



2018
Conference
Manual

Welcome to

Woke Church



awaken.align.learn liberate.

Mission

to ignite, train, and equip *Kingdom Liberators* to launch out into the world to awaken people to their IDENTITY within the KINGDOM of GOD...to eradicate Biblical Illiteracy, cliché and misnomers...and to build a deeper understanding of self-worth within the community.

“The Kingdom Rights Movement”

A collective of individuals within the body of Christ that seek to liberate those who are captive to the worldview, reclaim what the enemy has tricked us to forfeit, and redeem the domain that God has placed us in...for his Glory.

“Kingdom Liberators”

Individuals who are passionate and dedicated to liberating people from social, spiritual, and mental bondage, by teaching Biblically Sound Kingdom Principles, and training others to go and do the same.

“And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.” – Matthew 10:7



Conference Agenda

Session One – 7:00pm-9:00pm

- Welcome
- Poison of Cliché
- The Kingdom
- Kingdom Alignment
- Personal Alignment
- Garden, Salvation, Saved vs. Born Again
- Come 2 Yourself
- Kingdom View Framework
- Kingdom Restoration Model
- Freewill Offering

Breakfast 7am-8am

Session Two – 8:00am-9:30am

- Perfect Alignment – Elder Steven Furr Jr.
- Where did the Donkey Go – Elder William Smith Jr.

Session Three – 10:00am-11:30am

- Christian vs. Kingdom
- Journey2U Framework
- Journey2U Worksheet
- Kingdom Rights (King's Don't Bow/Nah)
- Stockdale Paradox
- Freewill Offering

Preaching Cypher – 11:30am-12:00pm

- Closing Prayer
- 2019 Early Bird Registrations

The Poison of Cliché

“Influenced Emphasis”



Job 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Kingdom-

Saved-

Christian-

Repent-

Hell-

Sin-

GOD-

Religion-

The fundamental message of the Bible is?

What is the kingdom of God?

What is the purpose of ministry?

What should our life as a believer/Christian look like?

What does it mean to be “saved”?

What is the purpose of Holy Spirit?

What is MY PURPOSE?

What is Heaven?

The Kingdom

Salvation _____ in the OT
_____ in the NT
_____ in the Gospel
_____ Total

The Kingdom _____ in the OT,
_____ in the NT
_____ in the Gospel
_____ Total

*The Fundamental message of the BIBLE is not the gospel of _____ it is...
of the _____ and his _____.*

Read Isaiah 9:6-7 and Matthew 2:1-2

Christ did not come to establish a _____ he came to (re)establish a _____

Read Genesis 1:1, 26-28 and Psalms 115:16

God Created earth as a _____ of _____ and delegated it's _____ to _____.

Read Luke 4: 5-7 and 2 Corinthians 4:4

Adam and Eve's _____ gave Satan _____ over the _____

Read...Matthew 3:1-2 / 4: 23 / 6:33 / 9:35 / 24:14

Mark 1:14-15...Luke 4:43 / 8:1...John 3:1-3...Acts 1:3 / 8:12 / 19:8 / 28:30-31

The Term _____ cannot be ignored.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD and THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The Kingdom of God is NOT:

_____, a _____, or a _____

THE KINGDOM OF GOD and THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The Kingdom of God is:

God's will and intent, of the order of rule of earth...and all the benefits, and responsibilities that comes with this relationship.

- a. _____ – DNA, Gifting, reputation
- b. _____ – Domain, Citizenship, privileges, favor, provision, culture
- c. _____ – army, decrees, influence
- d. _____ – commonwealth, Liberty, taxation, morals, values

Read Genesis 3:15, Colossians 1:13-14, 1John 3:8, John 12:27,31-32, 2 Corinthians 15:22-24, Revelation 11:15

Jesus came to _____ Satan's _____ and to _____ the _____ to GOD.

Kingdom Alignment

Gen 1:26 And God said,

Let us make man in our image,
after our likeness:....

and let them have dominion
over the fish of the sea,
and over the fowl of the air,
and over the cattle,
and over all the earth,
and over every creeping thing
that creepeth upon the earth.



The King

GOD

Man

US

The
Earth

OURS

Personal Alignment

FLESH

SOUL



VS



SOUL

FLESH

Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Gen 3:2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

Gen 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

Gen 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

Gen 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Gen 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

Gen 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Mat 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Joh 1:13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Joh 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Joh 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

1Pe 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

What happened in the Garden of Eden??

Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

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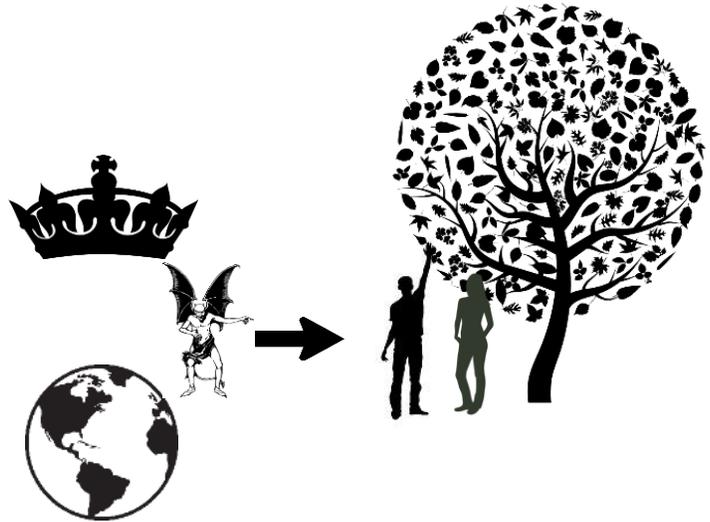
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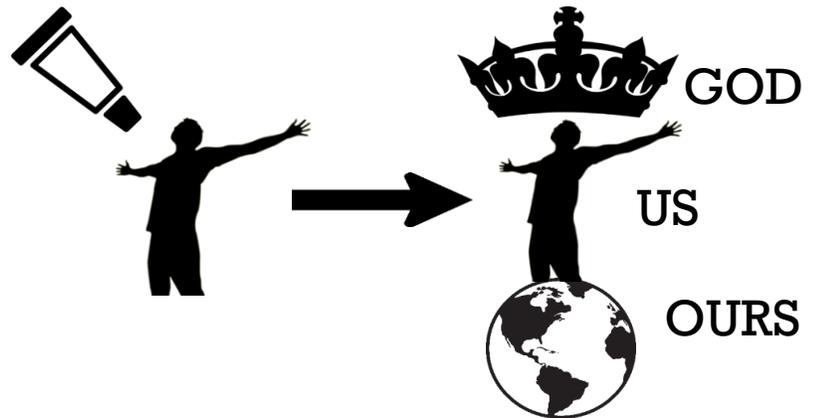
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Gen 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.



What does it mean to be “saved”??

Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.



“Saved” vs. Born Again

Joh 3:1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

Joh 3:2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

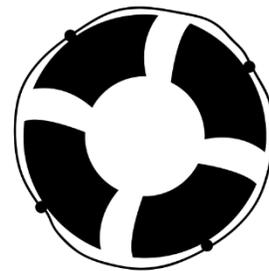
Joh 3:4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Joh 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.



“Come to Yourself”



DO YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE?

1. There has been an _____ problem with man, since the beginning
2. But when _____ transgressed, he left the _____ alignment...and his _____.
3. GOD was saying that there was a problem with _____.

We are _____, _____ of the Kingdom.

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL MESSAGE?

Read Jeremiah 29:11, Ephesians 1:4

GOD has an _____/_____ for everyone's life

Read Matthew 7:21-23

He will say to some depart from me... _____

During Judgement...GOD is looking for _____ that HE intended in the beginning.

The most tragic thing in the world Is...

Jesus thought so...

Read Luke 15:11-24

“And HE _____ TO HIMSELF...”

