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## WHICH KINGDOM ARE YOU IN?

Do you know which kingdom you are in? Do you know the King of the Kingdom? If you do not know, you will be deceived by Satan, the ruler of the kingdom of darkness. The world is already deceived. But the Christians are supposed to know the truth. **The truth is that we are in a completely different kingdom. We are no more in the kingdom of darkness but in the Kingdom of God.**

God has called us into a spiritual kingdom that is established in the hearts of men. It is a kingdom that cannot be shaken, the Kingdom of God. As the people of the Kingdom, we are to enforce Jesus' victory at Calvary. We are to overthrow the kingdom of darkness and demonstrate the Kingdom of God.

*For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him:*

*And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.*  
*(Col 1:16-17)*

The Kingdom of God is greater than the church. It consists of the heavens and the earth, the visible and the invisible. The

Kingdom of God rules over all. **The church is in the Kingdom but not all who are in church are in the Kingdom.** As far as Jesus is concerned, only those who do the will of God will enter the Kingdom of God.

*“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.*

*Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’*

*And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’” (Matt 7:21-23, NKJV)*

Why “lawlessness”? Because they did not abide by the rules of the Kingdom. Every country has laws. So does the Kingdom of God. Only those who voluntarily submit themselves to the rule of the Lord of the Kingdom are welcomed as people of the Kingdom.

If we disobey the laws of the Kingdom, we will be in great trouble. **We will succumb to situations instead of overcome them.** We will not be able to stand in the last days when Satan comes with great wrath upon the earth because he knows he has a short time (Rev 12:12). He is working overtime to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10).

But what about the people of God? Are we sleeping or are we awake? **Do we really know that we are in the Kingdom? Jesus is coming only for the people who are in His Kingdom.**

I believe that Jesus is coming very soon. Many who are expecting to receive His approval will be shattered by the truth. What greater shock can there be than to hear Jesus say, “I never knew you; depart from Me!” (Matt 7:23).

The people He meant include those who never make use of their talents (Matt 25:14-30), those who are not faithful (Matt 24:45-51) and those who are not doing the will of God

(Luke 12:47). They will weep and gnash their teeth because they will be in deep regret.

***But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (Matt 8:12)***

***The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.***

***Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. (Matt 13:41-43)***

Many who go to church may think that they are in the Kingdom of God but actually they are not. This is very frightening. **Have they heard the true message of the Kingdom and repented and are now living in holiness? Or are they merely involved in church activities, having a form of godliness but denying its power?**

*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.*

*For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

*Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,*

*Traitors, ready, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;*

*Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. (2 Tim 3:1-5)*

**It is a sad thing that there are those who teach and preach the Kingdom without knowing what it is all about.**

Nicodemus was a ruler of the Jews and a teacher of Israel trained in theology, but he did not know the God of the Scriptures. He came to Jesus by night to learn the truth (John 3:1-10).

Paul was a scholar of Scripture, trained by a highly

respected Pharisee and zealous for God (Acts 22:3). But he persecuted the church and consented to the stoning of Stephen because he only knew the letter of the law, not the Spirit of the Lord. After his great encounter with God, Paul could say in Philippians 3:10, “that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings.”

How can a person teach about the Kingdom if he is not in the Kingdom? There are those who claim to know God and some even teach the word of God but, sad to say, do not know the God of the word.

*But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.* (Matt 23:13)

**The Kingdom of God is not only doctrine.** It is knowing God. Many serve God by a set of rules but do not know God. **If we know God, our whole life will be different.**

The Bible says that “the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits” (Dan 11:32). But people today are still living for themselves because they do not know God.

David was a great king who could have had anything he wanted. Yet this was the cry of his heart:

*One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in His temple.* (Ps 27:4)

No wonder David overcame all troubles and did great exploits. He knew his God.

I really believe that in these last days, God is drawing unto Himself people of the Kingdom who know their God. **You will definitely not know your God if you do not spend time with**

**Him.** Do not think that by giving Him a few hours on Sunday and leftover time during the week, you can know your God.

Sunday is the Lord's day and must be fully given to the Lord. He has given us six days for ourselves. Surely we can give Sunday to Him. The children of Israel were held captive in Babylon for 70 years to make up for not allowing the land of Israel to rest every seven years as God had commanded (2 Chr 36:21). **Many people have to pay back on the sick bed because they do not know how to give God that day of rest, the Lord's day.**

A real test of your being a Christian is that the minute you are born again, you think day and night about God – fanatic! The early church met joyfully every day (Acts 2:46-47). When Jesus told them to tarry in Jerusalem, they waited without knowing how long they were to wait.

