



## The Three Kingdoms Your Kingdom

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### **Intro**

We welcome you to this special live stream experience of Chew On This.

You are about to enter a discussion on how to actually live out faith in Christ. Living it out loud within our messy lives. The content of this discussion comes from The Pastoral Preaching notes and this live, small group discussion these notes will prompt here tonight. Something we call: A Community Based Learning Experience. Come, Chew On This with us.

**Opening Question(s):** [Pertains to Subject being discussed. Pulls listener in.]

**Introduction:** This is Pr. Orleen Haseltine with and \*\*\*\*\* along with Bruce Nelson (and our very own Otto Steve Lunde & Pr. Robin Bjornson joining us remotely).

### **Date/Topic:**

We thank you for joining us for this week's discussion on Chew On This. This week's topic **The Three Kingdoms: Your Kingdom**

**Access/Website:** All sermon/discussion, raw notes, and handouts are available at:  
[realchurch.org/wednesdaynight](http://realchurch.org/wednesdaynight)

### **Discussion**

**Closing Statement** [ Gives application of the topic. How do I apply to my life what was just talked about?]

### **Outro** (Steve)

Thank you for joining us for this week's discussion on **The Three Kingdoms: Your Kingdom** a.k.a. **What does a life look like that believes what the Bible says is actually God's spoken Word?**

To enjoy this process live, come join us and the Wednesday Night Crew every Wednesday night @ Maranatha's Forest Lake Campus @ 6:30PM. This is Steve Lunde, ALWAYS BE KIND.



## The Three Kingdoms Your Kingdom

### Three Kingdoms Prequel Article© Pastor Orleen Haseltine, 2008/2020

Have you ever wondered why you get an Aha! moment?  
When what you need to do, all of a sudden, is so crystal clear in your mind.  
Or you actually see a picture in your mind's eye that explains an event?  
Or you feel an overwhelming sense of comfort in the time of need?

We experience these activities because we are eternal spiritual beings having a temporary physical experience.

There are times when the spiritual sticks its head a little further out and we can actually notice its existence.  
It touches us.

As Christians, when our spiritual selves interact with His Spirit, called the Holy Spirit, we find answers, peace, companionship.

But there are other spiritual influences around us.  
They also seek to interact with us, affect us, scare us.

We live in a spiritual world.

This world can be divided into three kingdoms:

1. Your Kingdom, which was given at creation.
2. God's kingdom, which He has bequeathed to Jesus Christ.
3. The Enemy's Kingdom, which has boundaries and is temporal, that exists on this present earth.

***It is essential that we know the rules of these kingdoms so we know how to navigate within them.***

### The Three Kingdoms: Your Kingdom

So HOW do we live in this world?  
Your kingdom. For you to rule, to own, to fill with whatever you chose to.  
Unfortunately for us, most of the time we do not see the choices we are making.

It is as if there is a veil covering our eyes.

Tonight: List the five SOURCES of INFLUENCE that wish to reign in our kingdom  
Explain the power of YIELD  
Discuss the power of PURSUED PRINCIPLES

#### **LISTENER ASK:**

Can you recall the first time you understood that you were created by God, on purpose by God, specifically by God. That you are not just a result of nature. You have been created on purpose.

#### **Genesis 1:26-27 NLT**

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

<sup>27</sup> So God created human beings in his own image.

*In the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.*

#### **Genesis 2:8-9 NLT**

<sup>8</sup> Then the Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made. <sup>9</sup> The Lord God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that



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produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

### **Genesis 2:15-17 NLT**

<sup>15</sup> The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it.<sup>16</sup> But the Lord God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—<sup>17</sup> except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.”

CHOICE – Free Will – To Choose who to listen to:

**Because who we listen to is who we trust...Who we trust is who we really love**

**John 14:15** “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

We are ETERNAL Spiritual Beings having this PRESENT physical experience  
Given control of our own kingdom  
We get to choose who we listen to...

