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Series: The Kingdom Way

Message Title: The Kingdom Way (part 4)

Message & Scripture Highlights:

Have a few people read the following scriptures:

Colossians 1:13

[The Father] has delivered *and* drawn us to Himself out of the control *and* the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

Matthew 4:8-10

Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

James 5:16

The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].

Discussion Part 1:

Yes, there are consequences to giving away what God gives you. Our grandparents Adam & Eve gave away God's gift of dominion to a thief. Satan set up a kingdom of darkness. He uses his counterfeit kingdom to do things like launch wars, disease, & famine. How important is it to use Kingdom prayer to interfere with the strategies of darkness?

S.Marshall thoughts:

Why pray if you believe God has already preordained bad things to happen? Your belief system is at war with itself. This type of ignorance keeps Christians ineffective in prayer & life. We cannot pray around unbelief. A man asked Jesus for help with his son saying, "*If you can do anything?*" Jesus was appalled, responding with an incredulous reply, "*All things are possible to him who believes!*" (Mark 9:23)

Have someone read:

Psalms 115:16

The heavens are the Lord's heavens, but the earth has He given to the children of men.

Proverbs 3:5-9

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil.

⁸ It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.

⁹ Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the first fruits of all your increase;

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds *and* display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Discussion Part 2:

Consider the special calling God has on you as a “royal priesthood”. You are royalty in Christ, & under the King’s rule. That means you get to be an envoy, an ambassador of the throne of God, representing His interests. You are also a priest because of Jesus finished work on the cross. That means you make petitions to God on behalf of others. We are called to pray for one another, for the sick, those who are in need. Discuss your exciting assignment as His royal priesthood.

Stephen Marshall Thoughts:

You have been called to fill both roles of king & priest in Christ Jesus. Royal envoys of Christ are called to exercise Kingdom authority on earth. A priest of Christ has unlimited access to God’s presence for the sake of ministry. Kings go out, and priests come in. Kings command wind, waves, & elements. Priests intercede for the weak, sick, & hungry. Kings possess. Priests give. You are called to the balanced portfolio of being in the “royal priesthood”, and discerning your roles.

Life Application:

Share a prayer you have been praying with the group & then ask yourself, is this something that should be commanded, or petitioned? Is this need something that requires a decree of Christ’s authority, or is it an ‘ask’ in Christ’s Name? Is this a need to possess, or an opportunity to give? (Hint: *you do not ask for something you have been given; and you don’t command the behavior or decisions of others.*)

Now Pray The Word:

Get someone (or a few people) to lead out in prayer based on the Truth talked about. Pray according to the above scriptures:

“Father God give us Your Wisdom to discern our role here on earth. We agree with Your assignment to be a royal priesthood. Now help us to have a whole new level of understanding on our calling. We petition direction from You for the lost. We authorize Your healing power for the sick. We ask for more wisdom to help others. We command light into the dark. ...”
(Continue to pray specifically for one another’s needs ...)