CBT – “come to yourself”

Read Genesis 3:9, Matthew 16:18, John 11:1-44,
Romans 6:6, Ephesians 2:15; 4:22-24, Colossians 3:9-11

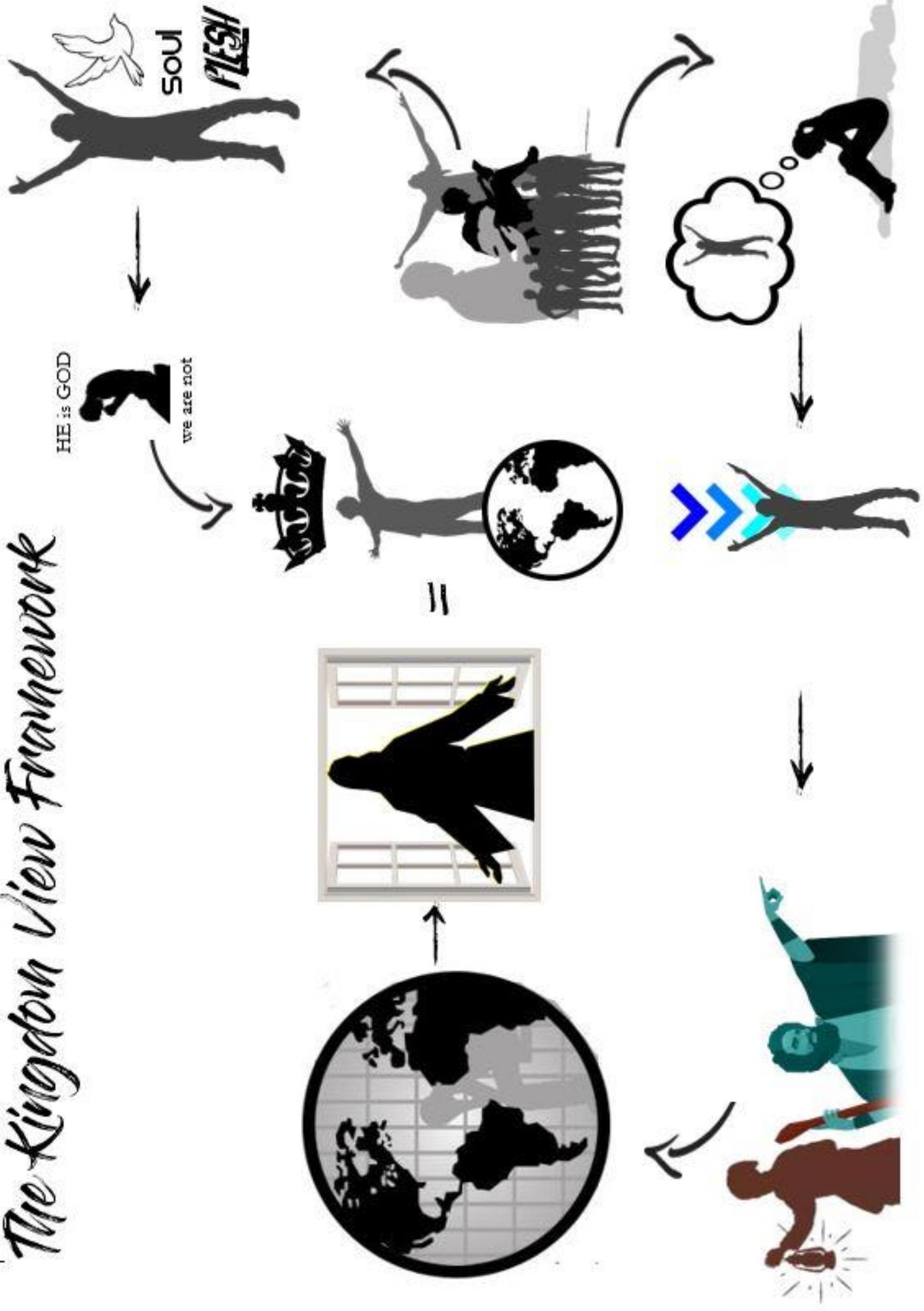
THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS:

**YOU
CAN
COME
BACK!!**

Doesn't matter what you have done or how long
you've done it...or even if you may do it again.

YOU ARE AN HEIR TO THE THRONE

The Kingdom View Framework

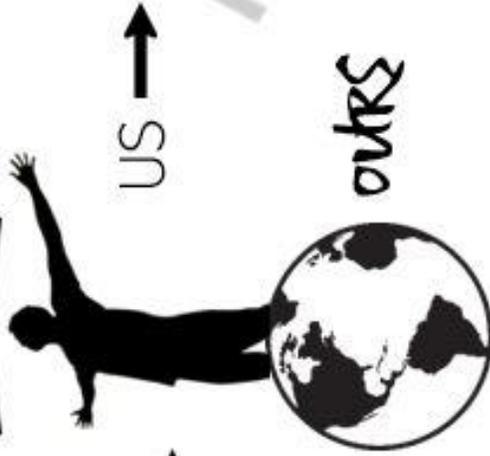


Kingdom Restoration Model

“THE KINGDOM OF GOD”

The king and what belongs to him.
Relative to us...the KINGDOM ALIGNMENT is...

GOD (The King),
US (The Heirs), and
OURS (The Earth, which we are to have dominion over)



“Salvation”

Is the “grease” that allows us to get back into alignment



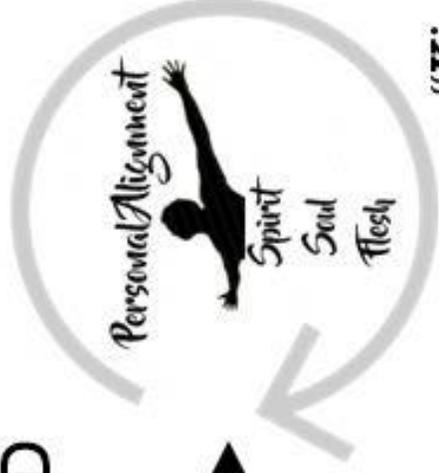
“SAVED”

Is someone who has received the gift of salvation.

“PERSONAL ALIGNMENT”

The continued process of keeping the SPIRIT first... Comes as a result of hearing, and studying the word, worshipping GOD, and fellowship and encouragement of a family of believers.

Spirit – The Holy Spirit
Soul – Heart, Mind
Flesh – Desires



“Kingdom Liberator”

A kingdom citizen who uses their gifts for the “GO” ...who go into the world to liberate all who are enslaved by sin and living a powerless life...to introduce them to THE EMANCIPATOR, which is JESUS. Those who spread the **GOOD NEWS** that... “YOU CAN COME BACK INTO ALIGNMENT and BE RESTORED.”

“Born Again”

Is the emergence of an aligned heir with a renewed mind, and new perspective...One who recognizes HIM as KING, and realizes their own KINGDOM IDENTITY...

The King

יהוה

"I AM"

THE HEBREW MEANING "TO BE"

THE "NAME" THE TETRAGRAMMATON (THE FOUR LETTERS)

יהוה	Original Hebrew (no vowels)
HVHY	English Translation-Hebrew Order (no vowels)
YHVH	English Translation-English Order (no vowels)
Y_eH_oV_aH	English Translation
J_EH_OV_AH	Modern English Translation

We believe YHWH (which is translated "I AM") is the only omnipotent (all-powerful), omniscient (all-knowing) GOD. He is GOD by himself there is NO other gods. He is "El-Elyon" (the Lord Most High), HE is "Jehovah-Elohim" (the eternal creator), HE is "El-Shaddai" (God who is sufficient for the needs of his people). HE is most loving, most caring, most merciful GOD. He is King.

We believe HE knows everything that is seen by us, and everything we cannot see. HE is omni-dimensional...space and time cannot measure HIM. HIS knowledge encompasses every perspective, detail, and aspect that there is. There is nothing that is hidden from HIM. Our knowledge is finite while HIS is infinite. HIS sovereign will for our lives is perfect.

We believe that full knowledge of who HE is, should illicit our trust. Our understanding is limited, while HIS is limitless. Therefore, knowing the perfect attributes of HIM and the limits, and deficiencies of our own knowledge, we should submit completely to him. However, the limits of our senses, experiences, and understandings, cloud our perception of who HE is, and consequently who we are. The trick of the enemy, the adversary (*which is known as "Satan" or "the devil"*) deceived the first man and woman (*adam – man, eve- mother of all*), who were in perfect harmony in the garden...Perfect Alignment (*Garden of Eden*) with HIM, to consider GOD with prideful, arrogant suspicion. Man chose to be "like god". As a result...the rightful order of the universe (YHWH is GOD, and man is not), and the relationship between GOD and man was destroyed. This caused mankind to be in a continual pattern of misperception, deception, and rebellion against GOD (i.e. "sin"). Consequently, we often act, react, speak and think foolishly. We follow the passions of our hearts rather than the attributes of GOD in sound nature and sound intellect that we were created with. Our lives reflect the struggle to submit to what we believe but do not clearly perceive.

We believe that we are not left hopeless. GOD wants to restore the original relationship with us again, KINGDOM ALIGNMENT as HIS heirs.

HE IS GOD...WE ARE NOT

THE UNIVERSAL TRUTH

"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. "God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

– John 4:23-24 NASB

We hear this scripture all the time but, the meaning is revealed when we look at the word, "truth". What is the truth? What is the universal truth? What is true when everything else is not? The Universal truth resides in the simple fact that:



HE IS GOD, AND WE ARE NOT

THE VERY NAME OF GOD – "YHWH" comes from the Hebrew root meaning, "to be"

GOD STATED HIS NAME TO MOSES.

