

“God’s Kingdom”

Matthew 13

June 23, 2013

Intro: (What do heaven & hell have in common?)

Last week we focused on the PRESENCE of God...

We concluded that the definition & distinction of God’s people is God’s presence!

The question that left us with... that we will pick up today:

Who is the King & how does He define & describe HIS kingdom?

Answer: the biblical eternal unchanging answer is:

***Christ is Creator-King...
&
ALL of creation is His kingdom...***

T/S: Today we will see the 5 pillars of God’s Kingdom:

1. ***The Kingdom CREATED***
2. ***The Kingdom CONFLICT***
3. ***The Kingdom CONTEXT***
4. ***The Kingdom CULTURE***
5. ***The Kingdom COMING – Amen!***

1) Kingdom Created

Genesis 1:1... In the beginning God created... (KING)

...created the heavens & the earth. (KINGDOM)

*** "...and it was good... very good!"

*** "...the Alpha & Omega... Beginning & End"

Remember John 1:1 & 1:14 = Christ is Creator King!

2) Kingdom Conflict

Genesis 3... "Did God really say..."

Satin... Sin... Separation = CONFLICT

Cain kills Abel

Noah & the Flood

Sodom & Gomorrah

Abraham lies...

Israelites in the desert...

David with Bathsheba...

Satin is the ruler of this world:

Key = define ruler... like a bad babysitter!

like a malicious mall-cop!

Pseudo Coup... Compliance = Co-conspirator

Sin has permeated all of creation...
Especially RELIGION & the RELIGIOUS!

VIDEO: *Driscoll (Not Your Cause...)*

1 Samuel 8 Israel Demands a King

8 When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. **2** The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. **3** Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice.

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah **5** and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." **6** But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the Lord. **7** And the Lord said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. **8** According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. **9** Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

Samuel's Warning Against Kings

10 So Samuel told all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking for a king from him. **11** He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. **12** And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. **13** He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. **14** He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. **15** He will take the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants. **16** He will take your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work. **17** He will take the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. **18** And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the Lord will not answer you in that day."

The Lord Grants Israel's Request

19 But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, **20** that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." **21** And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the Lord. **22** And the Lord said to Samuel, "Obey their voice and make them a king." Samuel then said to the men of Israel, "Go every man to his city."

Key: Be careful what you wish for!

“When they PUSHED AWAY... their potential was TAKEN AWAY.”

