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The kingdom has come near to you

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# The Kingdom has come near to you

Luke 18:17 (ESV) Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

The Gospel will be preached to every nation, not political nations, but every people group that has heard the Gospel. It is not just the gospel of forgiveness, but also healing. Includes forgiveness, but also healing, deliverance, good news to the poor.

Not everybody has heard the gospel yet, or the gospel of the Kingdom.

Paul was preaching the kingdom of God, openly and unhindered. John the Baptist, Jesus, Phillip.

# The days of Revival

Puritans have a theology that is post millennial. God would use revival, as the major tool to bring about His Kingdom and seeing it grow in the world.

There will be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that is not unseen yet since the days of the apostles. Near the end of time God would give a great revival and restore the gifts to the church. Fits in with the image of frozen in the air.

# Eschatology affects belief of revival

The Kingdom is now, but not yet totally here. But when Jesus comes we will be fully healed. Mortality clothed with immortality.

Disciples interested in eschatology, Jesus wants them to be interested in missions. **If our eschatology doesn't have a greater emphasis on missions it doesn't line up with what Jesus tells us.**

Civil war, ww1 and 2 all of a sudden, the optimistic worldview and eschatology changed to the pessimistic. 1830 this pessimistic eschatology first developed.

He does save His best wine for last. Don’t get depressed that it gets darker, there will be bad things happening, but there will also be the greatest glory on the earth. Exodus is like a major understanding between symbolism and imagery of Revelation.

# Baptism of the Holy Spirit

As long as you don’t do something that you can do without supernatural help you don’t notice a lot. Kingdom church, has an emphasis on the Holy Spirit.

If you signed up only on justification, benefits of that. Thinking that there would be no suffering here. He wants to make you what He says you are. Some of the stuff you’re involved in is hurting you. Holiness without legalism. Victory in experiential righteousness.

Some people never want to get baptized in the Holy Spirit, because they never thought they needed Him to get through tribulation. Only when you need supernatural grace you need the Holy Spirit.

Early church they believed by being baptized you could receive the baptism of the Spirit. Until you’re baptized in the Holy Spirit you're half Christian. Becoming a Christian is becoming enlisted in an army. But you’re not given any weapons or armor to fight, even though you’re enlisted until you get baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Only way you can have the victory in your life. John Wesley; sanctification and getting saved.

# Now, not yet

And it’s impact on the Holy Spirit. This is an answer to the question why some don’t get healed and others do.

The weakness and danger on overemphasizing. When our emphasis on the now not yet is now it’s good, but when it is now on the not yet there is something wrong. They went from a default position: The Kingdom is now! To the Kingdom is not yet. Some healed, others didn’t.

# Sovereignty of God and asking for more

Sovereignty of God, owners of the problem of people not getting healed is on Him, not on us. Before he came to Redding for the first time, 3% got healed. Something happened in that meeting, pray for the sick as Sodom and Gomorra and pray for more instead of less. Ask for more according to my faith. Asked for 25% they got that. 75% they got 75%. At least 2 years the standard was 3%, that night they had a 137-people getting healed.

It wasn’t the Lord’s will that it was 3%, now 10, 30 or 90%. Was it because Gods sovereignty? No God asked Randy to ask for more. Sometimes that is the answer, but we shouldn’t make it the big truth. There are times they will get healed the next time. We lay the blame on God.

In church history, there were times they would see more, but with Kingdom now, not yet they began to see more of the now not yet.

There is a lack of expectation, if you believe in healing but don’t believe it is normative. That is a self-fulfilling prophesy. 1100 people getting healed in a Presbyterian church. Nobody regretted what they had seen, but they all had pain from what their family had to pay.

# Praying through

5 step prayer model. Keep the emphasis on the now, not the not yet. If you let the emphasis be on the not yet and limit what God is doing by seeing in the natural of being engaged by the Spirit. They increased faith, but they wouldn't have that much faith without seeing touched. Mitigates against praying through. Rema word bigger than logos, that is not good.

Prayed for months, no signs in the natural that it was a now moment. He didn't need a sign, but wanted a now moment. Kneels besides his bed, but that man was still fighting for his healing. Now not yet mitigates against that, they think this is a not now moment. Before the morning had dawned, he had broken through, prayed through, moved heaven. The man was totally healed of his stomach cancer, woke up wondering why he was in the hospital and wanted food.

It’s hard to have that militancy to battle. It focuses on the now, not the not yet.

5-point prayer model breaks down if we make it a code instead of relational. 50% of people being healed, there was no sign they were getting healed, no heat, energy, change. But 2 or 3 days later healing would manifest.

# Seeing effects of the Kingdom

Do I have more faith when something is happening in the natural? Yes, but I don’t want to only see the effects of the Kingdom. It’s easy to see the effects, but God wants to take us even past that. People getting healed, when nothing seems like external witness. Only thing that woman had was an internal witness, she prayed for 5 hours for a blind person that got brand new eyes a few days later.

# Balancing truth

We need to be careful that by trying to bring a balance we don’t throw the water away with the baby. There are promises in the logos that we don’t need a Rhema word for.

Movements that he was critical off and not agreeing with saw more miracles than they had seen. We don’t want to throw everything out and say healings of the kingdom, now and not yet. There are great promises we need to stand upon when we don’t have a Rhema word.

Emphasis upon the situational gifting and the real healer. You’re the plumber that shows up and the tool will be there, but they didn't believe anymore that there were actual plumbers that had the tools with them.

# We need each other

We need each other and the truth of those who have gone before us. We can’t be too excited about our portion of truth that we don’t listen to others anymore.

Don’t judge a movement by its worst representatives, judge it by its best representatives. Not everybody out of Toronto represented what Randy believed by a long shot. Lots of things said, done and things were done without wisdom. Animal sounds, both hands he can put it up when that happened in his presence, not the main focus, what was emphasized. A whole movement is taken by not the best examples. I wouldn't want to do that to others. If you really want to know; talk to me, Tom, Larry. Ask us about these things.

John Wimber would've wanted us to go faster, higher and further than he could ever go. We have the tendency to solidify and instead of going farther than what God said.

1. Personal faith is important
2. The word of God is important
3. Avoid the danger of medical healing

Better realization that healing is not dependent upon correct theology, but rests more on the intimacy with God.