"Then Moses said to God, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" – Exodus 3:13-14 NASB

"I AM THE LORD" – IS STATED 158 times in the Old Testament

Perhaps can be read, "I AM, THE LORD"

JESUS REFERRED TO HIMSELF – (just a few of the moments)

"Yes, I am" – Luke 22:70

"I am the bread" – John 6:41

"I am the light of the world" – John 8:12/9:5

"I am the door of the sheep" – John 10:7

"I am the door" – John 10:9

"I am the good shepherd" – John 10:11

"I am the way, the truth, and the light" – John 14:6

"I am the true vine" - John 15:1-5

"I am he" - John 18:5-8

Excerpt from Dr. Myles Monroe's *Rediscovering the Kingdom*

THE INTENT OF THE ORIGINAL KINGDOM

The intent of the establishment of God's original kingdom of kings was to extend His rulership, will and nature from heaven to earth. His desire was to manifest His glorious character, wisdom, righteous judgments and purposes in the earth realm through the administrative leadership of mankind on earth. Man was created with the gifts and divine nature to execute God's will in the earth. The ultimate goal of God the Creator was to colonize earth with heaven and establish it as a visible territory of an invisible world. His purpose was to have His will done and the heavenly kingdom come on earth just as it is in heaven.

THE LOSS OF A KINGDOM

A few years ago I watched a television documentary on the mystery of lost civilizations and cities. The narrator led us through tales of a number of well-known myths and legends such as the lost city of Atlantis and the ruins of the Mayan civilization. I was intrigued as he presented artifacts, documents, and an array of evidence attempting to construct his argument in such a way as to prove his case. As I sat there engrossed in this presentation, I could not help but think of a similar story of the very first lost kingdom, the kingdom of Adamic kings. When God created man, please note that the first thing He gave him was His image and likeness, but the first mandate and assignment He gave man was "dominion."

Let's carefully consider the nature of this dominion mandate as recorded in Genesis 1:26-28 and its implications as to what man's original rulership did and did not involve.

- God gave man dominion over earth.
- God gave man dominion over creation and earth, not other men.
- God never gave man dominion over heaven.
- God never gave man a religion, but a relationship.
- God never promised man heaven, but earth.

To understand the loss of the Adamic Kingdom mandate, it is important to realize you cannot lose what you never had. Adam, the first royal representative of heaven's kingdom on earth, was delegated the responsibility of serving as heaven's earthly ambassador. An ambassadorial representative is only as viable and legal as his relationship with his government. Therefore, the most important relationship the first man, Adam, had on earth was with heaven. This is why the Holy Spirit of God was intimate with mankind from the beginning. His indwelling presence guaranteed constant communication and fellowship with the will, mind, intent, and purposes of God and heaven so that He could execute His government's will on earth. This relationship made the Holy Spirit of God the most important Person on earth and established Him as the key component of the Kingdom of heaven on earth. The loss or separation of man from the Holy Spirit of God would render mankind a disqualified envoy of heaven on earth, for he would not know the will or mind of the government of heaven for earth. As we read the Genesis record of the encounter of mankind with the adversary, the devil, in chapter 3, we see that the goal of the attack was to drive man from the garden of relationship with God and heaven, resulting in the loss of the Kingdom of heaven on earth.

AN ACT OF TREASON

Perhaps the greatest crime committed in any kingdom or nation, ancient or modern, is the crime of treason. As a matter of fact, it is the only crime to which there is no question of receiving the death penalty. It is the ultimate act of betrayal. When a government confers on any citizen the authority and right to represent its interests, it has given the greatest form of trust possible and should be esteemed as the highest of honors. The higher the representation, the greater the responsibility and trust, and thus, the greater the influence one can have in one's nation or kingdom. This is especially critical in the context of kingdoms, where the king not only represents himself, but embodies and symbolizes the entire kingdom and all it constitutes. Adam, in essence, embodied heaven's government on earth. Therefore, the fall of man was not just a personal act of disobedience, but was essentially an act of treason. Adam and his descendants committed the ultimate act of betrayal, deserving the penalty of death. In effect, Adam declared independence from his kingdom government,

the empire of heaven, and in so doing severed his relationship with the King of heaven, abandoned his position as ambassador, and lost his dominion over earth. Through abdication of his responsibility as king over earth, Adam lost the most important relationship of all—the Holy Spirit. Through violation of God's word, mankind was rendered a disqualified representative of heaven on earth. When Adam fell through this act of treason, he did not only lose his personal relationship with his heavenly Father, but he lost a kingdom. Adam became an ambassador without portfolio, an envoy without official status, a citizen without a country, a king without a kingdom, a ruler without a domain.

This death was not referring primarily to physical death, though that would be the ultimate result, but rather to man's spiritual disconnection from his source and kingdom. This is evidenced by the fact that Adam lived 930 years after the act of disobedience. Therefore, death to the Creator was disconnection and independence from God and the Kingdom of heaven. Adam lost the kingdom. The consequences of this rebellion were numerous:

- Loss of position and disposition;
- Transfer of responsibility;
- Self-consciousness and shame;
- Fear and intimidation of authority;
- The loss of domination over nature;
- Frustrated toil and hatred of labor;
- Pain and discomfort; and,
- The need for human accountability.

However, God's most significant response to this defection and treacherous act was His promise to the adversary recorded in Genesis 3:15-16:

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.

The heart of this promise is the coming of an "offspring" through a woman who would break the power of the adversary over mankind and regain the authority and dominion Adam once held, and through a process of conflict, restore the Kingdom back to mankind. This was the first promise of a messiah-king and the return of the Kingdom. Therefore, the greatest need of man was identified by what he lost; he did not lose a religion or heaven, but rather a kingdom." In God's restoration and redemptive program, heaven would not be His primary focus or goal for man, but rather the redemption, restoration and re-

establishment of His Kingdom on earth. This would be the principle purpose and assignment of the promised Messiah.

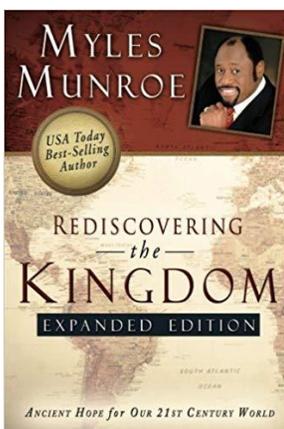
Ever since this tragic cosmic calamity of man's rebellion against his heavenly kingdom government, religion has been his vain attempt to return to God's presence or to compensate for the loss. Therefore, religion represents every activity of mankind in its self-centered search for God and the kingdom, whether through Scientology, Bahai, Islam, Buddhism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Shintoism, animism, Unitarianism, atheism, or any other "ism" or philosophy. The principle motivation is to rediscover and receive what he lost, the Kingdom of God. No matter what name they bear, all religions are an exercise in futility because they express man's vain frustrating pursuit to recover what he lost.

Humanity faced an insoluble dilemma: no matter how hard we tried, we could never find an infinite God by using finite human resources called religion. Fortunately for us, God solved the problem Himself, because He is the only one who could. Mankind's problem did not take God by surprise. In His omniscience—His all-knowing nature—God knew before time began that we would never find Him without His help. Therefore, God launched a journey. He set out to find us. God is the chaser and we are the pursued. Instead of allowing us to expend our lives in continual frustration trying to reach up and touch Him, He came down to take hold of us. His desire and purpose were to bring us back into relationship with Himself and return to us the lost Kingdom.

Religion, therefore, is simply man's search for God. No matter how committed, dedicated, loyal, faithful, zealous, active or complex our religious pursuit may be, as long as man is still searching, dissatisfied and desirous for more, he has not yet found the Kingdom. He is like a fish out of water. No matter what he does, there is only one solution to his problem. This emptiness cannot be substituted with oil, gasoline, orange juice, milk or alcohol. Religion is man's substitute for the Kingdom and that is why it cannot and will never satisfy him. Only the Kingdom can solve man's eternal problem.

I personally understand the frustration of religion. I know what it is to grow up in religion just like the Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and all the others. I understand the dedication, loyalty and daily preoccupation with the rituals, traditions, forms and activities of religious behavior. From a child I was cultured to embrace religion and not question why we did what we were told or commanded to do. It has become plain to me now that religion preoccupies you in order to distract you—to distract you from your hunger and emptiness for the Kingdom. In essence, religion is designed to keep you too busy to fill your assignment for the Kingdom. Perhaps this is why religion has so many activities related to it. Religion is hard work and its work is its reward.

Perhaps with this understanding now the words of Jesus Christ can be understood..."