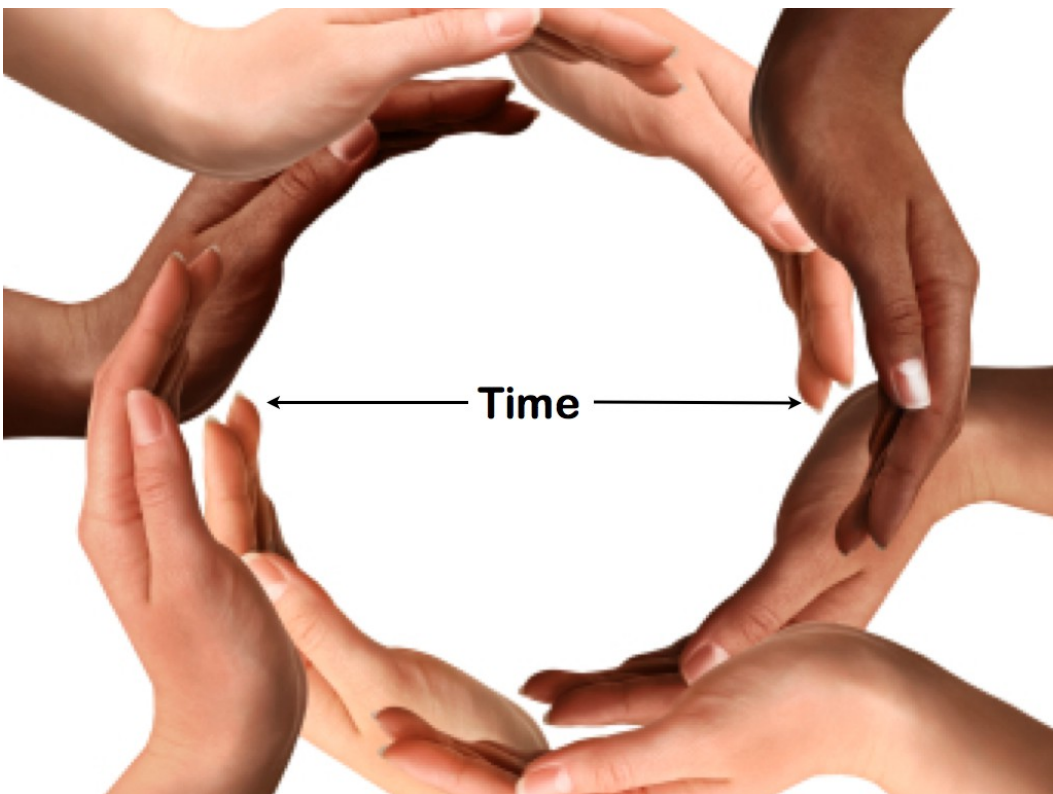
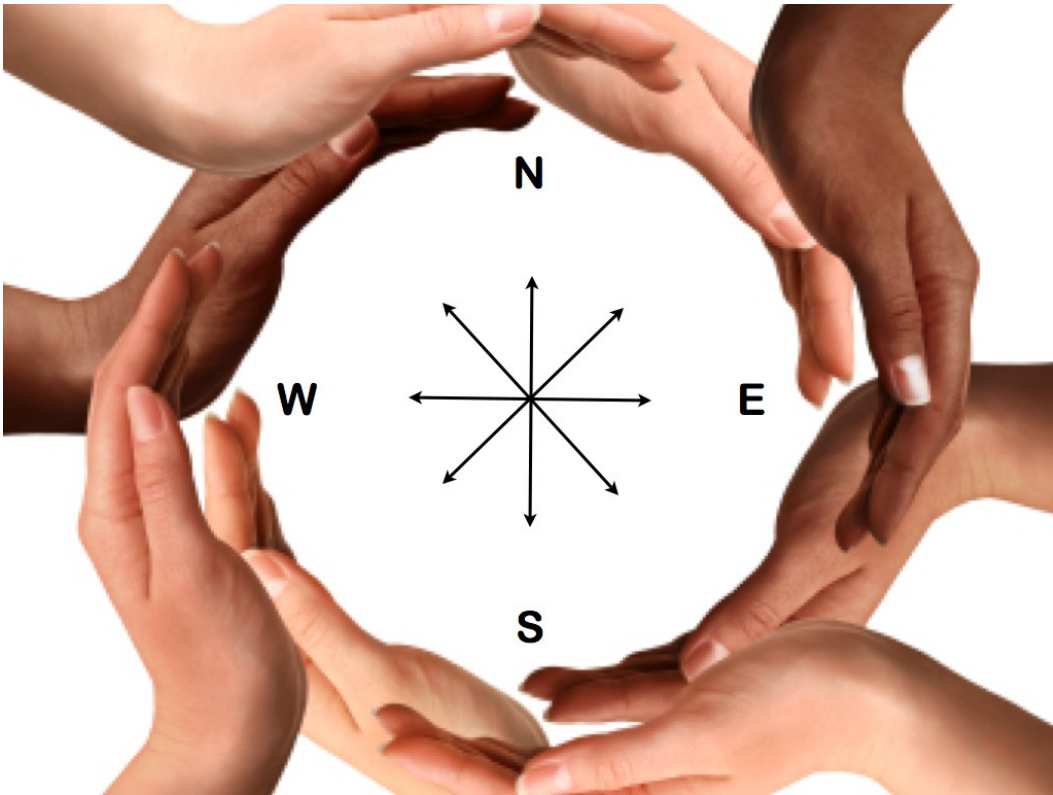
- JDP

Israel gets king Saul

Romans 1: “...given over”

3) Kingdom Context:











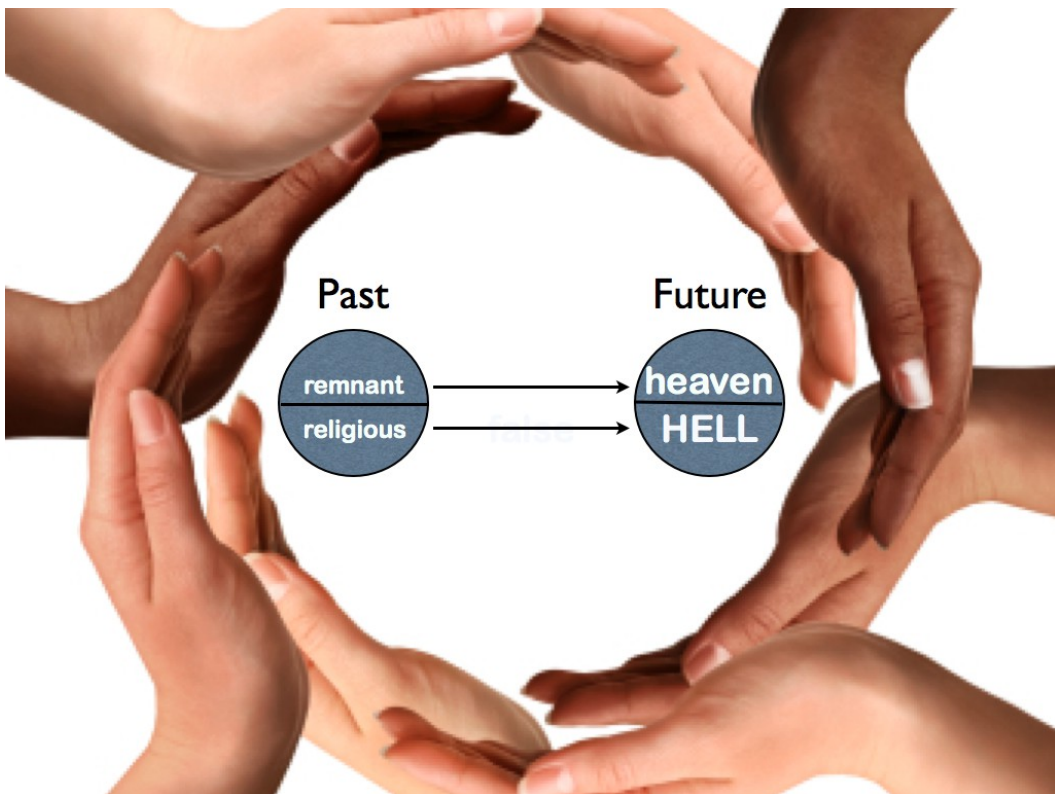
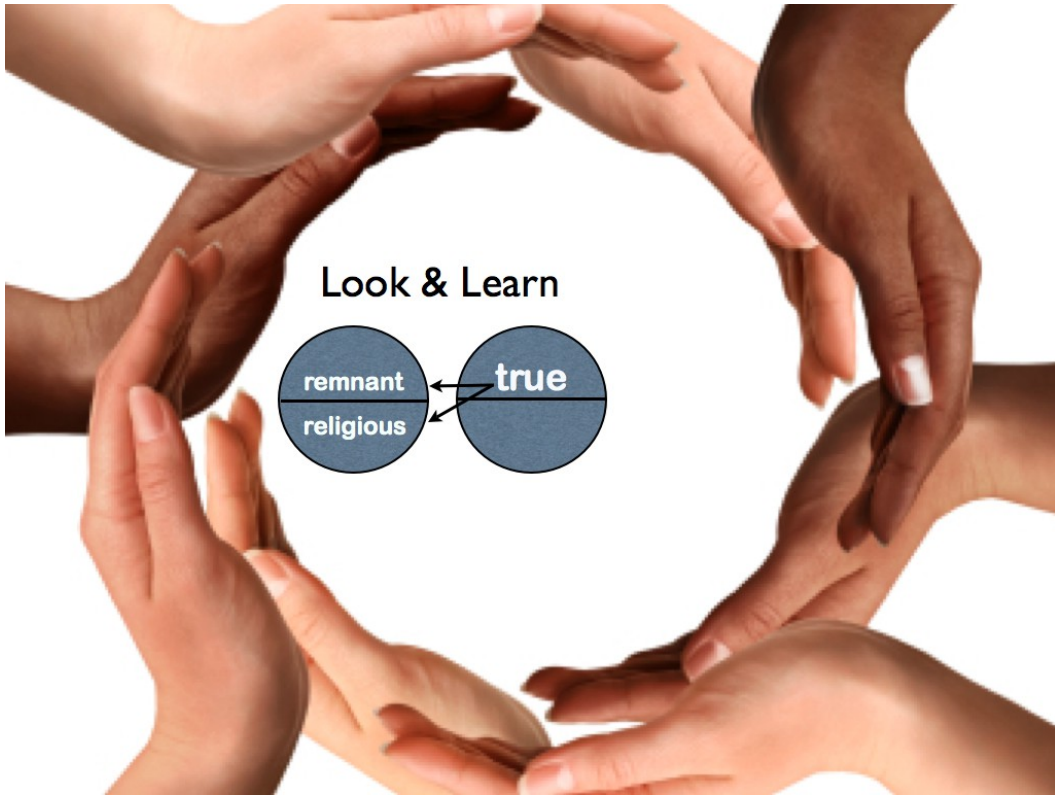
***“The Church was given the keys to the kingdom
at the Cross of Christ...”***

***Christian.... TODAY....
WE are “care-takers & keepers of the kingdom!”***

We are the AMBASSADORS of Christ...