### **I. FIVE Sources of Influence**

#### **1.) God/Christ**

##### **Colossians 1:15-20 NLT**

*Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.*

*He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,*

<sup>16</sup> *for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.*

*He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—*

*such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world.*

*Everything was created through him and for him.*

<sup>17</sup> *He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.*

<sup>18</sup> *Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body.*

*He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead.*

*So he is first in everything.*

<sup>19</sup> *For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,*

<sup>20</sup> *and through him God reconciled everything to himself.*

*He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.*

#### **2.) The Enemy**

##### **Revelation 12:7-9**

<sup>7</sup> Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. <sup>8</sup> And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. <sup>9</sup> This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels. (cc: Isaiah 14:12-15)

##### **1 John 5: 19**

*We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one.*

##### **2 Corinthians 11:14-15**

<sup>14</sup> But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. <sup>15</sup> So it is no wonder that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. In the end they will get the punishment their wicked deeds deserve.

**John 12:31** (Jesus speaking with the Greeks)

*The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out.*

##### **2 Corinthians 4:4**

<sup>4</sup> Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.



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### Genesis 3:1-13

The Man and Woman Sin

**3** The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

**2** “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. **3** “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

**4** “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. **5** “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.” **6** The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. **7** At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. **8** When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man<sup>[a]</sup> and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God among the trees. **9** Then the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

**10** He replied, “I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked.”

**11** “Who told you that you were naked?” the Lord God asked. “Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?”

**12** The man replied, “It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it.”

**13** Then the Lord God asked the woman, “What have you done?”

“The serpent deceived me,” she replied. “That’s why I ate it.”

### 3.) Evil People

#### Proverbs 21:10 NLT

*“Evil people desire evil; their neighbors get no mercy from them.”*

### 4.) Life

#### Matthew 5:45 NLT

*“In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.”*

### 5.) Own Choices

#### Joshua 24:15 NLT

*“But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.”*

#### James 1:22 NLT

*But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.*

These are the influences

**ASK:** So HOW do they influence us???

- By singing to us.
- Singing to us to follow them...to give way to them
- To YIELD to them

They want your Kingdom

**ASK TEAM:** When we get to the YIELD STATEMENTS, if you have any to add, DO!

## II. Power of Yield

- Yield = Give right-of-way, Go along with, Sanction, Allow, Permit, Grant....Accept

**ASK:** Who holds this? (You do, given at creation.)

### 1.) YIELD: To God



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### Ephesians 4:22-24

*Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. <sup>23</sup> Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. <sup>24</sup> Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.*

### Hebrews 11:25 (Moses' example)

*He chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin.*

#### Yield statement:

- I will not obsess about my old life: feeling lesser than or in old desires to engage in things that hurt Christ.
- I will do things that Christ did.
- I will repent when I have sinned.
- I will invest in my relationship w/Christ so I can fall more in love.
- I will make the choice on how to act by the illuminating light of scripture. (removing emotions from decision making.)

#### TEAM?

### 2.) YIELD: To the Enemy

#### 2 Corinthians 11:14

*But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*

#### Yield statement:

- This is not wrong.
- Everything needs to be tried once.
- Scripture is not something we do but something we read.
- It's not a bad thing, it is normal.
- It is my right.
- It is my life.
- No one will know.
- I'm only going to try it.

#### TEAM?

### 3.) YIELD: To Evil People

#### a. Ones you know

#### Galatians 5:19-21

<sup>19</sup> *When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. [Things that steal from you, not grow you.]*

#### Yield statement:

Two reactions:

- They affect you without your choice. (e.g. drunk driver)
- Or you lie to yourself: They are not THAT bad.

#### TEAM?

#### b. Ones you are tricked by

#### 2 Corinthians 11:13, 15

*These people are false apostles. They are deceitful workers who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup> But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. <sup>15</sup> So it is no wonder that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. In the end they will get the punishment their wicked deeds deserve.*

- Celebrities, People in leadership
- Relationship you really think you need or are attracted to
- The School Administration from Jessica's story

#### TEAM?

#### Yield statement:

- Don't be so judgmental.



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- We need to at least listen to everybody...are we trying to justify why we were tricked to show we are not stupid?
- Nothing. You were exploited. Abused. (FEAR)

### Romans 12:21

*Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

TEAM?

**ASK TEAM:** Have you ever been tricked by someone? Either on purpose to take advantage of you or they just withheld important information because they wanted you to like them?

