

## ***The Gospel of the Kingdom (Mt. 24:14)***

### **I. THE GOSPEL WILL PREACHED TO ALL NATIONS**

- A. Jesus connected the timing of His return to the preaching of the gospel of the kingdom to all nations (Mt. 24:14). God’s answer to the escalating lawless is the message—the gospel of the kingdom. The Holy Spirit will emphasize and anoint this message, will mobilize people to it, and will fund it.

<sup>9</sup>“Then...you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. <sup>10</sup>And then many will be offended, will betray...and hate one another...<sup>12</sup>lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold...<sup>14</sup>And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations [ethnos], and then the end will come. (Mt. 24:9-14)

- B. Jesus’ primary ministry mandate given to all believers is to proclaim the *gospel of the kingdom* to the nations. The gospel is the good news about a King and His kingdom community. The gospel is first good news about the glory and beauty of a Person—Jesus—and His kingdom people and purposes. The beauty of Jesus as Messiah (branch of the Lord) will be magnified when He returns.

<sup>2</sup>In that day [the end times] the **Branch of the LORD** [Messiah] shall be beautiful and glorious... (Isa. 4:2)

- C. The kingdom is the central theme of Jesus’ teaching. Ladd defined the kingdom as *God’s redemptive reign in Christ, destroying His enemies and bringing to His people the blessings of His reign*. The kingdom exists in any sphere of life (individual or society) where conformity to God’s leadership or rule is manifested instead of conformity to Satan’s ways.

<sup>23</sup>And Jesus went about all Galilee...preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease... (Mt. 4:23)

### **II. #1 ASPECT OF THE KINGDOM: PERSONAL BENEFITS**

- A. The kingdom is experienced in our heart as we receive forgiveness with assurance that we will go to heaven while being empowered to relate to God and walk in liberty over sin and fear (Rom. 6). We begin a journey of enjoying our relationship with Jesus with confidence, joy, and fascination.

<sup>21</sup>“...For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.” (Lk. 17:21)

<sup>17</sup>...for the kingdom of God is...righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 14:17)

- B. To be “under grace” means that we have access to God’s extravagant forgiveness, liberating power, and gracious evaluation of our life. This includes God *enjoying* us and the indwelling Spirit *empowering* us to enjoy God, walk in victory over sin, and be used as vessels of His power.

<sup>14</sup>Sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace... (Rom. 6:14)

<sup>18</sup>For the message of the cross...to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Cor. 1:18)

**III. #2 ASPECT OF THE KINGDOM: GOD’S RULE IN HIS COMMUNITY**

- A. Webster defines a kingdom as, “*An organized community, having a form of government headed by a king.*” God’s kingdom is expressed as His people function as a community who are unified under leadership. Jesus gave elders His authority to care for and mobilize His people to *work with unity*.
- B. Paul described the leadership in the church in terms of kingdom authority—elders are *to rule*. Elders rule by taking initiative to lead by caring for and mobilizing God’s people to relate as a family and to reach out to their city and the nations with unified efforts. Believers are to respond to their elders with a spirit of cooperation—to obey and be submissive—so as to work well together.
- <sup>17</sup>*Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor... (1 Tim. 5:17)*
- <sup>17</sup>*Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief... (Heb. 13:17)*

**IV. #3 ASPECT OF THE KINGDOM: IMPACTING EVERY SPHERE OF SOCIETY**

- A. In Genesis 1:26-28, the Lord called us to bring every sphere of society under His dominion. Later, He commissioned us to disciple nations by bringing them into agreement with Jesus (Mt. 28:19).
- <sup>28</sup>*...God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea...and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” (Gen. 1:28)*
- B. The church is God’s light and salt of the earth to impact society in this age (Mt. 5:13-14).
- <sup>13</sup>*You are the salt of the earth...* <sup>14</sup>*You are the light of the world...* (Mt. 5:13-14)

**V. #4 ASPECT OF THE KINGDOM: DEMONSTRATING GOD’S POWER TO HEAL**

- A. The kingly reign of God was present and active by the power of the Spirit in the ministry of Jesus.
- <sup>28</sup>*But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come...(Mt. 12:28)*
- B. God’s nature is to heal with compassion as revealed in Jesus’ ministry and His people.

**VI. #5 ASPECT OF THE KINGDOM: THE KING RULING ALL NATIONS FROM JERUSALEM**

- A. A Man is coming from heaven to Jerusalem to rule *all the nations* and to transition the earth to the age to come. He is coming as a Bridegroom, King, and Judge in answer to the prayers of believers *in every nation* who understand who they are as His Bride called to loving partnership with Him.
- <sup>17</sup>*The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.”* (Rev. 22:17)
- B. Before Jesus returns, the Spirit will raise up the greatest prayer movement in history. May God establish 24/7 prayer with worship in every tribe and tongue on earth beckoning Him to rule over them. Together they will cry out for the salvation of Israel—the first nation in which every person will be saved and the leading nation that God will use to fill the earth with His glory (Hab. 2:14).