

Kingdom of Heaven part 4 handout

Parallel Minds of the believer and unbeliever

Luke 17:20-21 (NKJV) James 1:7-8 (NKJV)

1. The mind of the fallen man or unbeliever, is blinded to the spiritual realm.

A. The unbeliever (or immature believer) is led by the fleshly mind, minds the things of the flesh, ego and spiritual corruption. Romans 8:5-8 (NKJV) Ephesians 4:17-19 (NKJV)

B. The mind of the believer is a transformed and transforming mind. The believer is led by the spiritual mind.

C. So the difference between the believer and the unbeliever lies in how they are led. This has a lot to do with how they see the world.

D. One sees just the physical and the other sees not only the physical realm. They see how the spiritual realm influences what happens in the physical realm.

E. The greatest battlefield takes place over the perception and understanding of the mind. Romans 7:18-25 (NKJV)

F. Sin and death has corrupted the mind of fallen man so that he can no longer do good even though he knows what's good.

G. The mind of fallen man is limited to just the physical realm which had become corrupted by sin.

H. The fallen man mindset has a differing view of truth than the Spiritually minded man. Even though our Creator has left His imprint upon creation, fallen man refuses to admit it. Romans 7:18-25 (NKJV)

I. When Adam & Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden their spirit died. They were no longer able to see with a spiritually influenced mind.

J. They saw themselves differently when they saw only in the physical realm. They were ashamed of their nakedness.

K. Before they sinned, they were able to be totally transparent both physically and spiritually. 1 Corinthians 11:7-8 (NKJV)

L. That word glory means likeness and brightness. Their spiritual identity was in their likeness to God.

M. Shame was the result of their lost identity. With that loss came an awareness of their physical identity which had until then been covered by their spiritual identity.

N. They were unaware of their nakedness and vulnerabilities until the clothing of their spiritual identity was removed.

2. Fallen man continues to deny the reality of God and the spiritual realm.

Romans 1:21-23 (NKJV) A. Rejecting God has consequences. When you reject The Creator of reality you reject the truth of reality.

B. The Devil told Adam and Eve that if they ate the forbidden fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, that they would not die, and would be as god's knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:4-5 (NKJV)

C. When they ate the fruit their physical eyes opened, and their spiritual eyes closed. Their minds were immediately set upon the physical realities, of everything but good.

Genesis 3:7-8 (NKJV)

D. This was the first tragic episode of "Naked and Afraid!"

E. The loss here is a loss of perception and ability.

F. Fallen man has tried to recover the loss of his spiritual identity and provision ever since. Romans 1:21-25 (NKJV)

G. If fallen man can't recover his identity loss with idolatry, he tries to distract himself from the pain of its loss.

H. Money is also an option to cover our vulnerabilities with. If I make or have a lot of money then I won't be vulnerable. Luke 12:16-21 (NKJV)

3. Advancing the Kingdom of Heaven requires transforming our minds

A. The transformed mind is not about the casting off of reason or things in the natural.

B. It's not about outlawing the natural mind, or embracing ignorance.

C. A spiritual mind has an appetite for the impossible & supernatural. It's unnatural for a believer to not have an appetite for the impossible and supernatural. Mark 16:15-20 (NKJV)

D. It doesn't say these signs shall follow apostles, evangelists, prophets, pastors or teachers.

E. As believers, our hearts know there is much more to life than what we perceive with our senses.

F. God wants to redefine "normal Christianity." God's normal, is for things on earth to become like things in heaven!

G. The Lord's Prayer includes miraculous power. Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV)

H. It was the same word power used in Luke chapter 4 after Jesus had been baptized in the Holy Spirit. Luke 4:13-14 (NKJV)

I. All of the supernatural manifestations and demonstrations of power began after Jesus was baptized in the Holy Spirit and He returned in the power of the Spirit!

J. He taught from a transformed mind, transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. By the power of the Holy Spirit He did miracles, healed the sick and cast out Devils.

K. Jesus told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they were baptized in the Holy Spirit and receive power.

L. The natural mind embraces the power as the power authority. Acts 1:7-8 (NKJV)

M. When Jesus said to believers; "these works that I do shall you do also, and even greater works than these shall you do. John 14:12-17 (NKJV)

N. Jesus said the Holy Spirit would come to comfort them, empower them, and lead them into all truth.

O. There are those who teach that the power of God only manifested with signs wonders and tongues during that time or dispensation.

P. Peter clarified how long the promise of being baptized in the Holy Spirit would be available. Acts 2:37-39 (NKJV)