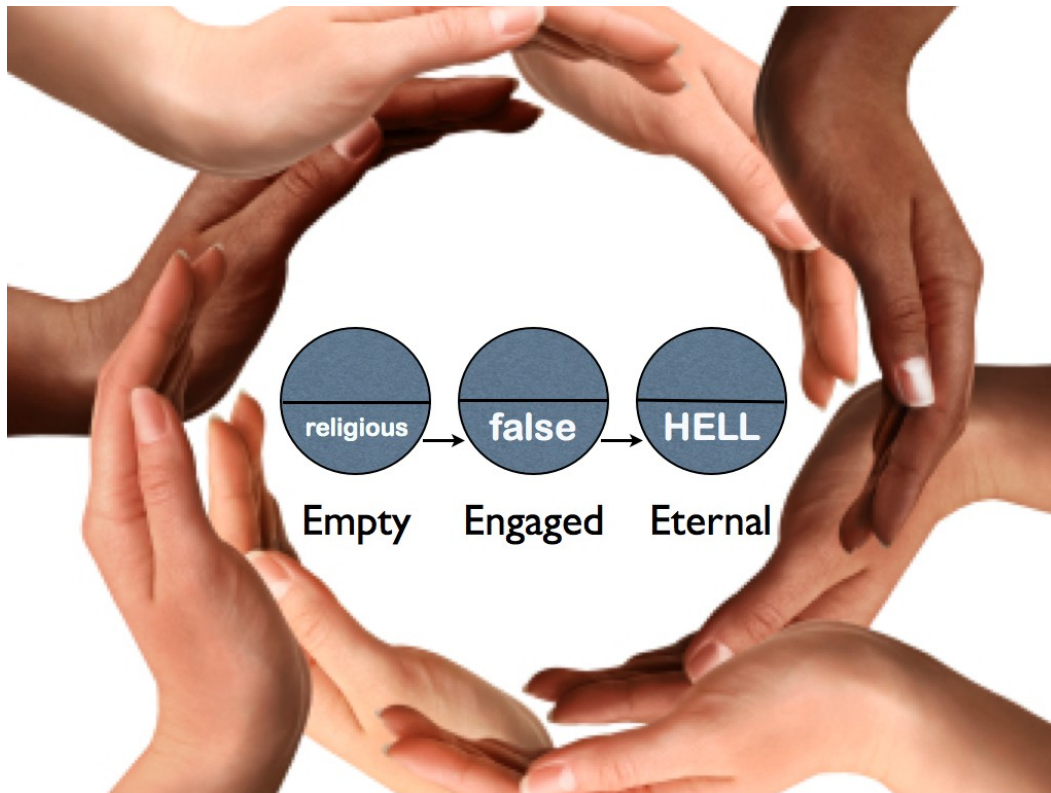
We are the King’s representatives & “Regents”





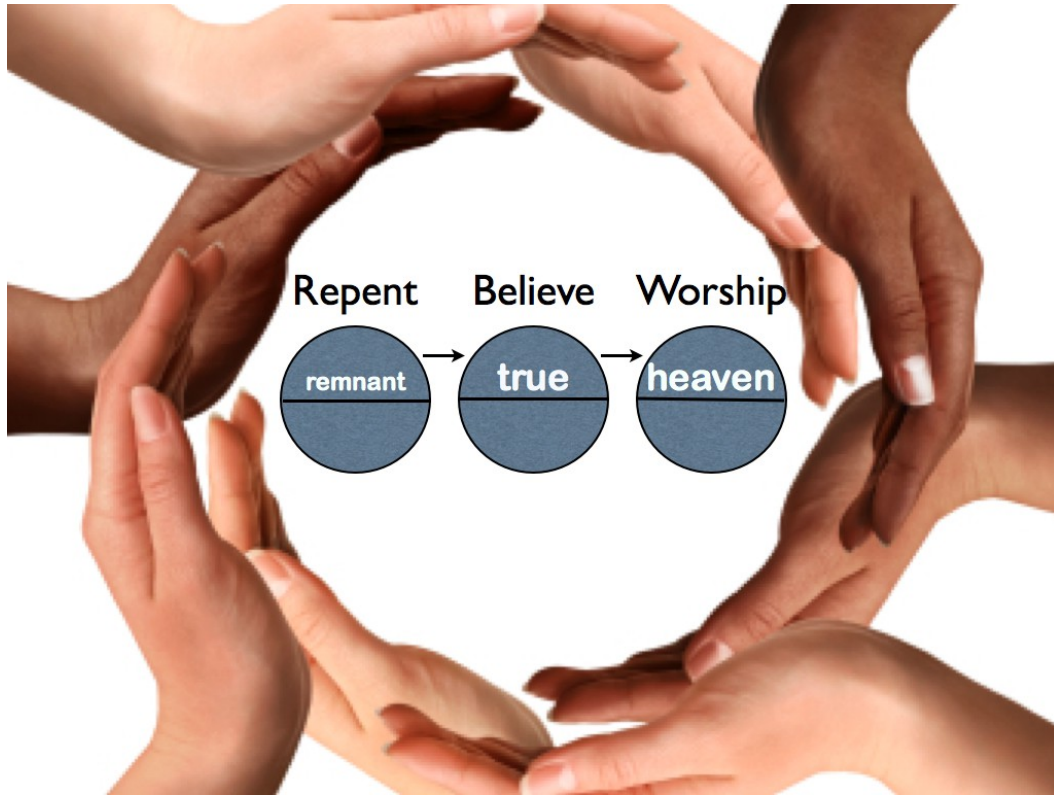
Note: there is NO neutral kingdom ground!

