

KINGDOM REALITIES #41-50

KINGDOM REALITY #41

If you've been a Christian for any length of time you've heard many times that "the devil prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone he may devour." (1 Peter 5.8)

and

very little about "resist" him in YOUR FAITH and HE WILL FLEE FROM YOU." (1 Peter 5.9)

Unfortunately, typically our resisting him is;

*do everything humanly possible to fix the circumstance

* then anxiously petition God to get off His throne and intervene in our situation

*and ask God to get Satan off of us.

This wishing and hoping and praying isn't how we are instructed to "resist".

Remember Hebrews 11.1?

Now FAITH IS THE ASSURANCE (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being THE PROOF of things [we] do not see and THE CONVICTION OF THEIR REALITY [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

Our reality is that

*Satan has been defeated

*we've been translated out of his authority

*we are seated at the Fathers right hand

*we've been given authority to enforce Christ's victory over Satan

*we've been saved (greek - sozo - saved, healed, delivered, restored, kept safe and sound)

The reality of Christ's victory for us is what we "resist" him with.

KINGDOM REALITY #42

This is another one of our Kingdom Realities made available by Christ's incredible sacrifice.

THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S, and ALL IT CONTAINS, the world, AND THOSE WHO DWELL IN IT. Psalms 24:1 NASB

For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-ALL THINGS HAVE BEEN CREATED BY HIM AND FOR HIM. Colossians 1:16 NASB

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN? For YOU HAVE BEEN BOUGHT WITH A PRICE, therefore glorify God in your body. 1 Corinthians 6.19

The Father wants us to know His purpose for creating us on this earth. He wants us to hear His voice, say what He created us to say, and do what He created us to do, so we can fulfil His purpose for all of mankind.

KINGDOM REALITY #43

Satan's lie to Eve was that independence from God brings freedom and serving ourselves would bring fulfillment. Instead it brought the curse of death.

The Hebrew word "Adonai", translated Lord is used over 300 times in the Old Testament. It means "Master, Owner, Lord".

In the New Testament the Greek word "kyrios", for Lord is used 722 times. It's definition - a person exercising absolute

ownership rights.

For YOU, brethren, WERE [indeed] CALLED TO FREEDOM; only [do not let your] freedom be an incentive to your flesh and an opportunity or excuse [for selfishness], but through love you should serve one another. Galatians 5:13 AMPC

Now THE LORD IS THE SPIRIT, and WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY (emancipation from bondage, freedom). the Lord, ARE CONSTANTLY BEING TRANSFIGURED INTO HIS VERY OWN IMAGE in ever increasing splendor and ALL OF US, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] FROM THE LORD [WHO IS] THE SPIRIT. 2 Corinthians 3:17

Independence from God produces only death. Our oneness with Him transforms us into what we created to be.

KINGDOM REALITY #44

He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates HIS LIFE (greek - psuche - natural life) in this world will keep it to LIFE ETERNAL. (greek - zoe - God's life) John 12:25 NASB

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I CAME THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE (zoe), AND HAVE IT ABUNDANTLY. John 10:10 NASB

IF CHRIST IS IN YOU, though the body is dead because of sin, yet THE SPIRIT IS ALIVE (zoe) because of righteousness. But if THE SPIRIT of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead WILL ALSO GIVE LIFE (zoe) TO YOUR MORTAL BODIES through His Spirit who dwells in you. Romans 8:10

That choice seems like a no-brainer, a choice that should be obvious to everyone.

KINGDOM REALITY #45

Kingdom Realities are created by God for us.

One of the deceptions of modern religion is that it has allowed Jesus to be placed in a completely separate category than us. It sounds like this, "Jesus didn't sin because He was God, He healed people, cast out demons, had authority, raised the dead because He was God."

Actually,

HE EMPTIED HIMSELF (laid aside His privileges), TAKING THE FORM OF A BOND SERVANT, BEING MADE IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN. (Phil 2:5-11)

Since, therefore, [these His] children share in flesh and blood [in the physical nature of human beings], He [Himself] in a similar manner partook of the same [nature].... Hebrews 2:14

Therefore, as sin came into the world through one man, and death as the result of sin, so death spread to all men, [no one being able to stop it or to escape its power] because all men sinned. Yet death held sway from Adam to Moses [the Lawgiver], even over those who did not themselves transgress [a positive command] as Adam did. ADAM WAS A TYPE (a prefigure) OF THE ONE WHO WAS TO COME [in reverse, the former destructive, the latter saving]. Romans 5:12

Thus, it is written, THE FIRST MAN ADAM BECAME A LIVING BEING (an individual personality); THE LAST ADAM (CHRIST) BECAME A LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT [restoring the dead to life]. But IT IS NOT THE SPIRITUAL LIFE WHICH CAME FIRST, BUT THE PHYSICAL AND THEN THE SPIRITUAL. The first man was from out of earth, made of dust (earthly-minded); THE SECOND MAN [IS THE LORD] from out of heaven. 1 Corinthians 15:45

Jesus demonstrated on earth the life that God originally created for man and by His sacrifice, made it available to us by faith in His incredible work.

KINGDOM REALITY #46

More Kingdom Reality.

HE IS THE RADIANCE OF HIS GLORY AND THE EXACT REPRESENTATION OF HIS NATURE, and upholds all things by the word of His power. Hebrews 1:3 NASB

Jesus said to him, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, "Show us the Father"?
John 14:9 NASB

QUESTION

If Jesus put on the same nature that we have and as Christians we have the same Spirit that raised Him from the dead within us, what is the difference between our expression of the Father and His? (Romans 8.11)

Here are several possibilities.

