

THE KINGDOM OF GOD PASTOR KATY REEVES

Jesus came to Earth to restore what Adam lost and He brought a Kingdom message. He came to reestablish the government of God on Earth and to reinstate His Earthly kings to their rightful place of dominion.

You see, Adam lost a **kingdom**--not a religion--and therefore the redemptive work of the Creator would be the **reestablishment** of His Kingdom on Earth.

Down through the centuries the Gospel of Jesus Christ was being changed to a gospel **about** Christ, and His message was lost in the confusion.

Christ is not Jesus' last name. Christ is Greek for [Messiah], which means [the Anointed One]; the Hebrew mind knows exactly what Messiah means, but the Western mind doesn't have a clue and so the true message is not understood.

Today, Christianity is all about going to Heaven when you die. Nothing is preached or taught about the Kingdom. Even the rapture is all about escaping this evil world.

Jesus' message was about the coming Kingdom of God and this is the Gospel that the apostles preached as well. Let's take a closer look at what a Kingdom entails, in order to better understand the message of Jesus Christ and the Bible.

The English word 'kingdom' was translated from the original Hebrew word [malkuw] It literally means:

- Royalty and royal power
- Reign
- **kingdom**; kingship; kingly authority

- sovereign power; realm (of territory); reign (of time).

The English word [kingdom] is translated from the original Greek word [basileia]. It means:

- royal power
- Kingship
- **Dominion** or rule
- In some instances, not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom
- Of the royal power of Jesus as the triumphant Messiah
- Of the royal power and dignity conferred on Christians in the Messiah's Kingdom
- **A kingdom**; the territory subject to the rule of a king
- Used in the New Testament to refer to the reign of Messiah

Just what did Jesus preach?

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, **repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is coming near!** **Matthew 1:17**

But after John was delivered up, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God, saying, **'the time has come to an end, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel of the Kingdom of God!** **Mark 1:14-15**

Continuing in the book of Luke we find out more about this Kingdom. ...and He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was the custom, and stood up to read. And the book of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him. And Jesus opened the book and found the place where it is written, **The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because of this He has anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor; and He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, and to proclaim release to the captives and sight to the blind; to strengthen with forgiveness those who are bruised and to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.** **Luke 4:16-19**

Let's read John 6:1-15

- Notice vs. 2--and a great many people followed Him because they saw the miracles which He performed on sick people.
- Now notice vs. 14 & 15--Then the men who saw the miracle which Jesus performed said, 'Truly this is the prophet who is to come into the world!' But Jesus knew that they were ready to come and seize Him to make Him a king, so He departed to the mountain alone.

What are they talking about? Who is this 'prophet that is supposed to come into the world'? Why would they want to make him king?

Remember that Jesus was born into the Jewish race. He was raised in a Jewish home; He was thoroughly trained in the Torah. The prophets foretold a literal earthly kingdom that would be set up at the end of the latter days. The coming **Messiah** would be the **King** of this kingdom.

Let's study these Scriptures and write down what you notice about what they say concerning the Kingdom of God.

- **Isaiah 2:2-4; 9:6-7; 35:1-10**

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- **Jeremiah 33:14-17**

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Do you hear the good news in this message? Hope! We have a hope for a better future! We have the promise of dominion!

Now, let's move into the New Testament and see what the people saw as they observed and what they heard Jesus and the apostles preach:

- **Matthew 11:2-5**

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- **Acts 19:8** Then Paul entered into the synagogue and spoke openly for a period of three months, persuading the people concerning the **Kingdom of God**. vs. 11 & 12 tells us, and God wrought great miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even when from the clothes on his body, pieces of garments were brought and laid upon the sick, diseases were cured and even the insane were restored.

- **Acts 28:23** So they appointed a day for him, and many gathered together and came to him where he was staying, and he explained to them about the **Kingdom of God**, thus testifying and persuading them concerning Jesus, both from the law of Moses and from the prophets, from morning till evening.

- **Acts 8:5-12**

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- Miracles!
- Blind eyes opened; deaf hears opened; the lame walking and leaping!
- Everything the prophets had foretold about the Messiah who was coming to restore the Kingdom was being done right before their very eyes!
- You see, the Kingdom will be on Earth--not in Heaven--and the Saints will reign as priests and kings in this Kingdom.

The loss of Heaven's Kingdom on Earth through Adam's disobedient act demanded restoration.