Excerpt from

Monroe, M. (2010). *Rediscovering the Kingdom*. Shippensburg, PA: Destiny Image. pgs 33-38

Reflections

Christian vs. Kingdom

"God's original Plan was never religion... We are all religious people... everybody Buddhist, Muslims, Hindus, Confucius, Scientologist, Baha'i Faith, The Mooney's Unification... Christianity. Because Christianity has become just like all the others... it has become one massive, complicated, ritualistic religious experience... Religion makes you strive to please your deity. We have become just like almost any other religion in the world... we do things, so GOD can like us... it's a religion of keeping laws... God's plan was never religion... God's plan was for you always to rule... your destiny is Kingdom."

- Myles Monroe, Fire for God Podcast

"Religion is the toil of mankind in his search for the Kingdom."
Myles Munroe, [Rediscovering the Kingdom](#)

The definition of RELIGION is _____

Religion has caused us to be _____

Religion is used to _____ in a _____.

Religion is a _____ that is used to strip you of _____ to get you to acquiesce and assimilate.

It's the enemy who wants you to keep in _____ and out of _____.

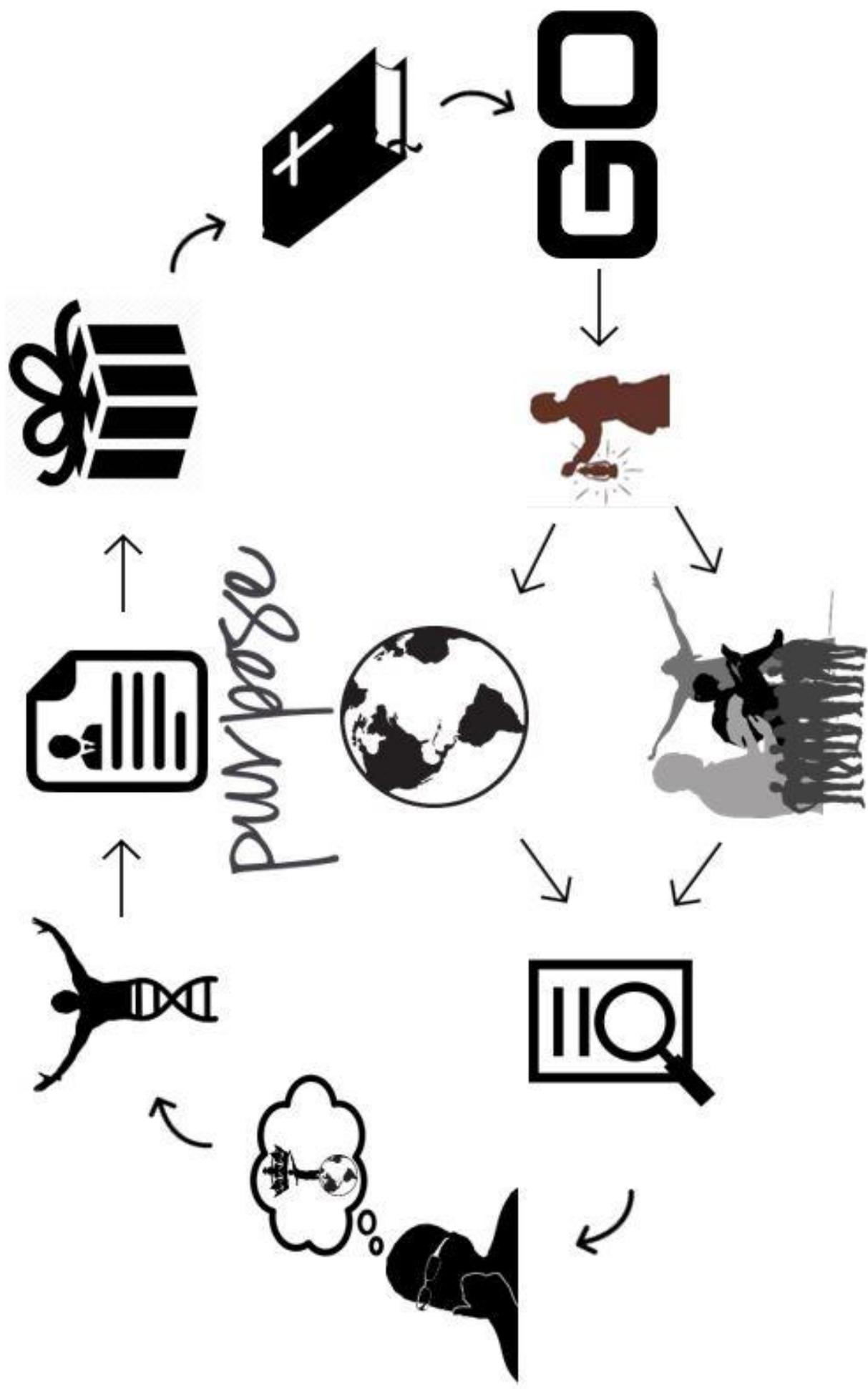
Is there a difference?

What is the difference?

What do we need to change about way we think and teach about our faith?

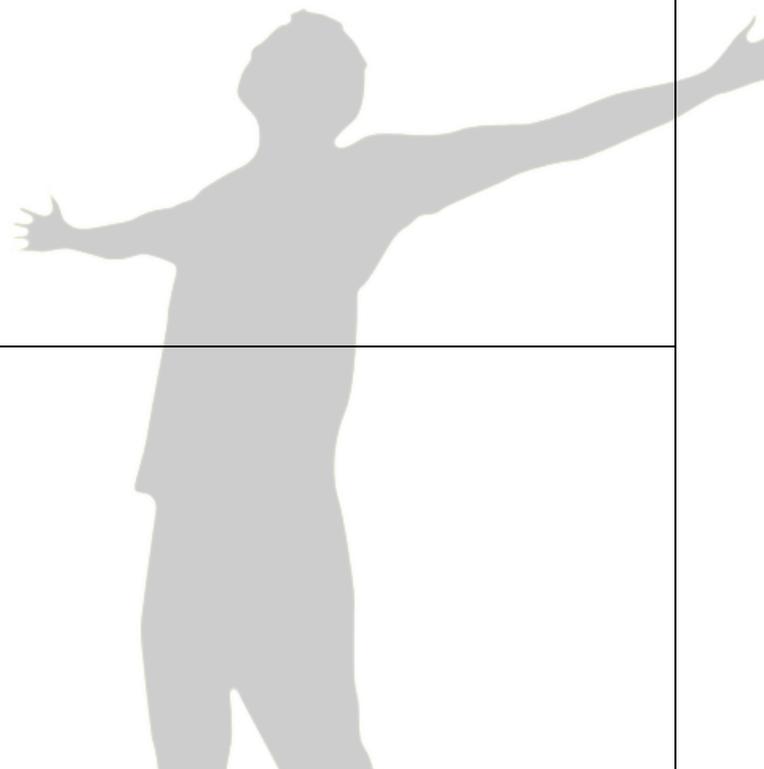
What is most important?

Journey2U Framework



Journey2U Worksheet

	DNA - Personality
	Gifts - Spiritual
	Resume - Life Experiences
	Word - Scripture



Kings Don't Bow!

He is the king...of kings

Becoming Kingdom Minded (read Romans 12:2 NLT, John 10:10)

1. We Cannot be _____ minded...but we must be _____ minded
2. We are not victims...but victors...
3. We have been tricked out of our _____...and become servants to that which we have the _____ over.
4. Kings _____.

SITUATIONS



Situations

The Dress of a “King” (read Ephesians 6:10-17)

5. A _____ position is to stand.
6. The enemy seeks to strip you of your _____ benefits.
7. You must _____ in the face of that...which will claim _____ rulership over you.
8. _____=You are going to have to stand with...stand during tough times.
9. Put on the whole armor of GOD, that ye may be able to _____

Loins surrounded by the truth – recognize He is GOD and we are not.

Heart captured by righteousness – live a life pursuing Perfect Alignment.

Feet covered by the Gospel of Peace – spread the “Good News” is that you can come back.

Body shielded by faith – trust in GOD and endure trials and tribulations, which builds faith.

Head is covered by salvation – change your thinking...you are covered by grace...and no longer a slave.

Hand holds the sword/Word of God – Use/Speak the declared Word of God

Kingdom Rights...nah!



Speak to it (Read *Ephesians 6:14-17, Genesis 2:19-20*)

1. Once you _____....you must _____.
2. By doing this...you are restored...to _____...we look like Adam...in the garden...standing...and calling the names of animals...

1. **Quote from Rosa Parks** “People always say that I didn’t give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn’t true. I was not tired physically, or no more tired than I was at the end of a working day....No, the only tired I was, was tired of _____.”

2. For too long we have been victim to the _____ laws, which seek separate us from our unalienable _____

3. But our resistance right here and right now...is a part of the....

4. _____.