"You are either for Me or against Me." - Jesus



*"I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn. **11** In that day there will be great mourning in Jerusalem..."*

- Zechariah 12:10-11



2 Samuel 7: Lord's Covenant with David

7 Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, **2** the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." **3** And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you.".....

16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before Me.
Your throne shall be established forever.'"



4) Kingdom Culture: Matthew 13: *K.I.N.G.D.O.M.*

Expound Matthew... The “Jewish/Messianic Gospel”

Ch. 1 = The King’s lineage

Ch. 2 = The “Wise Men” confirm Jesus is KING

Ch. 3 = John the Baptist prepares the way...

Ch. 4 = Jesus defeats Satan & proves Kingship

Ch.5-7 = Jesus preaches & teaches as King

*** Note: Mosaic Cov./Sermon on Mount

Ch.8-10 = Miraculous proof & training by the King

Ch.11-12 = Initial REJECTION begins...

Ch.13 = FIRST use of PARABLES

Chapter 13’s parables describe the coming “Church Age”

[paints a comprehensive portrait]

(a.k.a. “Mystery” or “Interim” Age)

*** **Parable = comparative illustration** (usually “story”)

*** *An earthy story with a heavenly meaning.*

*** Use the simple to explain the complex...

*** Parables both REVEAL & CONCEAL...
per the presence & power of God.

(4) Benefits of Parables: (why they are effective)

- R** Parables help to **make truth “relatable”**
i.e. “sowing” vs. evangelizing
- E** Parables help to **make truth “earthy”**
i.e. stories are remembered/shared
- A** Parables help to **make truth “active”**
i.e. daily life circumstances “connect”
- L** Parables help to **make truth “last”**
i.e. help believers believe 😊

NOTE: Jesus used “word pictures” all the time!

i.e. Salt

i.e. Light



Parable 1: K. (knowing) = Soils

Key = 1 seed... different soils & souls!

Parable 2: I. (infested) = Weeds

Key = 1 field... different fruit & faith!

God will barn the true & burn the false. – MacArthur

...the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Jn 8:12

Parable 3: N (nucleus) = Mustard Seed

Key = miraculous multiplication!

Parable 4: G (growing) = Leaven

Key = Gospel “going” & growing...

Parable 5: D (delighted) = Treasure/Field

Key = Powerful & proper perspective!

Parable 6: O (overcome) = Pearl/price

Key = Rewarded Redemption & Restoration...

Parable 7: M (measured) = Nets

Key = there will be a Messianic meeting...

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. **48** When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. **49** So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous **50** and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

VIDEO: Driscoll: *"Where Is the Kingdom"*

5) Kingdom Coming: (see Matthew 13:50-52)

51 "Have you understood all these things?"
They said to him, "Yes." **52** And he said to them,
"Therefore every scribe who has been trained
for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a
house, who brings out of his treasure what is
new and what is old."

Everyone who "understands" will be a disciple...

who makes disciples, who makes disciples...

holding nothing back – no matter what!

CLOSE:

16 But blessed are your eyes, because they
see; and your ears, because they hear. **17** For
truly I say to you that many prophets and
righteous men desired to see what you see, and
did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and
did not hear it.

- **Matthew**
13:16-17

Read the Lord's Prayer