#### 4.) YIELD: To Life

##### Matthew 5:45b

*In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. (Life happens)*

##### Yield statement:

"Why me, Lord? I'm a Christian."

- We are not exempt from life because we love Christ.
- You do not get a special 'go directly to heavenly life' pass when you fall in love with Him.
- One that we can wave above others heads.
- We LIVE in the enemy's territory. Don't act like you don't. (It's embarrassing...can you deal w/sovereignty?

Which means: Do You TRUST HIM?

TEAM?

#### 5.) YIELD: To Own Choices

Carnal man

##### Galatians 5: 13

<sup>13</sup> *For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.*

##### Yield statement:

- Just this once.
- It is no big deal.

TEAM?

**We hold the power of Yield so what are we suppose to do with it?**

### III. The Power of Pursued Principles

We take on the form of whom/what we worship. (A/D)

(TRAINING, SELF DISCIPLINE)

#### 1.) Pursue GOD

##### 1 Timothy 4:7-8. NLT

<sup>7</sup> *Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Instead, **train yourself to be godly.*** <sup>8</sup> *"Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come."*

#### 2.) Flee From THE ENEMY

##### James 4:7 NLT

*So humble yourselves before God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.*

REMINDER: 1 John 4:4 He that is in you is GREATER than he that is in the world

#### 3.) Be Wise Regarding - EVIL PEOPLE

Celebrities, Tricksters:



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**John 7:24** “Look beneath the surface so you can judge correctly.”  
“Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.” (ESV)

**1 Corinthians 15:33** NLT

Don’t be fooled by those who say such things, for “bad company corrupts good character.”

Abusive –type:

**1 Corinthians 5:7 (6-8)** NLT

<sup>6</sup>Your boasting about this is terrible. Don’t you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough?

<sup>7</sup>Get rid of the old “yeast” by **removing this wicked person from among you**. Then you will be like a fresh batch of dough made without yeast, which is what you really are. Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us. <sup>8</sup>So let us celebrate the festival, not with the old bread of wickedness and evil, but with the new bread of sincerity and truth.

### 4.) Understand LIFE Happens and WHERE you are when it does:

**Isaiah 49:16** ESV

Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;

**Isaiah 30:21** ESV

And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way, walk in it,” when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

**Isaiah 41:13** NLT

“For I am the LORD your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, **‘Do not fear; I will help you.’**”

This is where we will answer: “**Do I believe God is sovereign?**”

### 5.) YOU OWN YOUR CHOICES (SELF)

Repentance

**Hebrews 5:14** ESV

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment **trained** by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

**Galatians 6:15**

“Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation/changed life.”

**John 9:31**

“We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will.”

**Galatians 5:16**

“So, I say live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.”

### It takes training to LIVE according to Scripture:

Study Scripture	[To KNOW what it says]	[Small Group/Sunday/Wed]
Work/Hang/Ask others who do the same	[To LEARN what it means]	
Practice what Scripture says	[To LIVE what it teaches]	
↓		
Study Scripture	[To KNOW what it says]	[Small Group/Sunday/Wed]
Work/Hang/Ask others who do the same	[To LEARN what it means]	
Practice what Scripture says	[To LIVE what it teaches]	
↓		
Study Scripture	[To KNOW what it says]	[Small Group/Sunday/Wed]
Work/Hang/Ask others who do the same	[To LEARN what it means]	
Practice what Scripture says	[To LIVE what it teaches]	



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- Do I trust You, LORD?
  - Or do I seek explanations of why this is happening?
  - Do I look for whose fault it is?
  - Do you not think someone who loves you so intimately will let you know, in that intimacy, if you have offended Him (sin)? Benefit of daily conversations w/Him.
- 

Constant use:

- 1.) Do something you do not want to do & do it regularly: Devotions, Exercise
- 2.) Deprive yourself of something pleasant: Ice Cream, Shopping
- 3.) Demand definite quotas/performance of yourself: What end result am I looking for? Goal Setting
- 4.) Do something difficult: Take a class, Teach, Make new friends, Tithe
- 5.) Do not put things off: START

### **KEY to Yield: Have TRAINED themselves to distinguish good from evil.**

Solid food eaten develops Fruit of the Spirit. (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, & self control... grows as we yield into Him.)