Kingdom Rights Movement

(Read *Psalms 62:1-8*)

I shall not be moved (*Psalms 62:1-8*)

5. This protest has got to be a product of your _____ and your _____.

6. “Kingdom Rights” are

- a. ROCK – _____
- b. SALVATION – _____
- c. DEFENSE - _____

Flex Up (*Nehemiah 8:10*)

1. The joy of the LORD = _____.



The Stockdale Paradox

by [Niall Doherty](https://ndoherty.com/stockdale-paradox/) <https://ndoherty.com/stockdale-paradox/>

The Stockdale Paradox is named after admiral Jim Stockdale, who was a United States military officer held captive for eight years during the Vietnam War. Stockdale was tortured more than twenty times by his captors, and never had much reason to believe he would survive the prison camp and someday get to see his wife again. And yet, as Stockdale told Collins, he never lost faith during his ordeal: “I never doubted not only that I would get out, but also that I would prevail in the end and turn the experience into the defining event of my life, which, in retrospect, I would not trade.”

Then comes the paradox.

While Stockdale had remarkable faith in the unknowable, he noted that it was always the most optimistic of his prisonmates who failed to make it out of there alive.

“They were the ones who said, ‘We’re going to be out by Christmas.’ And Christmas would come, and Christmas would go. Then they’d say, ‘We’re going to be out by Easter.’ And Easter would come, and Easter would go. And then Thanksgiving, and then it would be Christmas again. And they died of a broken heart.”

What the optimists failed to do was confront the reality of their situation. They preferred the ostrich approach, sticking their heads in the sand and hoping for the difficulties to go away. That self-delusion might have made it easier on them in the short-term, but when they were eventually forced to face reality, it had become too much and they couldn’t handle it.

Stockdale approached adversity with a very different mindset. He accepted the reality of his situation. He knew he was in hell, but, rather than bury his head in the sand, he stepped up and did everything he could to lift the morale and prolong the lives of his fellow prisoners. He created a tapping code so they could communicate with each other. He developed a milestone system that helped them deal with torture. And he sent intelligence information to his wife, hidden in the seemingly innocent letters he wrote.

Collins and his team observed a similar mindset in the good-to-great companies. They labeled it the Stockdale Paradox and described it like so:

You must retain faith that you will prevail in the end, regardless of the difficulties.

AND at the same time...

You must confront the most brutal facts of your current reality, whatever they might be.

For me, the Stockdale Paradox carries an important lesson in personal development, a lesson in faith and honesty: Never doubt that you can achieve your goals, no matter how lofty they may be and no matter how many critics and naysayers you may have. But at the same time, always take honest stock of your current situation. Don’t lie to yourself for fear of short-term embarrassment or discomfort, because such deception will only come back to defeat you in the end.

Living the first half of this paradox is relatively easy, since optimism really isn’t that hard. You just choose to believe that it will all turn out for the best, and *everything* that happens to you is a means to that end. Simple as.

But optimism on its own can be a dangerous thing:

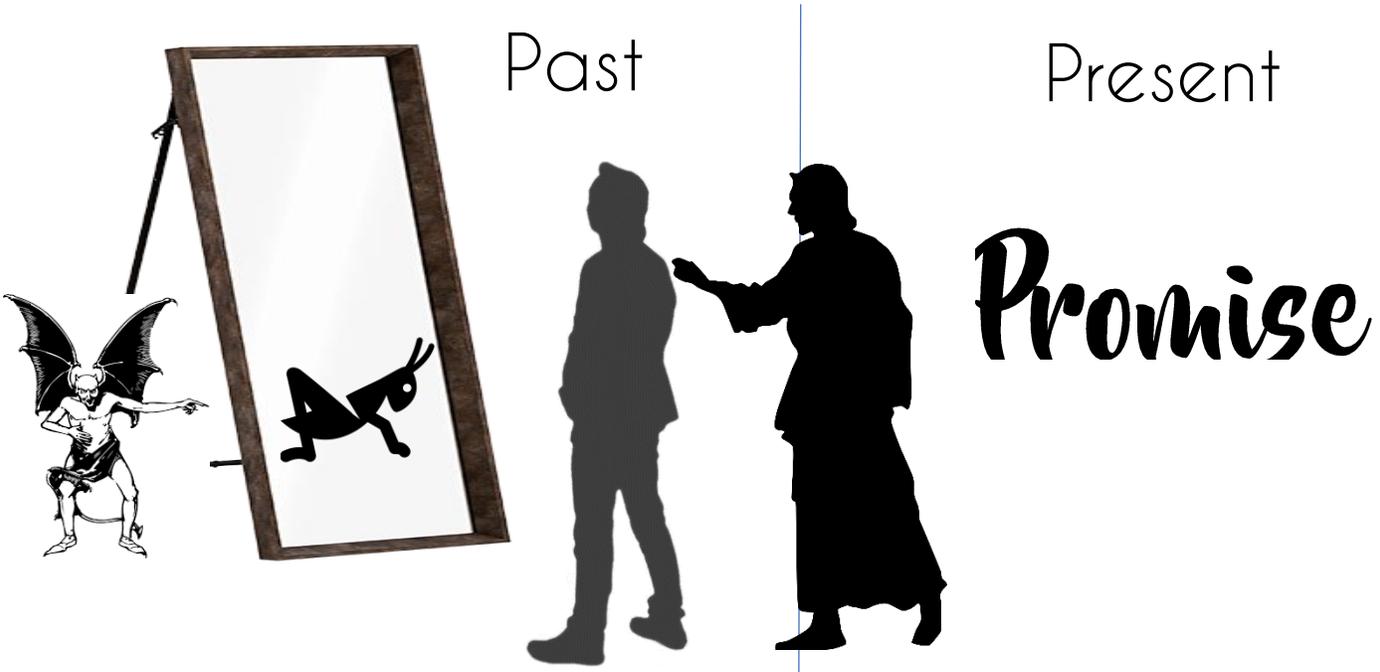
There’s no difference between a pessimist who says, “Oh, it’s hopeless, so don’t bother doing anything,” and an optimist who says, “Don’t bother doing anything, it’s going to turn out fine anyway.” Either way, nothing happens. – Yvon Chouinard

So you need to embrace the second half of the Stockdale Paradox to really make strides. You must combine that optimism with brutal honesty and a willingness to take action.

Now of course, nobody likes admitting that they’re fat, that they’re broke, that they’ve chosen the wrong career or that their marriage is falling apart. But admitting such truths is an absolute necessity if you want to grow and improve.

It might feel like you’re taking a few steps backward by doing so, but you can view that retreat as the pull-back on a sling shot: you’re just setting yourself up to make significant progress down the road.

The Thief



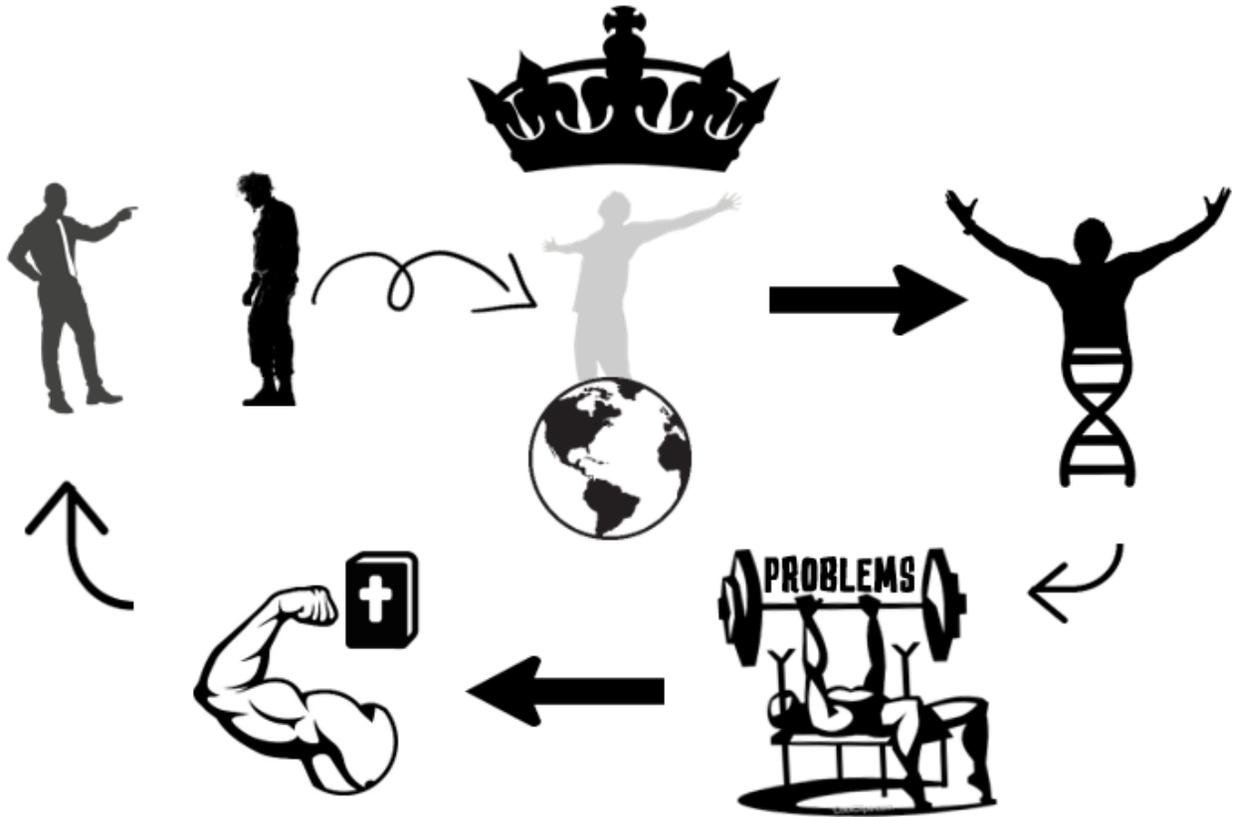
The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