**Today, Christians have no time for God** but all the time to meet with one another for fellowship lunch, tea, dinner and supper, for the Internet, golf, movies and the stock market. They have time to read the newspapers and books on health or how to make money. But they have no time to read the Bible about the One Whom they will meet regarding their eternal destiny.

**The sad thing today is that people are labelled fanatic or mad when they go all out for the Kingdom of God.** We are supposed to be a holy nation set apart for God, a “peculiar people” (1 Pet 2:9 KJV), “His own special people” (NKJV).

**The Kingdom message is confrontational and radical.** If people say it is fanatical, then Jesus is the greatest fanatic of all. Jesus had said for example, that if we do not forsake everyone and everything, even our own life, and follow Him, we cannot be His disciples. That is fanatical.

*If any man come to Me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. (Luke 14:26)*

*I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth.*  
(Rev 3:15-16)

That is what Jesus said. Instead of memorising and declaring the Scriptures, many Christians quote the words of men: “Don’t be a fanatic.” Well, I would rather be a fanatic for Jesus Christ than for anything else.

There are football fanatics who save up one month’s leave to do nothing but watch the World Cup. Some save up money and happily pay RM60,000 for a special package just to watch three matches in Japan. This is one of the most expensive nations in the world to visit. Yet people do not mind spending their money there because they want to watch football. To them, it is a good deal and wisdom. To God, it is foolishness.

Christians too are glued to the TV watching football because “it’s only once every four years”. **Jesus is only coming again once.** If you miss it, that’s the end for you. **Wouldn’t it be better to be prepared for that “once” instead of that “once every four years”?**

Do you expect to meet God when you die? Do you expect to go to heaven? Then bear fruits worthy of repentance.

*But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?*

**Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.**

*And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.*

*I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who*

*is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

*His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” (Matt 3:7-12, NKJV)*

The repentance we see today and the repentance that John the Baptist and Jesus expected are two different things. We see people mouthing repentance, then continuing to live as before. The repentance that John and Jesus preached required the people to “bear fruits worthy of repentance” (Matt 3:8).

Today, after coming to Jesus, some continue to live with their mistresses. Some continue to drink, others continue with other vices. The thinking is, “As long as no one sees, it’s okay.” **We must turn completely away from our sin and turn to the ways of God.** If we want to be in the Kingdom, we cannot continue in sin.

Many Christians pray but do not receive healing, firstly because they do not have faith and secondly, because they do not live in holiness. They want healing but do not want to walk God’s way. God wants to save us and heal us so that He can use us to bless others. What is the point of having Him heal us only for us to be used again by the enemy?

Many Christians live for the temporal whereas God says we are to live for the eternal. **Even if we live 150 years, it is still a very short time compared to eternity.** When it is hot, people soon begin to leave the room if there is no air-conditioning and no fan. Hell burns forever with fire and brimstone. And there is no getting out.

If you dare not sleep at night, afraid of Satan and demons, just think what it will be like when you have to be with Satan

and his hordes for all eternity. **Hell was made for Satan and His angels, but a man chooses to go there when he disobeys God.**

How sure are you that when you die, you will go to heaven? We are all on a journey of no return. We must know where we are going. In the end, **we will be welcomed into either the Kingdom of God or the kingdom of Satan, there to stay forever.**

*In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*

*And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*  
*(John 14:2-3)*

*When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory:*

*And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats.*

*And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.*

*Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was an hungred, and ye gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:*

*Naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and ye visited Me: I was in prison, and ye came unto Me.*

*Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, and fed Thee? Or thirsty, and gave Thee drink?*

*When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? Or naked, and clothed Thee?*

*Or when saw we Thee sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee?*

*And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me. (Matt 25:31-40)*

**The strength of your life in God depends on whether you are in the Kingdom of God or not, whether you know the God of the Kingdom or not.**

What happened on Sept 11, 2001 was a shocking wake-up call to the world, especially Christians. Things can happen suddenly and destructively. The enemy is getting bolder in his manifestation.

Let us realise that we are living in end-times. I pray that this book will jolt you out of complacency. My dear readers, do you know that Jesus died to give you power to overcome the evil one, a ruthless and brutal enemy?

***We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. (1 John 5:19, NKJV)***

**Let us rise up, know that life is short and that we should use it to advance the Kingdom of God.**

*For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that Day. (2 Tim 1:12)*

Do you know Whom you have believed? Do not presume that you know. Do not know about Him through others. Know Him yourself. It is a relationship.