

# **The Upside down Kingdom A NEW POWER**

## **SERIES ABOUT “THE KINGDOM OF GOD”**

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS A DIFFERENT WAY OF THINKING!

- The kingdom of this world is about power, greed, riches & dominance.
- The Kingdom Jesus demonstrated was selfless, humble, generous and ETERNAL!

TWO VERY OPPOSITE MIND SETS!    “THE UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM”

**-The BEATITUDES:    An eternal mindset that gives us internal Peace  
                                  And true joy above any circumstances!**

**-And what happens on the inside ends up impacting the way we live!**

**THIS IS AN ETERNAL KIND OF THINKING & LIVING & LOVING!**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup>It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup>Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.**

**-This is a SUPER-NATURAL kind of Love!**

**Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control.**

**-This is a SUPER-NATURAL kind of Living!**

**Romans 15:13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**A NEW POWER!**

**Any History buffs?          Studies of Dynasties, Empires and world powers!**

Ancient History:    Babylonian, Egyptian, Persian, Roman

-Statues and monuments and incredible buildings!

-But today they are gone!

-Britannica: Today's Empires:    US, Russia, China & European Union

**WORLD POWERS HAVE COME AND GONE.....**

**.....THE KINGDOM OF GOD STILL THRIVES!**

**HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?          UNLIKE ANY EARTHLY KINGDOM!**

**John 14:12-14** Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.<sup>14</sup> You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

**Jesus EMPOWERED His followers to keep the message alive!**

**John 14:15-19 (Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit) “If you love me, keep my commands. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.”**

-Jesus was saying that there was a plan.....there was a PROMISE!

**John 14:25-27 “All this I have spoken while still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”**

Jesus said He was going to send the Holy Spirit to teach us and empower us!

**AND “WE” WOULD KEEP THE MISSION GOING!**

**HOLY SPIRIT HAS 3 DISTINCT ROLES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:**

- 1) He lives in us and guides us
- 2) He empowers us
- 3) He equips us

**1) HE LIVES IN US AND GUIDES US**

**WE HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT IN US!!**

**1 Corinthians 6:19 Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own.**

Jesus used these words in his promise of the Holy Spirit

Spirit of truth....advocate.....teacher.....remind us of what Jesus taught...

**I Corinthians 2:10-13 “But God has revealed his plans to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.”**

-THAT GUT FEELING.....THAT INTUITION.....THAT INSIGHT!

-People cry when they come to church. (Say, you read my mail!)

-THAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT DWELLING IN US!

## **2) HE EMPOWERS US**

**Matthew 3:11 (John the Baptist) “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”**

Jesus was speaking to his disciples before his ascension into heaven and said:

**Luke 24:49 “I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”**

**Acts 1:8 “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”<sup>9</sup>After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.**

THEN IN ACTS CHAPTER 2 THE PROMISE WAS FULFILLED:

**Acts 2:1-4** When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

THIS RAISED SOME ATTENTION!

PETER ADDRESSED THE CROWD:

He explained what had happened and went back to what the prophet Joel had said about it in scripture,

**Acts 2:17-19** In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your young men will see visions, Your old men will dream dreams. <sup>18</sup>Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, And they will prophesy. <sup>19</sup>I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,

THEY WERE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT AND RECEIVED POWER!

-120 people were filled with the Holy Spirit.

-3000 people accepted Christ that day and were baptized.

NOT A BAD DAY!!!!!!

THIS WAS THE BIRTH OF THE New Testament CHURCH!!!

-Still celebrated today: PENTECOST SUNDAY

SO DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT STILL WORK TODAY?

**3 major views of most Christian religions:**

- 1) It was for then-NOT NOW
- 2) It was for then and we don't oppose it now
  - a. "don't ask....don't tell"
  - b. let it happen....just don't teach for it or against it.
- 3) Embrace it and teach it

**John 14:15-19 (Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit) "If you love me, keep my commands. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.**

I ABSOLUTELY BELIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ALIVE AND WELL!

-AND WORKING IN OUR LIVES TODAY!

**Romans 8:26-27 "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will."**

LIKE A DIAGNOSTICS READER!!!!