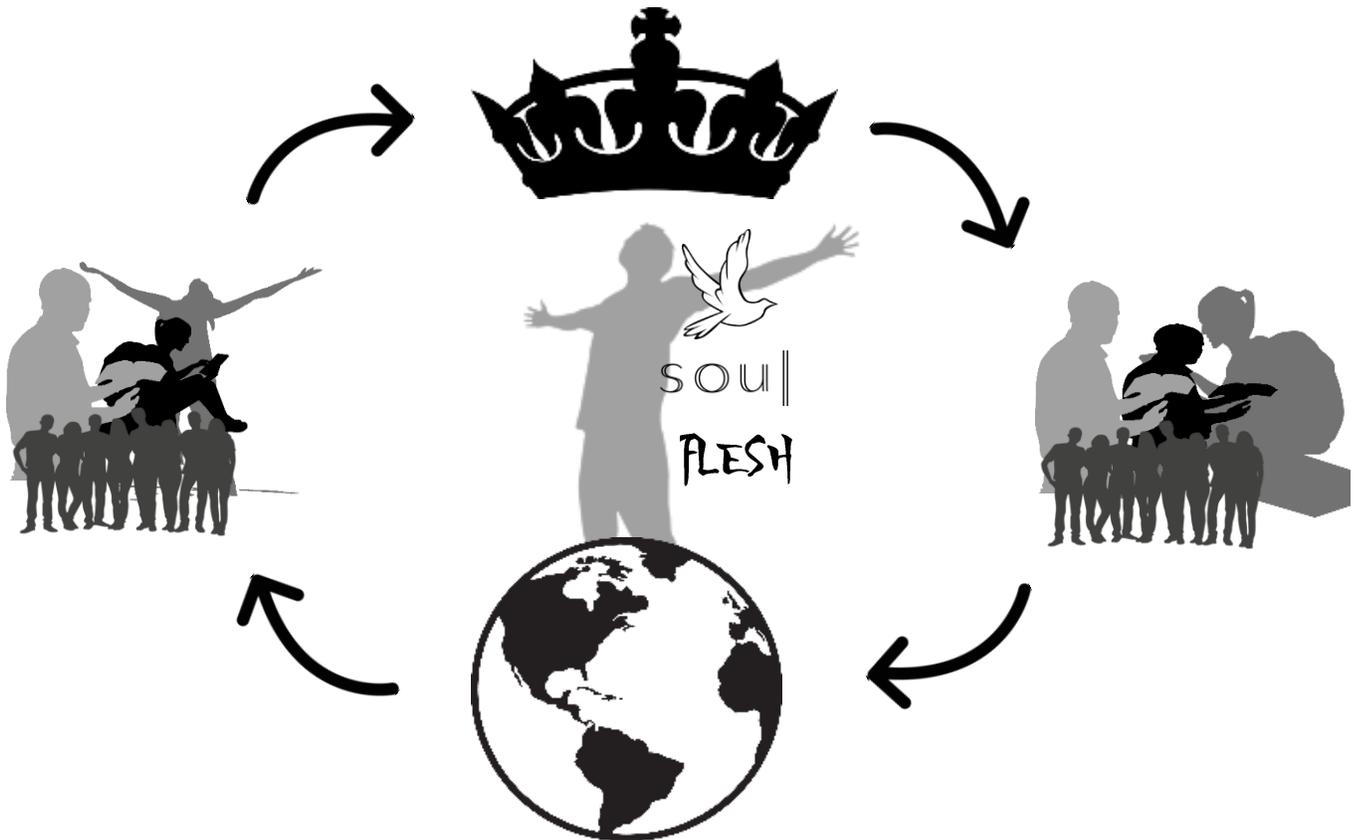
The Kingdom Turn (Repentance is for US)



The Kingdom Power (Problems make Citizens stronger)



The Church



The Bible...the Scriptures

Important things to remember

1. Is not one book...
2. We were not the original audience
3. Must be respected and read in context
4. Recorded encounters, experiences, conversations, letters, poems, with and about man's relationship with GOD.

The Bible is...

- Is a collection of ancient literary works
- Written by some 40 different authors
- In 7 different literary genres
- Over 3 different continents
- Over a period of 1,500 years
- Written in Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic



There are no “missing” books!!!

GENRE	Historical Narrative	Law	Wisdom	Poetry	Prophecy	Apocalyptic	NON-CANONICAL (Protestant)
Old Testament (46 books)	Genesis Exodus Numbers Joshua Judges Ruth 1 st and 2 nd Samuel 1 st and 2 nd Kings Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther Jonah Daniel	Leviticus Deuteronomy	Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes	Psalms Song of Solomon Lamentations	Isaiah Jeremiah Ezekiel Daniel Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	Daniel	Tobit Judith 1 st Esdras 1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th Maccabees Odes Book of Wisdom Sirach Baruch Letter of Jeremiah
GENRE	Historical Gospel	Epistle			Apocalyptic/ Prophecy	NON-CANONICAL (Protestant)	
New Testament (27 books)	Matthew Mark Luke John Acts	Romans 1 st and 2 nd Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 st and 2 nd Thessalonians 1 st and 2 nd Timothy	Titus Philemon Hebrews James 1 st and 2 nd Peter 1 st 2 nd 3 rd John Jude Revelation	Revelation	Gospel of the Birth of Mary First Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus Christ Second Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus Christ According to Thomas Gospel of Nicodemus, formerly called The Acts of Pilate The Gospel According to Peter, Epistles of Jesus Christ and Abgarus, King of Edessa ,Epistle of Herod to Pilate Epistle of Pilate to Herod, The Trial and Condemnation of Pilate, The Death of Pilate Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Laodiceans...		

Biblical Translations

Some people may see “version” and incorrectly equate “perspective”

These are “translations of the manuscripts”

Manuscripts

~20,000 Hebrew Manuscripts of the Old Testament

5,686 Greek Manuscripts of the New Testament

~19,000 Syriac, Latin, Coptic, and Aramaic manuscripts

The Bible was not written in English. The Original text of the Old Testament was written in Hebrew, and the New Testament was mostly written in koine Greek. Therefore, it would be necessary for the original text to be translated into (in our case) English, so that people could read it. As imagined this process would be tedious and require much study. Many translations use current research and more reliable manuscripts. For example, the King James Version was translated by a team of scholars before the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Translation Types

It is important that a believer finds a good translation of the scriptures. Some translations lean solely on the order of wording, and others lean more on the intent of the author. Below is a table showing the different types of translations of the scriptures. **This is NOT a list of recommended versions**

Formal Equivalent	Balanced Translations	Dynamic Equivalent
<p>These versions translate word for word and follow all grammatical rules. It looks specifically at vocabulary rather than the intent of the writer.</p>	<p>These versions seek a balance of both Formal and Dynamic Equivalent translation in one.</p>	<p>These versions translate sentence by sentence, idea by idea, thought by thought, and intent of the writer, rather than looking strictly at the specific grammar and vocabulary.</p>
<p>John Wycliffe (1382) William Tyndale (1536) Geneva Bible (1575) Douay-Rheims (1609) King James Version (1611) Young's Literal Translation (1862) Revised Version (1895) American Standard Version (1901) Bible in Basic English (1941) Revised Standard Version (1952) New King James Version (1982) Green's Literal Translation (1985) New Revised Standard Version (1989) New American Standard Bible (1995) English Standard Version (2001)</p>	<p>Modern Language Bible (1959) Amplified Bible (1965) New American Bible (1970) New International Version (1973) New Century Version (1987) Contemporary English Version (1995) Today's NIV (2001) Holman Christian Standard Bible (2004) New English Translation (2005)</p>	<p>New English Bible (1970) The Living Bible (1971) New Jerusalem Bible (1985) Revised English Bible (1989) God's Word Translation (1995) New Living Translation (1996) Complete Jewish Bible (1998) Good News Bible (2001) The Message (2002)</p>

From Rumor Mill to CSI Detective

(moving from Biblical Illiteracy and abuse, to active studying of the scriptures)

“Remind everyone of these things, and command them in God's name to stop fighting over words. Such arguments are useless, and they can ruin those who hear them. Work hard so God can approve you. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. Avoid godless, foolish discussions that lead to more and more ungodliness. This kind of talk spreads like cancer...”
– 2 Timothy 2:14-17NLT

Questioning “God” vs. “Questioning” God

Reject Rote Christianity

The need for Biblical CSI Detectives

“The writer, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, established the meaning of the passage the day he wrote it. Our role as students of the Bible is to uncover what the original author intended to communicate to his original audience. A text cannot mean something today that it did not mean when it was originally written.”

