

Evidence of Kingdom Living

Jesus Conveys Kingdom Power on His Followers

Mt 10:5-8; 16:18-19; Lk 10:1-2, 9

Living into the Kingdom Series - Pt. 3

Introduction

• **Recap of Last Week**

- **This Series** = Jesus is the King, so now we need to Understand the Kingdom of God that He ushered in.
 - **Kingdom of God** = *wherever God rules*
- **6 Things that Jesus did When He Showed Up as King the First Time**
 - **1.) Broke the Hold of Satan** - The devil ran a monopoly of bully power on the earth and Jesus, the rightful King came and is leading an invasion.
 - **2.) Broke the Hold of Sin** - Sin separated us from God which meant that not only were we in trouble ourselves, but Satan could hold it over our heads. Jesus fixed that.
 - **3.) Broke the Hold of Death** - Another tool of the devil to control us was holding the fear of death over our heads. Jesus turned death into glory.
 - **4.) Inaugurated a Movement to be followed** - Tangible, Concrete Example for us to follow. He was called *the firstfruits of what is to come*.
 - **5.) Brought the Holy Spirit here** - Jesus tagged the Holy Spirit who came down with power and truth to indwell His believers.
 - **6.) Put the World on Notice of His Return** - Jesus told everyone that would listen that His first visit was just a down-payment, that one day He will come back and finish the job once and for all.
- **Our Focus for Today** - is founded upon those 6 and the ramifications they bring. More specifically I want to focus on #'s 1, 4 & 5.

- **Jesus did something to limit the control of Satan**
- **He led a movement** for us to advance.
- **He sent the Holy Spirit here.** The Holy Spirit is a Game-Changer. He is the primary reason for the power, signs and wonders that Jesus demonstrated. Why does that matter? Because now it's our turn, and...

Jesus EQUIPS His Followers for Victory

Lesson

- **Jesus' Early Followers**
 - **A Foundation of Power** - Given the keys to the Kingdom
 - *Mt 16:13-19* - (After discussion of Caesarea Philippi of who is Jesus and Peter proclaims - Christ, Son of the Living God)... *And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."*
 - **What the Keys are For? Gates**
 - **What do the Gates of Hell hold in?** Satan's Kingdom theoretically but practically what do they hold in? **People.**
 - **What are the Gates Made of?** Here are some key examples
 - **Guilt and Shame** - a trap, a vicious cycle of recognizing the badness within us and condemning ourselves. Without a Savior, we continue spiraling down into darkness. (answer = Rom 8:1)
 - **Sin and Death** - our sin condemns us to death and damnation. Therefore, death takes on an ominous tone and inspires fear. We'll do anything to avoid it. (answer = Rom 7:6, 23-25)
 - **Fear and Worry** - when things aren't in our control we panic. Satan can play off of those fears demonstrating to us

how limited we really are to make any changes. (answer = 2 Cor 10:5)

- **Sickness and Disease** - these lead not just to frustration, but to fear of death again. Pain, suffering and hurt diminishes our lives and we search for meaning and reprieve at all costs. (answer = Mt 4:23; Jn 11:25)
- **Spiritual Strongholds** - we begin life spiritually shut down (original sin) separated from God, and as we grow older and God reveals Himself more and more, Satan's team runs distractions and blocks to connecting with the Lord. (answer = Rom 8:38-39; Col 1:13)
- **Setting People Free Eternally** (opening the door to eternal life that had been locked by Satan) - future focus
 - **What is eternal life?** - *It's a quality of life, not merely a duration.* It starts at conversion, not death. It's when the supernatural, spiritual pilot light fires up in our spirits and we get attached and connected to our Creator and He begins to flow in and through us.
- **Setting People Free Practically** - now focus
 - **An Incredible, Unusual Example** - Lk 13:10-17 - *"Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your disability." ¹³ And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. ¹⁴ But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵ Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger*

and lead it away to water it? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷ As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame, and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him."