- FOR POWER
- FOR PEACE
- FOR WISDOM
- FOR STRENGTH

Hungry to know more? "Getting to Know the Holy Spirit" Class (5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

- 1) **The Holy Spirit Lives in us and guides us**
- 2) **The Holy Spirit empowers us**
- 3) **THE HOLY SPIRIT EQUIPS US**

EVER TRIED TO DO A JOB WITHOUT THE RIGHT TOOLS??

EVERY PROFESSION HAS TOOLS IN THE TOOL BOX

- Painter.....paint brush
- Construction.....hammer & Saw
- Farmer.....plow
- Accountant.....computer
- Mechanic.....wrenches
- Doctor.....stethoscope
- Sheetrock taper.....credit card & spatula!

MOST PROFESSIONS WOULD HAVE SOME BASIC TOOLS!

-MORE TOOLS.....MORE EFFICIENT!

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT ARE OUR TOOLS!!!

**1 Corinthians 12:1-6** Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. <sup>3</sup>Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup>There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

**1 Corinthians 12:7-11** Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

Manifestation: an event, action, or object that clearly shows or embodies something

## CLEAR WORKING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: Paul lists 9 of them

The gift of wisdom seems to be the ability to make decisions and give guidance that is according to God's will.

### INSIGHT INTO SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX PROBLEMS

The gift of knowledge is the ability to have an in-depth understanding of a spiritual issue or situation.

### INSIGHT INTO SCRIPTURE & TRUTH

The gift of faith is being able to trust God and encourage others to trust God, no matter the circumstances.

### FAITH TO BELIEVE WITH AND FOR SOMEONE

The gift of healing is the miraculous ability to use God's healing power to restore a person who is sick, injured, or suffering.

### FAITH TO PRAY FOR MIRACULOUS HEALING

The gift of miraculous powers is being able to perform signs and wonders that give authenticity to God's Word and the Gospel message.

### AUTHORITY AGAINST THE DEVIL

The gift of prophecy is being able to proclaim a message from God.

### PROPHECY-TO SPEAK OUT

The gift of discerning spirits is the ability to determine whether or not a message, person, or event is truly from God.



## DISCERNMENT-GOOD & EVIL

The gift of tongues and the gift of interpreting tongues

Much confusion and debate!

FIRST: The Holy Spirit gives us Personal prayer language!

**Acts 2:1-4** When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.<sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.<sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

-THIS IS SOMETHING TO EMPOWER US ALL!

THIS IS A GIFT OF THE SPIRIT (PAUL GIVES INSTRUCTIONS)

**1 Corinthians 14:27-28** If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret.<sup>28</sup> If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.

**1 Corinthians 14:18-19** I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.<sup>19</sup> But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.

**1 Corinthians 14:23** So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

HOUSE RULES: Example: SHOES OFF AT THE DOOR!

-In the New Testament Church- Gifts operated in small house churches

-people knew and trusted each other.

-If anyone ever has a word, please come tell me!

**More about the spiritual gifts: (test) [gifts.churchgrowth.org](http://gifts.churchgrowth.org)**

**Also “Getting to know the Holy Spirit class AND “Next”**

**3 VIEWPOINTS ON GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT IN CHURCHES!**

**-LIKE GUNS**

**\*We need to learn to CARRY with GREAT RESPONSIBILITY!**

**ALL OF THESE TOOLS ARE IN THE TOOL BOX!**

**-AND THEY ALL WORK TOGETHER TO EDIFY**

**-WE SHOULD HAVE OUR TOOL BOX WITH US EVERY DAY!**

**HOPE TO SPARK A HUNGER!!!**

**AFTER EXPLAINING THESE GIFTS:**

**1 Corinthians 12:12-14 Unity and Diversity in the Body**

**Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.**

NEXT 12 verses....how we need each other!

Then Interestingly enough.....it rolls into Chapter 13, THE LOVE CHAPTER

**1 Corinthians 13:1-8;13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have**

the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. <sup>8</sup> Love never fails..... <sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**This is a SUPER-NATURAL kind of Love!**

John 13:34-35 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup>gentleness and self-control.

**This is a SUPER-NATURAL kind of Living!**

**RESPONSE:**

- 1) **Stirring a Hunger!**
- 2) **Specific situation where you need the Holy Spirit**

FOR POWER....FOR PEACE.....FOR WISDOM.....FOR STRENGTH