- This restoration process is known as the **redemptive work of God** and the goal is the recovery and reestablishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth and the reinstatement of mankind as its legal kingly representative.
- The means would be the coming Messiah King to redeem, restore and reconnect man back to Heaven's government once again.

The Jews who saw and heard Jesus, said, 'Hey! This has got to be the Messiah that we've heard about all our lives!'

- They believed it was time for the earthly kingdom to be restored and they were going to force it by making Jesus king.
- But Jesus knew it wasn't time to restore the kingdom yet.
- There were legal issues that needed to be addressed first.
- No one understood the legal issues, even though He spoke plainly about them.
- Even though the Jews had centuries of observing how the legal issues had to be dealt with--no one understood.
- They had taken the Good News of the restoration of the Kingdom of Heaven to Earth through Messiah and made a religion out of it.
- Instead of sharing this Good News with the Gentiles, they separated themselves and the Kingdom message was buried under centuries of religion.
- And still today most people don't understand the **legalities** of redemption and salvation that has enabled the Kingdom of Heaven to be restored and one day very soon be reestablished on the Earth.

Notice the legalities:

- The promise of a royal Seed in Genesis 3:15 established the coming of God in the flesh as a legal redeemer with all the rights to enter Earth's

realm to achieve this goal.

- Redemption fulfills all the legal requirements needed to restore the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

The Legal System of the Kingdom of Heaven.

The true message of the Gospel that Jesus preached is the message of a Kingdom--specifically, God's Kingdom; sometimes referred to as the Kingdom of Heaven.

God is the King of both the invisible and the visible realms--the spiritual world and the physical universe. He is El Shaddai, God Almighty, the Ruler who sets all the standards in Heaven and Earth.

- He lives in and rules the unseen realm
- He is the Creator and owner of the seen realm
- He also created human beings to rule under His authority as vice-regents of the Earth
- As King of everything, God is the **standard setter**
- He is the rule establisher and the Judge of all things

The intent of the establishment of God's original kingdom of kings was to extend His rulership, His will and His nature from Heaven to Earth.

- His desire was to manifest His glorious character and wisdom and righteous judgments and His purposes in the Earth realm through the administrative leadership of mankind on Earth.
- You see, the ultimate goal of God the Creator was to colonize Earth with Heaven and establish it as a visible territory of an invisible world.
- His purpose was to have His will done and the Heavenly Kingdom come on Earth just as it is in Heaven.

His simple strategy for extending and establishing His Kingdom on this Earth was to rule the visible world of mankind from the invisible realm of the spirit.

- **Romans 1:20**
- **Colossians 1:16**

- **Hebrews 11:3**

- The plan meant that mankind would be His visible representative created specifically to live in the visible realm to represent Him.

Let's say it this way, 'God's original purpose and intent was to rule that which is seen (the visible world) through that which is unseen (the invisible world); He would do this through the unseen (the Holy Spirit in mankind), living in the unseen (spirit of man) and living in the seen (the physical body) on the Earth.

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Genesis 1:26-28

- The first thing the Creator God gave mankind was His image and likeness.
- The first mandate and assignment He gave mankind was 'dominion'
- Mankind was given dominion over the Earth
- Mankind was given dominion over creation and Earth, not other men
- God never gave mankind dominion over Heaven
- God never gave mankind a religion, but a relationship!
- God never promised mankind Heaven, but Earth.

To understand the loss of the Adamic Kingdom mandate, it is important to realize **you cannot lose what you never had.**

- Adam, the first royal representative of Heaven's Kingdom on Earth, was delegated the responsibility of serving as Heaven's Earthly ambassador.
- An ambassador is only as viable and legal as his relationship with his government.
- Therefore, the most important relationship the first man, Adam, had on Earth was with Heaven.

This is why the Holy Spirit of God was intimate with mankind from the beginning.

- His indwelling presence guaranteed constant communication and fellowship with the will, the mind, the intent and the purposes of the Creator God so that He could execute His government's will on Earth.

- This relationship made the Holy Spirit of God the most important Person on Earth and established Him as the key component of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

The loss or separation of mankind from the Holy Spirit of God would render mankind a disqualified envoy of Heaven on Earth, for he would not know the will or mind of the government of Heaven for Earth.

- As we read the Genesis record of the encounter of mankind with the adversary, Satan, in chapter 3, we see that the goal of the attack was to drive man from the garden of relationship with God and Heaven, resulting in the loss of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.
- The greatest crime committed in any kingdom or nation, ancient or modern, is the crime of treason.
- It is the only crime to which there is no question of receiving the death penalty.
- It is the ultimate act of betrayal.