- **Consider what is binding your neighbors** - shouldn't you set them free? **What does my neighbor want to be free of?**
 - **If you ever think, 'what am I supposed to do about it?' or 'What can I do?'**, you've come to the right place.
- **The 12 sent out** - Combo Account - Mt 10:1-42; Mk 6:7-13; Luke 9:1-6
 - *And he called **to him** the twelve together (**his twelve disciples**) and began to send them out two by two and gave them power and authority over all demons (**unclean spirits**), to cast them out, and to cure/heal every disease, and every affliction. The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. And he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. And **these twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them (charged them)**, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay... And so they departed and went **out** through the villages, preaching the gospel and proclaimed that people should repent. And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them, healing everywhere.*

- **Who's Job is It?** – Jesus Expected His Followers to Do the Same as Him and on His Behalf – Reading the Feeding of the 5,000 through Kingdom lenses.
 - **Luke follows the 12 sent out with, Feeding the 5,000** - Lk 9:10-17 – *“On their return the apostles told him all that they had done. And he took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida. ¹¹ When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing. ¹² Now the day began to wear away, and the twelve came and said to him, “Send the crowd away to go into the surrounding villages and countryside to find lodging and get provisions, for we are here in a desolate place.” ¹³ But he said to them, “You give them something to eat.” They said, “We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people.” ¹⁴ For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” ¹⁵ And they did so, and had them all sit down. ¹⁶ And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. ¹⁷ And they all ate and were satisfied. And what was left over was picked up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.”*
 - **God's Calling is God's Enabling**
 - **72 Others Sent out**
 - Lk 10:1-20 – *“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ² And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves...⁸ Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’....¹⁷ The*

seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" ¹⁸ And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

- **Our Current Reality (Identity) and Responsibility (Mission)**

- **Christian Identity = (PUT VISUALS UP ON THE SCREEN)**

- **Covenant:** Father - Identity - Obedience

- **Kingdom:** King - Authority - Power

- **Greater Things will you do** - John 14:12-14 - "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

- **Binding of the Strong Man**

- Lk 11:20-22 - "But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²² but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil."

- **Jesus opened a way for victory**

- **Breaking Strongholds**

- 2 Co 10:3-5 - "For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

- ⁵ We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,..."

- **Spiritual Gifts** - The spiritual gifts were given to us in the Holy Spirit to help us in the in-between time. Limited time for usefulness.
 - 1 Co 12:4-11 - *"Now there are varieties of gifts,...service,... activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge..., ⁹to another faith..., to another gifts of healing..., ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apports to each one individually as he wills."*
 - **I have been given more than enough**
- **We are emissaries of the Kingdom here on earth.** We do what He did
 - **If Jesus did it, you may want to look into it.**
- **Not just the rescue of ourselves, but rescuing others as well**
 - **Setting the captives free** (Eph 4:8)
 - **Jesus cited Isaiah 61:1-2 saying it was fulfilled in Him** - Lk 4:18-19 - *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*
 - Ga 1:3-4 - *"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age,..."*
 - **Binding and Loosing** -
 - Matthew 16:19 - *"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."*

- **What We are Binding and Loosing** - We tend to think about binding and loosing concepts, power structures, ideas, etc. For example, we pray to bind that which is true for someone while rejecting and loosing that which is false for them. But did you know there's another side to binding and loosing? It's binding and loosing people with the message of the Kingdom of God.
 - **Loosing People for Eternal life as well as temporary bondage** (the woman bent over for 18 years by Satan).
- **Evidence of the Present Kingdom (not mere talk but power)**
 - **Jesus' Evidence** - John 14:10-11 - *"Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves." (cf. Mt 4:23-25a; John 10:25)*
 - **What evidence am I showing that the Holy Spirit lives in me?**
 - **Paul has More Than Words** -
 - **Not Just Words** - 1 Co 2:4-5 - *"...my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."*
 - **With Power** - 1 Thess 1:4-5 - *"For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction."*
 - **Fulfilling the Ministry** - Ro 15:18-19 - *"For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, ¹⁹ by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of*

Christ;..." (cf. 1st Corinthians 2:1-5 & 1 Thess 1:4-5, as well as John 14:10-14).

- **Combo Ministry (Words and Works)** - What a beautiful combo ministry. This is what I want for Bridgeway!
 - **Paul & Barnabas** - Ac 14:1-4 - *"Now at Iconium they (Paul and Barnabas) entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. ² But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. ³ So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. ⁴ But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles."*
 - **Full ministry is word and action**

Conclusion

- **Invite the Prayer Team and the Worship Team Back Up** - The Kingdom is here, let the Holy Spirit minister to you today...
- **New People** - welcome cards
- **Good News** = King Jesus, the good King has come and is setting people free from the power of the bad king and transferring them from the Kingdom of Darkness to the Kingdom of Light.
- **The Great Commission (All Authority; Now Go)** - Mt 28:18-20 - *"And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*