Groundhog Day



Punxsutawney Phil







Beyond the Walls

As believer in Jesus; what's God's desire for our role in our relationships, in our communities, in our city, in our society?



Serve with Wisdom

Kingdom of God to Cities

Often we just look at healing that comes to us or our lives or our families; but God looks at cities.

Cities as being transformed

God thinks and loves cities

• Heb. 11:10 - Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God

<u>Matthew 11</u>- Jesus talks about how he and God are seeing if cities are moving with or against him - 11:20; he mentions Korazin, Bethsaida, Tyre, Sidon, Capernaum and Sodom.

Jonah was called to the city to change it; Ninevah.

Jesus said to Jerusalem, about how he longed to gather her children

Heaven is referred to as the city named New Jerusalem.

God says the bride for his son is a city; the new Jerusalem.

How can we affect our communities for change?

How can we bring the Kingdom Of God to our communities?

The example is as Solomon did, w/ Holy Spirit Presence & w/ Wisdom

Serving with Holy Spirit Presence & Wisdom sprinkled inside the culture... (alike to Daniel and Joseph)

to have influence with wisdom..

Definitions:

Knowledge is about facts and ideas that we acquire through study, research, investigation, observation, or experience.

Wisdom is the spiritual ability to discern and judge which aspects of that **knowledge** are true, right, lasting, and applicable to your life.

Solomon ruled in the Golden Era for Israel





- 1 Kings 4:20 The people of Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand on the seashore
 - For he ruled over all the kingdoms and had peace on all sides.
 - 29 God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore.
 - 30 Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of all the people of the East, and greater than all the wisdom of Egypt.
 31 He was wiser than anyone else, And his fame spread to all the surrounding nations.
- 32 He spoke three thousand proverbs and his songs numbered a thousand and five.

How did this start? 1 Kings 3:5

the Lord appeared to Eolomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."



Solomon answered; So give your <u>servant a discerning</u>
<u>heart (a hearing ear)</u> to govern your people and to
distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to
govern this great people of yours?"

The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice

12 I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

13 Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both wealth and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. 15 Then Solomon awoke—and he realized it had been a dream.

*King Solomon - humble spirituality = God is pleased, appears and empowers

*God connects with the deepest part of us. Our soul/heart/spirit

Solomon's wisdom, sent by all the kings of the world, who had heard of his wisdom.



Solomon is writing a letter to a friend of his father; asking for cedar from Lebanon for the building of the temple; and he says;

1 Kings 5:4 But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side, and there is no adversary or disaster.

(word for adversary is Satan). No Satan?!

'I have no enemies, and all is well.'

Where the line between the secular and sacred, doesn't exist.

Proverb Definitions:

*Riddle, dark saying, hidden meaning *Also, means to Reign

Reign through wisdom as Solomon did..
Reign in life...not to control but to
serve.. as Daniel serving an evil king &
Joseph with Pharaoh

Listen first - then speak/act!

How else can affect our cities, & our communities?

Be Salt

Mt. 5: 13 "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor?

Our lives, offered to God, are to have a flavorful quality to them...

Be the light

Mt. 5: 14-15; "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house."

*Our lives can give light to others who are in darkness



Is. 60:1 Arise, Shine;

for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you

People were drawn to Solomon

*We are called to serve

MT. 20:26

Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,

MT. 20:28

Matthew 22:17-21(TPT)

17 So tell us, then, what you think. Is it proper for us Jews to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

18 Jesus knew the malice that was hidden behind their cunning ploy and said, "Why are you testing me, you imposters who think you have all the answers? 19 Show me one of the Roman coins." So they brought him a silver coin used to pay the tax. 20 "Now, tell me, whose head is on this coin and whose inscription is stamped on it?"

21 "Caesar's," they replied.

Jesus said, "Precisely, for the coin bears the image of the emperor Caesar. Well, then, you should pay the emperor what is due to the emperor.

But because you bear the image of God, give back to God all that belongs to him."

*You have God's stamp on you

*Created in His image (inscription)

*You belong to God

*We are to give ourselves to God

*Solomon was able to hear from God and influence society, so much so that the impact of benevolence, purity, character, passion for the presence influenced the culture. *He's looking for a people that will call out to God and fill their hearts with wisdom, kingdom rule; under His Kingship.

*Be standard bearers of a lifestyle.

*He's looking for a people, a city, that will come under His covering.

