

THE AMERICAN DREAM

The Difference Between The Kingdom of God and the kingdoms of this world (Handouts 1)

Kingdom of this world vs Kingdom of Jesus:

- 1) Trust (over vs under)
- 2) Aims (behavior / Inside out)
- 3) Scope (tribal/ universal)
- 4) Battles (earthly / not earthly)
- 5) Response (tit for tat / love for evil)

1Corinthians 16.14—Let all that you do be done in love.

Eph 2.13-16—But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near . . . who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility . . . His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

John 18.36—Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.”

Luke 4.5-7—And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, “I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours.”

John 12.31—“ . . . the ruler of this world . . . ”

John 14.30—“ . . . the ruler of the world . . . ”

John 16.11—“ . . . the ruler of this world . . . ”

2Corinthians 4.4— . . . the god of this world

1John 5.19—We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

1 Peter 2.11—“Beloved, I urge you as ALIENS AND STRANGERS . . . ”

Philippians 3.20—For our CITIZENSHIP IS IN HEAVEN, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1.1—Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as ALIENS, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen.

2 Corinthians 5.20—We are therefore Christ’s AMBASSADORS, as though God were making his appeal through us.

Ephesians 6.19,20— . . . the Gospel, for which I am an AMBASSADOR in chains.

Matthew 28.18-20—Then Jesus came to them and said, “All AUTHORITY in heaven and on earth has been GIVEN TO ME. Therefore go and make disciples of ALL NATIONS, baptizing them in the name of the

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”— John 10.10

*All texts quoted from the TNIV unless otherwise noted.

Acts 17.6-7—When they could not find them [Paul and Silas], they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, “These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here [Thessalonica] also, and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another KING named Jesus.”

Acts 16.31—They answered, “Believe on the LORD JESUS, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Acts 9.20—And immediately he [Paul] began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the SON OF GOD.”

Acts 10.36—You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching PEACE by Jesus Christ—he is LORD of ALL.

1John 4.14—And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as

Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 13.31-33—He told them another parable: “The KINGDOM OF HEAVEN is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” He told them still another parable: “The KINGDOM OF HEAVEN is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

Revelation 15.3-54— . . . “Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the nations. Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. ALL NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

Daniel 7.13-14—In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; ALL NATIONS AND PEOPLES OF EVERY LANGUAGE WORSHIPED HIM. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Revelation 21.24—The nations will walk by its [The New Jerusalem’s] light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it.

Acts 23.11—That night the Lord stood near him and said, “Keep up your courage! For just as you have testified for me in Jerusalem, so you must bear witness also in ROME.”

The Water We are Swimming In.

The kingdoms of this world vs. the Kingdom of Christ

1- Trust (power over vs power under)

Luke 22.24-27—And there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest. And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called ‘Benefactors.’ But it is not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant. For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves.



THE AMERICAN DREAM

The Difference Between The Kingdom of God and the kingdoms of this world (Handouts 2)

World
Constantinian
First Century / Resident Aliens vs.
Fourth Century / Conquering War
Lords
Church Today (Without and Within)

Political Power vs Humble Servant
Love

Hierarchical Authority

Luke 9.23-24—Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.”

2- Aims (Outward Behavior / Inside out)

Luke 11.39-40—Then the Lord said to him, “Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.”

Matthew 5.44-48—But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous . . . Therefore you are to come to completion, as your heavenly Father is complete.

Luke 6.20-26—Looking at his disciples, he said: “Blessed are you who are poor . . . Blessed are you who hunger now . . . Blessed are you who weep now . . . Blessed are you when people hate you . . . woe to you who are rich . . . Woe to you who are well fed now . . . Woe to you who laugh now . . . Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you . . .

3- Scope (Tribal/ Universal)

John 3.16—For God so loved THE WORLD that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Luke 4.25-29—I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.” All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. (Luke 10; John 4)

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”— John 10.10

*All texts quoted from the TNIV unless otherwise noted.

Jesus' Kingdom is a beautiful revolution. It a radically new way of doing life based on three paradigm shifts:

- 1) Seeing God radically differently
- 2) Seeing Ourselves radically differently
- 3) Seeing Everyone Around Us radically differently

"Politics" is defined as the arraignment of society deciding who get's what, when and how. The Politics of Jesus are:

Give the poor the entire kingdom.
Give comfort to those who mourn.
Give the earth to the meek and gentle.
Give equity/justice to those who hunger for things to be put right.
To the merciful, the peacemakers, and the persecuted a place with Jesus on the throne.

I pledge allegiance to the LAMB and to HIM who sits on the throne. And to HIS KINGDOM for all it stands, ALL NATIONS, under God, indestructible, with equity and justice for all.*

*Revelation 5.13; 7.10; Daniel 7.13,14; Isaiah 2.2; Revelation 21.24; Daniel 7.14b; Psalms 96.10; Psalms 98.9; Revelation 14.6,7

"My dream is of a place and a time where America will once again be seen as the last best hope of earth." - A. Lincoln

The Kingdom is now. Love subversively.

Matthew 5.43-48—You have heard that it was said, ' YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous . . .

4- Battles (earthly / not earthly)

Ephesians 6.12—For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

5- Response (tit for tat / the nonviolence of the cross rooted and grounded in enemy love)

2Corinthians 10.4—The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

Matthew 5.38-41—You have heard that it was said, ' AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.' But I say to you, do not resist [violently respond to] an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also. Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you.

Luke 22.49-51—When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear. But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him. We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one.

Romans 12.21—Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

John 18.36—Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."

"Nonviolence is a powerful and just weapon which cuts without wounding and enobles the man who wields it. It is a sword that heals."—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

