

POSSESSED

Many people look at the current circumstances in our world today and wish and hope that things would change.

Some people call for political change, some feel compelled to riot in the streets, and some believe that things won't ever change and they just keep on doing what they're doing.

Christians are encouraged to pray about this world's terrible condition.

So, millions of Christians all over the world continually petition God, who they believe lives out in the ozone somewhere, to get off His throne, come down to earth and fix all these problems.

Those prayers don't seem to get any results, so they go back to doing what they were doing before, and say God is in control.

The church continually testifies that the Kingdom of God is the only answer to all of these problems in our world, and I agree whole heartedly. Let's look at a few scriptures to confirm God's intentions for this world and his children.

Jesus told the Pharisees that the Kingdom of God does not come with outward observation but it is within you.

In John chapter 14, Jesus told His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come and dwell within them, and if they kept His word, Jesus and the Father would make their permanent dwelling place in them. That's how the Kingdom of God dwells within us.

Paul asked the Corinthians this direct question, do you not know that your bodies are the temple of God and that you are not your own, you've been bought with a price.

In 1 Peter 2.5, Peter states that we are living stones, and are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable God through Jesus Christ.

We can see from these scriptures that the kingdom of God dwells within His people.

God doesn't want to visit us every Sunday. God plans to move into His dwelling place and have the run of the house.

Jesus preached everywhere, repent, for the kingdom of God is here now. It wasn't a someday, way far off in the future thing to be hoped for, it was available to us now.

Many Christians have been taught that eternal life and the Kingdom of God is what you experience after you die and that your life on this planet is to be spent giving, serving, studying the Bible, witnessing, and attending church meetings faithfully.

If this is true, and we only receive eternal life after we die, what life are we using to do all of our faithful serving, giving, and witnessing.

Jesus said, in John 6.63, that it's the Spirit who gives life, your flesh profits absolutely nothing.

He also said, you will be known by your fruit. And by abiding in Him and bearing much fruit you would prove that we are His disciples.

In the United States alone, nearly 2 out of every 3 people claim to be born again Christians.

When you look at the state of our country, it doesn't seem like we're having much effect on the world around us.

Jesus was asking us to repent of our natural lives inherited from Adam and Eve because the one that we were actually created for from the beginning was available to us now.

God is not asking us to build a Kingdom for Him. He already has one. And He has called us to Himself, into His family, to inherit that Kingdom and manifest its reality in this Earth.

Jesus said come, and inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from before the foundation of the Earth.

Look at Exodus 19.4, it reads,

You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I carried you on eagle's wings, and brought you to Myself. Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then YOU SHALL BE A PEOPLE FOR MY OWN POSSESSION among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and YOU SHALL BE TO ME A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS and a holy nation.

Peter confirms that Christ's perfect sacrifice and our death and resurrection with Him by God's doing has accomplished this for us as believers.

1 Peter 2.9 declares that,

YOU ARE a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, A PEOPLE FOR GOD'S OWN POSSESSION that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who is called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

In the Old Testament the Levitical priests had no inheritance in this land. Their entire inheritance was God Himself. They could go into the presence of God and fellowship with Him and then come out and speak His word.

In Deuteronomy 6.5 God declares the kind of relationship that He wanted with His people. He said, You shall love the Lord you God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. These words that I am commanding you today shall be on your heart, and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

God wanted them obsessed and possessed by Him.

Let's focus for a minute on some of the things that keep this from being our reality.

The apostle Paul made several statements to the Corinthians about this.

1 Corinthians 6.9

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor *the* greedy, nor those habitually drunk, nor verbal abusers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

And

1 Corinthians 15.50

Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

Our flesh says, if I do what God is asking, life as I know it will be over. I'll be giving up the known for the unknown. Our flesh perceives it as giving up something real for something that is unreal

Our spirits are excited and looking forward to God's outpouring in these days and His Kingdom.

But our flesh is in dread and cringing about the outpouring of these days.

Our natural man is self-motivated, self-directed, and self-preserving.

Natural man believes that we can get through an awful lot of negative things, as long as we avoid death at all cost.

Satan really works on this fear of death.

Hebrews 2.14 says that he kept us in bondage all our lives by the haunting fear of death.

Our natural perception cannot see the eternal inheritance that God is offering us, only the loss in the temporary.

Our senses can only perceive the temporary. They are incapable of seeing the eternal. That requires revelation from the Holy Spirit.

I thank God that he has given us an incredible solution to this problem.

1 Corinthians 2.12

Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit Who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God.

The Holy Spirit gives us the revelation that if we surrender life as we've known it to God, LIFE AS HE HAS IT WILL BE OUR ETERNAL REALITY.

Jesus' prayer that He taught His disciples, thy kingdom come on Earth as it is in heaven means, let it be in my house the way it is in your house.

The Father is asking us to discard the temporary so that we can possess the eternal

Our flesh reacts to the lordship of the Holy Spirit in our lives as though we are being suppressed, oppressed, and put into bondage

Colossians 1.12, declares our actual reality.

He has delivered us from the domain and the authority of darkness and transferred us into His kingdom, so that we can experience the freedom and the complete redemption into His family as His sons, His heirs, and joint heirs with Christ of all things. Satan no longer has any authority over us.

On the day that we got saved, God committed everything He is and everything He has to us as our inheritance. He has given His Holy Spirit to free us from ourselves so that we can lay hold of this inheritance and sow it into this world for His benefit

This is not a new plan. He said, come and inherit the kingdom of God that I've prepared for you before the foundation of the Earth.

Here is God's plans of preparation for the manifestation of His kingdom in this Earth.

Look at Malachi 3.1

“Behold, I am sending My messenger, and He will clear a way before Me. And the Lord, whom you are seeking, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of armies. “But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire, and like launderer’s soap. And He will sit as a smelter and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the LORD offerings in righteousness.

This purifying of His sons is absolutely necessary to fulfill the great commission.

Religion says that salvation is absolutely mandatory to go to heaven, but the lordship of Christ in our lives and us being completely possessed by His Holy Spirit has somehow become completely optional.

Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is like a woman who put leaven in 3 measures of meal until it was completely and totally leavened.

His kingdom in our lives is designed to swallow up everything of our fallen, spiritually dead nature inherited from Adam and Eve and replace it with His eternal life, His presence dwelling within us, His authority, and His commission to continue Jesus' redemptive work for the entire world.

Do you recall when Jesus met the demon possessed man of the Gaderenes? His demon possession was fearful and scary. No one could bind him. Not even with chains. He lived among the tombs.

Jesus cast a legion of demons out of him into a herd of pigs, and set him free. He demonstrated the authority of God's Kingdom over Satan, created a testimony of God's reality and His presence in their town. The people witnessed the manifestation of the power of God. They immediately asked Jesus to leave their town and never come back.

From their reaction, it seems that people's natural perception is more fearful of the presence of God's power and authority in their lives, that they are of Satan's demon possession.

God's not looking for millions of people on the planet who claim to have an affiliation with Him.

He's looking to create sons who are born of His spirit, and take on His likeness, as His ambassadors and representatives of His kingdom.

The scripture in Daniel 11.32 says, that the people who know their God shall be strong and do exploits.

When we repent of ourselves and get completely out of the way, we can fully inherit this kingdom, and fulfill His calling to be His ambassadors of that kingdom and proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom to every nation on this planet.

Then the end shall come.

God bless you.

Jim Fuller