

PRESENT TRUTH

A Teaching Letter of Lifestream Teaching Ministries

For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. (2 Peter 1:12 NKJV)

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The Framework of the Kingdom

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Introduction

The Kingdom has become a new buzzword for many ministries. Some have said some good things and some have made ridiculous comments about the Kingdom of God. Jesus told His disciples that it was given to them to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of God but to the rest He spoke in parables [*Luke 8:10*]. That means that understanding the things of the Kingdom can only come from the Lord. Any attempt to understand from the natural mind using man's wisdom is futile for true spiritual understanding [*I Cor. 2:12-14*]. Ministries that are building their own kingdoms and not the Kingdom of God can only speak in buzzwords because their understanding has not been enlightened by the Holy Spirit.

Foundation of the Kingdom

Many speak of the Kingdom who have never laid the foundation of the Kingdom in their lives or ministry. What is the foundation? The Scriptures tell us plainly what it is.

[Isaiah 9:6-7 NASB](#)

- (6) For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
- (7) There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

The foundation of the Kingdom of God is **government**. Not any government of man but the government of the Lord Jesus. His government is not democratic but theocratic, that is, the benevolent dictatorship of Jesus. The Kingdom of God does not operate from popular consensus or majority opinion. Decisions are not made by voting on a course of action but rather on finding the mind of the Lord by the Holy Spirit. Jesus is Head of the Body, King of the Kingdom. He is

perfectly capable of directing His people through the Holy Spirit. However, we must be willing to listen and walk in the Spirit in order to be directed according to His plans and purposes. Only those who do the will of the Lord have a part in His Kingdom.

Matthew 7:21 NASB

(21) "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

Those who walk under their own government are not operating in the Kingdom of God. Operating under our own government will prevent us from doing the will of the Father causing us to be outside the Kingdom. Jesus is the One who establishes His government and who upholds it. It is up to us to come under it and to function within it.

Kingdom Framework

Based on Isaiah 9:6-7 that is quoted above, Jesus upholds His government with the framework of peace, justice and righteousness. These are three things that we all seek after but they can only be found completely when His government has been established in us.

The government of God always brings peace, the peace that passes understanding. We can rest in His will, confident that His zeal will accomplish His purpose. There is no greater peace than knowing that the will of the Lord is being done and that nothing in Heaven or earth can stand against it.

Justice and righteousness are things which we think we understand but the requirements of God in these areas far exceed our natural understanding.

Psalms 97:2 NASB

(2) Clouds and thick darkness surround Him; Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.

The very foundation of the throne of our King is righteousness and justice. Part of Jesus' job as King is to execute justice and righteousness. We must understand the importance of these in the Kingdom of God.

Jeremiah 33:15 NASB

(15) 'In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch of David to spring forth; and He shall execute justice and righteousness on the earth.

Isaiah 16:5 NASB

(5) A throne will even be established in lovingkindness, And a judge will sit on it in faithfulness in the tent of David; Moreover, he will seek justice And be prompt in righteousness.

The things that are important to the King should become important to us as citizens of His Kingdom. We need to seek His understanding of justice and righteousness and not our own. These characteristics should be worked into our character and expressed outwardly as we are conformed to His image. This is the desire of the Lord.

Proverbs 21:3 NASB

(3) To do righteousness and justice Is desired by the LORD more than sacrifice.

Psalms 106:3 NASB

(3) How blessed are those who keep justice, Who practice righteousness at all times!

Applied Lordship

As Jesus becomes Lord of our life He begins to establish His government in us as we learn to be obedient to the Holy Spirit. He upholds His government in us through the framework of peace, justice and righteousness. We can call Him Lord, Lord but His Lordship is only effective in us to the extent that we have become obedient. We can measure our obedience by the extent that peace, justice and righteousness are manifested in our daily life.

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