transformation of a life out of something that man had to do into something God can do as man allows Him to do it in their hearts.*** He went from the head of man where the Letter of the Law dwelt into the hearts of man where real relationship may dwell with the Father. He went to the spirit of man with the Spirit of God re-birthing man as a new creature.

All the law could do was let a man know he was wrong and condemn him for his failures. This is why it is important as parents not to just constantly tell your children what they do wrong but show them how to do right and reward them when they do. Have you ever worked on a job where your boss or someone else is constantly telling you you're doing that wrong then walk away and never show you how to do it right? It is frustrating.

Now the people here thought the Messiah was coming to deliver them from the government of Rome by wiping them out. However, ***Christ came to do it instead by establishing a new government, the Kingdom of God, over the cultural establishment of Roman government through the Spirit of God not through fleshly means of men.***

So, Christ is going throughout the cities demonstrating this very power and process of this new government. It is amazing to see how those following Christ could not observe what His intentions and plans were. The Roman government thought Him just another loony and harmless Jewish Prophet. The Pharisees perceived there was a conspiracy and covert operation to strip them of their control and dominance over the people. But ***the devils and spirits spoke out knowing full well that the very presence of the Messiah meant the Kingdom of God had come to the earth among men.***

Why could no one see the Kingdom of God except those who knew very well because they had seen it before, the spirits. Because ***the Kingdom of God cometh not with observation or seeing of the physical eyes.*** You are not going to see the Kingdom of God with your physical eyes. You are not going to spiritually hear and understand the precept and principles of the Kingdom of God with your carnal mind except you first embrace and be apprehended by the Spirit of the Lord.

If you have been praying for something or someone for years and say "But I have seen no

results.” So, you give up. ***You are looking for Kingdom results through eyes of carnal expectation.*** I have preached and preached the Word of God hoping to see growth and change in people. I see some get it and perceive that some do not. In some cases, those I thought got it, I later discover, they obviously did not. And those I did not think got it, did suddenly bear fruit. God has to remind me that the Kingdom of God does not come with observation. The Word of God is like a seed (**Luke 4**). You plant it and cannot see it grow then one day you go out and there is a stalk with corn on it.

Another example is when the servant of Elijah told him we are in trouble. There is a whole army of horses, chariots and warriors with swords and armor. The prophet tells him to look again. The servant tells him you are crazy. Then the prophet says, “Lord, open his eyes.” And the servant looked again and seen the legends of angels.

Now while Jesus is out openly demonstrating the Kingdom of God, John the Baptist is in prison and sends word to Jesus asking, “*Are you the one or should we **look** for another?*” ***Here is the very one who first recognizes the Son of God, the Messiah, but could not see the Kingdom of God.*** So, Jesus tells them to go back and tell him what you see happening out here. The blind see, the lame walk, the dumb speak, the dead are raised. Tell him that lives are being changed, hearts and minds are being transformed. The poor have hope, the widows are blessed. Tell him of the fruit being bore by this ministry and see if that makes a difference in his perception.

One distinctive trait that must be evident, making this church more than just a social gathering place, is that it bears fruit. The bearing of Kingdom fruit is what makes us a Kingdom people.

II Peter 3:

As Christians we all desire to be with Jesus. But for what purpose.? ***Too often our focus is a heavenly reward instead of simply being with the Master.*** What would be the motive of the Master when He returns? To rule and reign “*on earth as in heaven.*” ***We need to focus on the rule of heaven and not just the realm.*** We need to focus on Jesus not heaven. ***Look for Him not just to return but to have rule over your life here and now.*** Quit looking for something to come. To look means to observe transcendentally. It is to be on the outside looking in. Instead, look within and embrace the Kingdom of God. The disciples asked Jesus, “Where is the Kingdom of God?” His reply was, “Look within.” ***Do not observe with your fleshly eyes but be engulfed with the Kingdom precepts and principles ruling within your hearts, minds, and spirit.***

It is like a virtual reality game. With your physical eyes everything is mundane and no sense of sensation stimulating your flesh. But when you put on the VR glasses it is exciting as your mind is taken into a whole different dimension. ***Nothing has really changed except your perception of what is real.*** Many Christians today live mundane church lives. It has become routine with nothing stimulating them to grow spiritually and present results before the Master. They look for heaven to break the monotony not realizing that the same attitude they would probably develop in the Kingdom of Heaven. If you cannot see the Kingdom of God here and are bored with your Christianity what makes you think seeing the Master face to face would make any difference? It is no different than a 40 year old excitingly anticipating the arrival of Santa Clause to come down the smoke stack. It is uncommon. Why? Because we grew up and **no longer see the wonder** except through the eyes of our children. This is why Christ said, “*To enter the Kingdom we must be as little children.*”

Allow the Holy Spirit to return you to the wondrous perception and reality of the Kingdom of God and be apprehended by the glorious expectation of serving in His Kingdom now.

We are to live expecting and anticipating the return of our Lord. But most folks who tell you they believe that, their lives do not reflect it. If you believe it then you better be doing something about it. Because for many ***if He came back today they would have no evidence to show that He had made a difference in their lives.*** If I told you not to step around the corner and into the street because a truck was going to run over you. And you tell me, “Okay I believe you.” and you go do it anyway. You did

not really believe me. You were a liar. If you really believed He was returning you would not be caught living in sin, doing your thing, and procrastinating your spiritual growth and fruit. You would not be caught with anger, bitterness, wrong attitudes, and unforgiveness against you brother. Instead, ***you would be doing everything that at any moment you could stand before Him unashamed to have bore His name.***

Hebrews 9:

Because of your sin, you could not know God, hear God, see God, or be a part of His Kingdom. But Christ bore your sins that you may know Him and be a part of His Kingdom. But ***when He returns again He will not come to bear sin again. He will come bringing the Kingdom of Heaven and the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God.*** And all those who remain in sin cannot be a part. All things that contradict, offend, or oppose His Kingdom shall be removed and cast into Hell for eternity. Folks ***there will not be another opportunity for you to get it right and see the Kingdom of God. Your opportunity has come. It is now.*** Seek ye first. Seek ye now the Kingdom of God.

Search yourself now. Inventory you life's perceptions, attitudes, efforts, and priorities. Where do you stand between the Kingdoms of this world, your own Kingdom of self, and the Kingdom of God?