Jesus submitted to do the Father's will at the Jordan and the Holy Spirit came upon Him. (Luke 3.21+22)

The Spirit led Him into the wilderness where His consecration was tested at every level. (body, soul & spirit) (Luke 4.1-13)

His consecration to the Father's plan was tested again at the Garden of Gethsemene. (Luke 22.42)

What about us?

Paul exhorts believers:

Therefore DO NOT LET SIN REIGN IN YOUR MORTAL BODY so that you obey its lusts, and DO NOT GO ON PRESENTING THE MEMBERS OF YOUR BODY TO SIN AS INSTRUMENTS OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS; but PRESENT YOURSELVES TO GOD AS THOSE ALIVE FROM THE DEAD, AND YOUR MEMBERS AS INSTRUMENTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Jesu modeled in front of the whole world what our natural lives were created to be. Let us submit them to His Holy Spirit and allow Him to created that life in us.

KINGDOM REALITY #47

Kingdom Realities are made possible by Christ's incredible sacrifice.

We've all heard for years that

THE FLESH IS HOSTILE TOWARD GOD; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for IT IS NOT EVEN ABLE TO DO SO, and those who are in THE FLESH CANNOT PLEASE GOD. Romans 8:7

HOW ARE WE EVER GOING TO EXPRESS THE FATHER'S LIFE AS CHRIST DID?

THANK GOD THAT THE GOSPEL IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION FOR ALL OF US! (Romans 1.16)

Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Therefore, WE HAVE BEEN BURIED WITH HIM THROUGH BAPTISM INTO DEATH, SO THAT AS CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD through the glory of the Father, so WE TOO MIGHT WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE (zoe). For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, KNOWING THIS, THAT OUR OLD SELF WAS CRUCIFIED WITH HIM, in order THAT OUR BODY OF SIN MIGHT BE "DONE AWAY WITH", so that we would NO LONGER BE SLAVES TO SIN; for HE WHO HAS DIED IS FREED FROM SIN. Romans 6:3

HE DIDN'T JUST FORGIVE OUR SINS. HE CRUCIFIED THE OLD SINFUL NATURE THAT CREATED THEM!

KINGDOM REALITY #48

Kingdom Realities abound through Christ.

Who we are is not the sum total of our experiences, good, bad and in between.

I've often heard Christians say, "I don't why God would love someone like me". I've even said it myself.

We say those things because we are acutely aware of our weaknesses and failings past and present.

Although Satan deceived Adam and Eve and brought sin, separation from God and the resulting curse of death, THE REAL TRUTH ABOUT US IS MUCH GREATER THAN ALL OF THE FACTS ABOUT US.

THE TRUTH:

We were created in God's image. (Gen 1.26)

We were created BY HIM and FOR HIM. (Col 1.16)

We were born of God. (John 1.12+13)

We were created to manifest HIS NATURE (love) and HIS DOMINION OVER THE EARTH. (Gen 1.26-28)

We are the place HE wants to live. (1 Peter 2.4-8)

He wants to show the whole world WHO HE IS IN US. (1 Peter 2.9+10)

He wants the world to know that HE LOVES THEM LIKE HE LOVES JESUS THROUGH HIS ONENESS WITH US. (John 17.22+23)

We were created to be - LIFE GIVING SPIRITS - just like our Father. (1Cor 15.45)

People say that Jesus died for sinners. Although He was crucified because of sin,

HE ACTUALLY DIED TO REGAIN OUR ORIGINAL CREATED VALUE.

HE DIDN'T DIE FOR SINNERS, HE DIED TO REDEEM GOD'S SONS.

KINGDOM REALITY #49

God's intentions are fulfilled in God's plans, resulting in our Kingdom Realities.

God is faithful, through whom YOU WERE CALLED INTO FELLOWSHIP WITH HIS SON, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1:9 NASB

Fellowship in the New Testament is the Greek word, koinōnía - "what is shared in common as the basis of fellowship."

When we speak of fellowship in the modern church it often involves chips and dips, and is usually a natural social get together, where we share one another's struggles, circumstances, and problems of living in this world.

The early Christians had a little different approach to fellowship.

[We are writing] about the Word of Life [in] Him Who existed from the beginning, Whom we have heard, Whom we have seen with our [own] eyes, Whom we have gazed upon [for ourselves] and have touched with our [own] hands. And THE LIFE (zoe) [an aspect of His being] WAS REVEALED (made manifest, demonstrated), AND WE SAW [as eyewitnesses] AND ARE TESTIFYING TO AND DECLARE TO YOU THE LIFE, THE ETERNAL LIFE, [in Him] Who already existed with the Father and Who [actually] was made visible (was revealed) to us [His followers]. WHAT WE HAVE SEEN AND [ourselves] HEARD, WE ARE ALSO TELLING YOU, SO THAT YOU TOO MAY REALIZE AND ENJOY FELLOWSHIP AS PARTNERS AND PARTAKERS WITH US. And [THIS] FELLOWSHIP THAT WE HAVE [WHICH IS A DISTINGUISHING MARK OF CHRISTIANS] IS WITH THE FATHER AND WITH HIS SON Jesus Christ (the Messiah). 1 John 1:1

What they shared in common was the eternal life of God.

KINGDOM REALITY #50

Another Kingdom Reality made available to us by God's incredible love.

But AS MANY AS RECEIVED HIM, to them HE GAVE THE RIGHT TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD, even to those who believe in His name, WHO WERE BORN, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but OF GOD.

John 1:12

THE VERY THING THAT MAKES GOD, GOD, HIS SUPERNATURAL, SPIRITUAL NATURE IS THE VERY THING THAT MAKES US HIS CHILDREN!