(– pg. 89, Gallaty)

Hermeneutics: to explain or interpret.

Keep the Crime Scene

1. Watch for Contamination of the Crime Scene
 - a. Hold self in check
 - b. What Did I Miss?
 - c. What are my Presuppositions, prejudices?

Lenses

What is the big picture...?

1. The Universal Truth (He is GOD...I am not)
2. Kingdom Centered (grounded in Kingdom concepts)
3. Interrogate the Text
4. Consistent Biblical Themes (CBT)
 - a. The principle/theme should be clearly reflected in the text.
 - b. The principle/theme should be timeless and not attached to a specific situation.
 - c. The principle/theme should not be culturally bound.
 - d. The principle/theme should correspond to the teaching of the rest of scripture.
 - e. The principle/theme should be relevant to both the biblical and the contemporary audience. (page 92 Robby Gallaty)
5. Application / Conviction
 - a. **Conviction vs. Condemnation**
 - b. **Mirror vs. Microscope**
 - c. **Prophets – Repentance**
6. Proclamation (Preach and Teach) /Indictment

“Mining” the Text of the Scriptures

“Discovery and Revelation...is a product of inquiry”



Parallels – any links to other scriptures?

Pattern – is there a pattern in this story? Is it like other stories in the scriptures? How?

Personality – Who is involved in the story? How did they handle it?

Position – How was this circumstance positioned in society?

Perspective – What can we learned if viewed from another’s perspective within the text?

Scripture Text	
Parallels	
Pattern	
Personality	
Position	
Perspective	

The scriptures can answer for themselves!!

Exegesis – 8L’s

Scriptural Interrogation Questions

Limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much of the text will you look at? (verse, passage, phrase, etc.) • Is the scripture part of a larger passage? • Can this part be separated from the larger context without losing meaning?
Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is the author of this text? • What is the literary form of this text? • What is the literary genre of the document within which the text is stated? • What part of the literary genre does this represent? (If it is an Epistle, Is it the salutation...body...etc.?) • How is the passage structured? • How does the text “move” from beginning to end? • Are there general principles for the interpretation of this kind of writing that need to be employed?
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what historical, social, and cultural situation was the passage written? • Where would the author fit in the society? • What other Bible Character contemporaries were around? • What were significant events that they would have experienced? • What were the chief characteristics of the people addressed by the passage? • What can be known of their history? Social location? Beliefs and practices? • What Ancient events, customs, values, and beliefs are mentioned or alluded to in the text that must be understood to comprehend the text
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What words do different translations differ on? • What do those words mean? • What are Key Words, Key Phrases, Word Images? • What is the connotation (meaning behind the text), Figurative Language? • Look at the original language meanings and usage of the word (perhaps there is no English equivalent)
Links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there Parallels to another passage? • Is there an In-text reference to another writing (allusion) • Intertextuality (ECHOES)
Leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering the position or perspective of all the major characters in a text • with an eye toward both the protagonist (hero) and the antagonist (villain); as in the Good Samaritan, the faces around the cross in Luke 23, the disciples of Jesus, etc.
Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the main point, or what are the main points of the text? (TO THE ORIGINAL AUDIENCE) • What did this text mean to the original audience and its community? • What lesson did they learn at that time? • What was the ORIGINAL AUDIENCE’s reaction?
Life Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does this mean for readers OTHER than the original audience? • What does this mean for US TODAY? • How should this be reflected in our lives? • WHAT DO WE NEED TO CHANGE TO ACCOMPLISH THAT?

From Living Water for Thirsty Souls by Marvin McMickle

THE WORSHIP DYNAMIC



DEVOTION
REMEMBERING



PRAISE
THANKSGIVING



WORSHIP
CONVICTION



True Worship



SUBMISSION
"Baptism in the Holy Spirit"



MINISTRY
GOING



OBEEDENCE
HEARING



EMPOWERMENT
FILLING

The Holy Spirit (The wind/breath of God)

The receiving of the Holy Spirit is necessary for believers, because it signifies full submission and “right” relationship with GOD. It reflects the true original relationship between GOD and man (before the fall) in the Garden of Eden. We must be completely submitted to the fact that HE IS GOD AND WE ARE NOT. It’s not about the “feeling” it’s about the filling. The Holy Spirit fills us with the power to minister and the guidance to live holy.



“It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus and found some disciples. He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said to him, “No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” And they said, “Into John’s baptism.” Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. There were in all about twelve men.” – **Acts 19:1-7**

“but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” - **Acts 1:8**

“And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high...” - **Luke 24:49**

Gifts of the Spirit/Fruit of the Spirit



Spiritual Gifts	Fruit of the Spirit
<p>...are gifts that are given to every man by GOD, to accomplish his perfect will in the KINGDOM. The spiritual gifts impowers people to minister and to live a purposeful life.</p>	<p>...is the evidence and the by-product of...the presence of GOD. The Fruit of the spirit is not obtainable, but are more the pure attributes of GOD, that can be collectively experienced by man, when he is in HIS presence and doing HIS work.</p>
Scriptures	
<p>To one there is given through the Spirit the message of <u>wisdom</u>, to another the message of <u>knowledge</u> by means of the same Spirit, to another <u>faith</u> by the same Spirit, to another gifts of <u>healing</u> by that one Spirit, to another <u>miraculous powers</u>, to another <u>prophecy</u>, to another <u>distinguishing between spirits</u>, to another speaking in <u>different kinds of tongues</u>, and to still another the <u>interpretation of tongues</u>. – 1 Corinthians 12:8 (NIV)</p> <p>Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, <i>let us prophesy</i> according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, <i>let us wait on our</i> ministering; or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that <u>exhorteth</u>, on exhortation: he that <u>giveth</u>, <i>let him do it</i> with simplicity; he that <u>ruleth</u>, with diligence; he that sheweth <u>mercy</u>, with cheerfulness. – Romans 12.6-8 (KJV)</p> <p>And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; - Ephesians 4:11(KJV)</p>	<p>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. - Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)</p> <p>Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength. – Nehemiah 8:10 (KJV)</p> <p>And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. - 1 John 4:16</p> <p>1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ... - Romans 5:1</p>
Terms	
<p>Administration: 1 Cor. 12:28 Apostle: Eph. 4:11; 1 Cor. 12:28 Celibacy: 1 Cor. 7:7,8 Discernment: 1 Cor. 12:10 Evangelism: Eph. 4:11 Exhortation: Rom. 12:8 Faith: 1 Cor. 12:8-10 Giving: Rom. 12:8 Healings: 1 Cor. 12:9,28,30 Helps: 1 Cor. 12:28 Hospitality: 1 Pet. 4:9,10 Knowledge: 1 Cor. 12:8 Leadership: Rom. 12:8 Martyrdom: 1 Cor. 13:3 Mercy: Rom. 12:8 - Miracles: 1 Cor. 12:10,28 Missionary: Eph. 3:6-8 Pastor: Eph. 4:11 Prophecy: Rom. 12:6; 1 Cor. 12:10; Eph. 4:11 Service: Rom. 12:7 Teaching: Rom. 12:7; 1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11 Tongues: 1 Cor. 12:10; 14:27-28 Interpretation Of Tongues: 1 Cor. 12:10; 14:27, 28 Voluntary Poverty: 1 Cor. 13:3 Wisdom: 1 Cor. 12:8 -</p>	<p>Love Joy Peace Patience Kindness Goodness Faithfulness Gentleness Self-Control</p>