You see, when a government gives any citizen the authority and right to represent its interests, it has given the greatest form of TRUST possible and should be esteemed as the highest of honors.

- The higher the representation, the greater the responsibility and trust, and thus, the greater the influence one can have in one's nation or kingdom.
- This is especially critical in the context of kingdoms, where the king not only represents himself, but embodies and symbolizes the entire kingdom and all it stands for.
- Adam, in essence, embodied Heaven's government on Earth.

The fall of mankind was not just a personal act of disobedience, but was essentially an act of treason.

- Adam committed the ultimate act of betrayal, deserving the death penalty.
- In effect, Adam declared independence from his kingdom government, the empire of Heaven, and in so doing severed his relationship with the King of Heaven, abandoned his position as

ambassador, and lost his dominion over Earth.

- Through abdication of his responsibility as king over Earth, Adam lost the most important relationship of all--the Holy Spirit.
- Through violation of God's Word, mankind was rendered a disqualified representative of Heaven on Earth.

Adam not only lost a personal relationship with his Father, but he lost a kingdom.

- Adam became an ambassador without a government to represent, an envoy without official status, a citizen without a country, a king without a kingdom--a ruler without a domain
- In understanding kingdoms and the concept of colonization, the success of colonization depends on the direct and uninterrupted relationship with and the SUBMISSION of the colony to the imperial kingdom.
- The loss of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth was considered rebellion against the eternal imperial Kingdom of Heaven and the creating of a vagabond state
- Earth became a territory under an illegal government.

While Adam committed high treason, the instigator and adversary, the evil one, executed an earthly coup.

- Remember, Adam did not lose Heaven when he fell; rather, he lost Earth and dominion over Earth.
- He lost LEGAL REPRESENTATION of Heaven on Earth!

BUT GOD!!!

The Blood of Jesus paid the price of high treason and redeemed mankind!

For those who will receive redemption there is given **restoration!**

- We have legal representation in Heaven once again.
- We have a good position with the King of the Universe.
- This does us no good if we are ignorant of the protocols and procedures that are established in the Kingdom so that everything is done in decency and order.

Daniel 7:9-10

- There is a court room in Heaven
- There are books where everything is recorded
- Judgments are rendered according to the evidence presented
- We, as the redeemed, have a right to access this Court!
- We access this courtroom in the spirit realm through **prayer**.

Luke 18:1-8

- Notice how Jesus puts prayer in a judicial system
- When we pray, we are stepping into the Courtroom of Heaven
- We are there presenting our case
- Satan is there, too--arguing against you
- THIS IS WHY THERE IS RESISTANCE!
- Satan uses our personal sin and the sin of our bloodline--generational sins--to resist and hinder our prayers being answered
- It is our job to rend Heaven by taking away the Accuser's legal rights to stop us bringing God's rule to Earth

How do we do this?

1. Find out what legal claims the Accuser is using against you
2. REPENT!!!! Personally and generationally.
3. Apply the Blood of Jesus--the Blood of Jesus is the only thing the Accuser has NO answer for!
4. Now, a good verdict can be rendered for you!
 - You see, this widow wanted a verdict that would incapacitate her accuser

Watch the protocol that Jesus showed us in this parable:

- This woman NEVER spoke to her Accuser
- She only spoke to the Judge!
- There was no binding; no loosing; no rebuking.. Why?
- She understood that if she could get a verdict from the Judge, her Adversary is of NO consequence!
- She kept presenting her case to the judge.
- Our God is a Just Judge and He will answer promptly--speedily!

- Not because we are 'bothering' Him, but because He loves us!

Revelation 19:11

- This is Jesus, the King of kings
- In righteousness He judges And makes war
- Notice, before He goes to the battlefield for war--He judges
- And then He makes war
- This is the protocol for victory!

Everything has to be legal. Our positions in the spirit realm are as kings and priests.

- Our priestly job is to get legal things in place so God's blessings can flow instead of the curse.
- We, as priests, plead the Blood of Jesus--for us personally and in intercession for others.
- We see this very protocol in the jobs performed by the priests of Israel--only they didn't have the Blood of Jesus, all they had was the blood of animals
- They could only cover the sins, but we can annihilate the stain of sin when we plead the Blood of Jesus!
- The job of priest is to intercede and get legal things in place so God can bless and be merciful.