Tongues

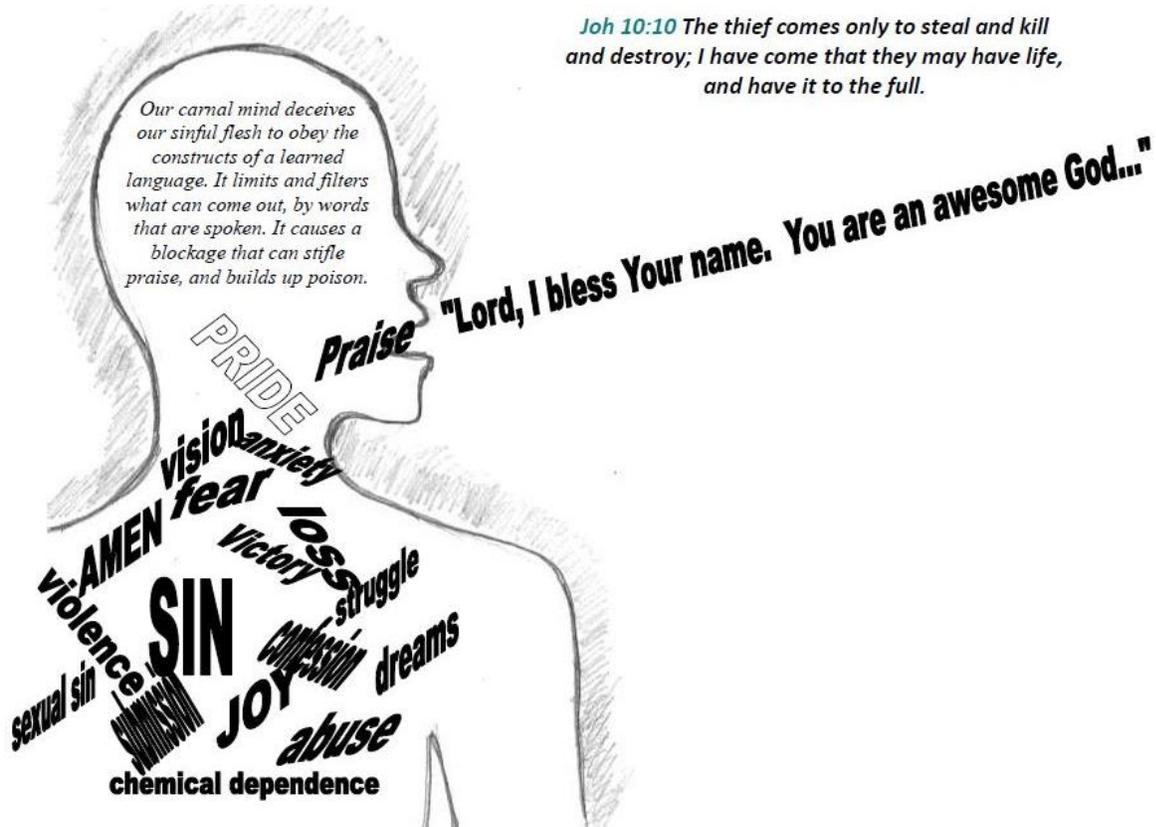
WORSHIP	PRAYER	SPIRITUAL GIFT
A spiritual "language" from man to God.	A spiritual "language" from man to God.	The Ability to speak/minister in a previously unlearned language.
The voluntary forfeiture of the conventional sounds, words, and patterns of learned language for worship.	The voluntary forfeiture of the conventional sounds, words, and patterns of learned language for prayer	A gift from GOD, allowing the speaker...having only known one language...miraculously be able to speak fluently in another language...not previously learned.
<i>NEEDS INTERPRETATION IN ORDER TO EDIFY THE BODY</i>	<i>NEEDS INTERPRETATION IN ORDER TO EDIFY THE BODY</i>	<i>NEEDS NO INTERPRETATION</i>
SCRIPTURES		
<p><i>"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will." - Romans 8:26 NIV</i></p> <p><i>"Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified. Now, brothers, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction?" – 1 Corinthians 14:1-6 NIV</i></p>		<p><i>"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.</i></p> <p><i>Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs--we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" – Acts 2:1-12</i></p>

Benefit of praise/prayer in tongues?

(Unrestricted Praise Shielded from carnal influence and the enemy)

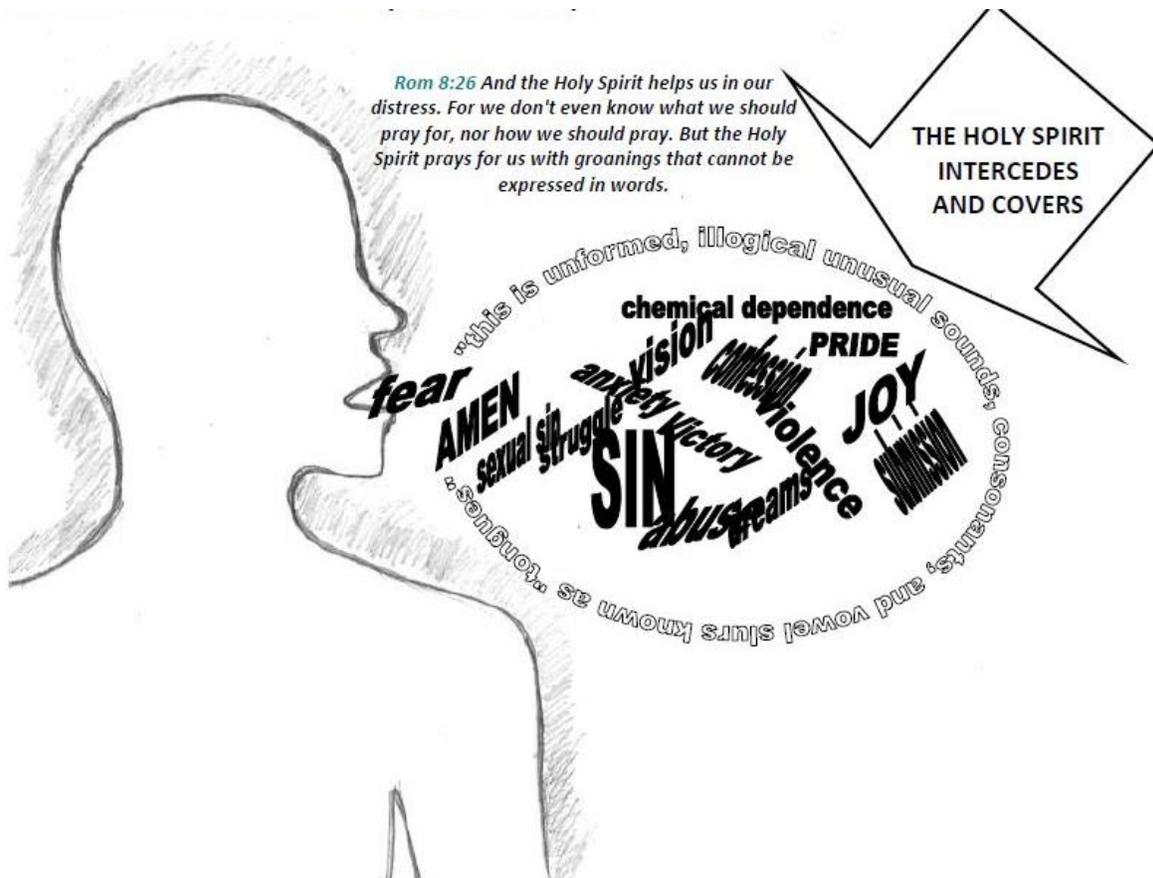
“Restricted Praise”

Joh 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.



“Unrestricted Praise”

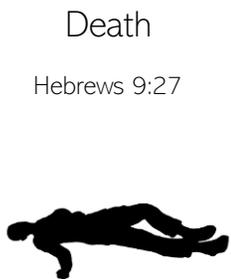
Rom 8:26 And the Holy Spirit helps us in our distress. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how we should pray. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.



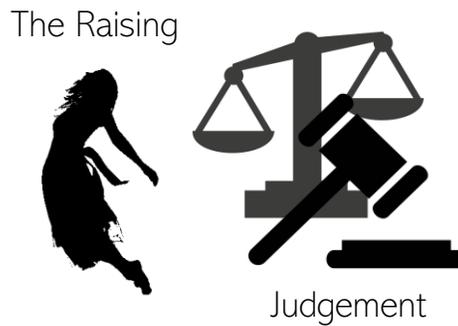
Kingdom Continuance (God will honor your choice)



What happens after you die?



"Place of the Dead" *I Corinthians 15:51-54* *I Thessalonians 4:16* *II Corinthians 5:10* *Revelation 20:11* *Matthew 25:41*



Revelation 21:8
Matthew 25:41
2 Thessalonians 1:9