Let's look at a good example in the account of Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 18:16-33:

- We have misunderstood why God wanted to tell Abraham what His plans were for Sodom and Gomorrah.
- He knew Abraham--He knew Abraham would intercede for those cities
- Our God ALWAYS desires to show mercy! Remember that!
- Abraham understood He was in a court and he began bringing his case before the Judge.
- He got the Judge to render a merciful verdict that if only ten people were found to be righteous, the whole cities would be spared.
- Why ten? Why not 1? In Abraham's Eastern culture, the number 10 is the least amount of people that can legally make up a government.

- Anything less than ten is not legally considered a government.

Once the priestly duties of intercession and establishing legal verdicts are done--then we step into the position of king--and begin making decrees and actually doing something.

John 11:41-44

- Jesus has been interceding for Lazarus in His Priestly position.
- When He steps to the tomb He is operating from His Kingship position.
- Our job as King is to decree

Kings never humble themselves to intercede--they sit on thrones and seats of government--decreeing and declaring what is lawful and what is unlawful in their domain.

- Kings are seen on battlefields.
- This is where binding and loosing and rebuking is done.

When everything has been put into place legally--answers to prayers will come promptly--speedily.

- If they don't, something is still resisting you.
- Persevering prayer is NOT saying the same thing over and over.
- It is dealing with the legal issues that are causing resistance for your prayers to be answered.

Daniel 7:21-27

- The Saints are being defeated until a verdict comes from Heaven's courts
- Then, this verdict moves them to a place of victory!

We must remove the legal issues so God can fulfill His passion, which is to cause His Kingdom to come to Earth!

- REPENTANCE and the pleading of the Blood of Jesus removes the legal issues.

How do you do this?

- By the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Remember, our spirits are indwelt with Holy Spirit, the third Person of

the Godhead

- This means we have unfettered communication between Heaven and Earth
- He helps us pray as we ought to pray--as we need to pray.
- He knows all our issues
- He will reveal these issues when we ask Him so they can be dealt with

If you have been praying about something for a long time and have not received an answer--you have legal issues that need to be addressed.

Prayer is working with God, like Abraham did about Sodom and Gomorrah. We must understand the conflict that we're entering into.

- When we pray, we are engaging Heaven AND we are encountering resistance!
- We are not on a 'battlefield'; we are in a 'courtroom'
- Backlash occurs when we don't get legal issues in place first
- Once we get the good verdict--THEN we can make decrees from our kingly position and move onto the battlefield to rebuke, to bind and to loose.

Testimony of Robert Henderson and his son.

- What 2 years of praying on the battlefield could not do--15 minutes in the courtroom DID!

The Court of Heaven's protocol:

Worship is the atmosphere of the Court of Heaven, so be sure and enter it with your worship of our amazing God.

1. Begin praying in the Spirit, listening for His directions.
2. Confess all personal sin revealed by the Spirit.
3. Repent of all revealed personal sin.
4. Plead the Blood of Jesus over the sin that is laid upon the altar.
5. Confess all generational sin revealed by the Spirit.
6. Repent of all revealed generational sin.
7. Plead the Blood of Jesus over the generational sin.

8. If you are interceding for someone, confess and repent for their personal and generational sin and plead the Blood of Jesus as well.
9. Praise God for forgiveness! The stain of sin is gone! The legal issues are cleared--the Blood speaks NOT GUILTY! The penalty has been paid!

NOW, move into your kingly position and begin making decrees about the issue you are in prayer about. Begin prophesying the future as the Spirit leads you. Any rebuking, binding or loosing is done now, under the guidance of Holy Spirit.

Following the right protocols will ensure success and victory in the Kingdom of Heaven!

Following are some *examples* of how your prayer should sound:

Father, I come boldly into Your throne room as you desire me to. I bring ___ to You. I bring this situation to You. I humble myself before You and I ask You to forgive me of everything I've ever done, said, spoken, or thought that did not meet Your standard of behavior; I confess it as sin--against You and You alone did I sin. I ask you to forgive my bloodline--every sin in my bloodline. (Confess and repent for the one you are interceding for, if applicable)

I ask that the Blood of Jesus would answer those things. I ask Lord, that there would be a cleansing of these things, in the Name of Jesus.

Thank You that the Blood of Jesus has answered the accusations. Thank You that they have been silenced now and that the voices in Heaven are now speaking in my behalf and in behalf of ___.

I ask now that You would come in my behalf and You would answer this request in Jesus' Name; that breakthrough would come into this situation. Lord, I decree breakthrough! Every demonic power--you are removed--your legal rights are removed! They are annulled! In Jesus Name! Now just begin praising God!!