Solid Food = Scripture

Eaten = learn it, believe it, understand it, believe it, DO it

PRODUCES FRUIT = (LIST)

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Luke 6:27-31

“But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you and if anyone takes what belongs to you do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

What is the power: vs. 35b

“Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High.”

Philippians 4:8-9

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me, put it into practice.

What is the power:

And the God of peace will be with you.”

2 Peter 1:3-11

“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may



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participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make very effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Timothy 3:1-5  
Having a form of godliness...

Colossians 3:1-14

### III. Training

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the game goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly. I do not fight like a man beating the air. No I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”

Use: follow me as I follow Christ 1 Cor 11:1

### AUTHORITY

*Over came him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony Rev. 12:11*

*He called His twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. Matt 10:1*

*Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted and they came to him. He appointed twelve, designating them apostles, that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach...Mark 3:13-15*

*When Jesus had called the twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. Luke 9:1-2*

*The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10:17-20*

Why did they need this authority?

Luke 10:1 The Lord appointed the 72 and sent them to every place He was about to go...



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Do more than these in my name:

John 14: 8-12

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? <sup>1</sup>He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that <sup>m</sup>I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you <sup>n</sup>I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. <sup>11</sup> Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, <sup>o</sup>or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup> <sup>p</sup>"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Little Faith Matthew 17:14-21 (not being able to use the authority because of little faith)

So how does faith grow? Romans 10:17

*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Furthermore, creatures cannot be created in God's image and likeness and, at the same time, be preprogrammed only to do God's will. Paul Schilling in his excellent book, *God and Human Anguish*, says if this had occurred

even though all participants might think they were free, *they would not actually be free*, and though superficially happy, they would be unable to make their own decisions or to grow in genuinely responsive relations to other persons. . . . They would *lack all intrinsic value*, since all would be *robots* unconsciously living out their predetermined destiny in one vast and tightly organized system. . . . This arrangement would conceive *God as the Great Hypnotist*, whose subjects would unknowingly and irresistibly carry out the commands given them during hypnosis . . . *the notion of human beings [and angels] created so that they would always choose the good is self contradictory*. If they were *really free*, there could be *no guarantee* that they would always choose rightly, while if they were so constituted as to exclude choices, they would not be free. (italics mine)<sup>4</sup>

Furthermore, freedom of choice *untested* is only theory, not reality. Therefore, both angels and mankind had to face the choice between obedience to God and disobedience.

<sup>1</sup>Murphy, E. F. 1997, c1996. *Handbook for spiritual warfare* (Pages 24-30). Thomas Nelson: Nashville

### SPIRITUAL WARFARE: THE ARMOR OF GOD

When a woman becomes a child of God, she not only inherits God's blessings but God's enemies as well. The Lord's foremost enemy is Satan, whose purpose is to destroy His work (*John 8:44* <sup>44</sup>*You are of your father the devil, and the <sup>s</sup>desires of your father you want to <sup>h</sup>do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and <sup>i</sup>does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.*)

but Jesus came in order to "destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8) "*He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.*"

Satan is a fallen angel (Is. 14:12-15)

*"How <sup>l</sup>you are fallen from heaven, O <sup>4</sup>Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! <sup>13</sup> For you have said in your heart: <sup>m</sup>'I will ascend into heaven, <sup>n</sup>'I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; <sup>o</sup> I will also sit on the <sup>o</sup>mount of the congregation <sup>p</sup>On the farthest sides of the north; <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, <sup>q</sup>I will be like the Most High.' <sup>15</sup> Yet you <sup>r</sup>shall be brought down to Sheol, To the <sup>5</sup>lowest depths of the Pit.)*

and as such is only a created being. He is in no way equal to God, the Creator. While Satan is superior in intellect and strength to mankind, he is inferior to God in every way. Believers have the power of the indwelling resurrected Christ over them and protecting them (1 John 4:4). <sup>4</sup>"*You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than <sup>4</sup>he who is in the world*"



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In addition, believers have been given the whole armor of God “to stand against the wiles of the devil” (Eph. 6:11). Each piece of the armor is to be “**put on**” to help believers overcome the temptations and attacks of the Evil One.

<sup>10</sup> Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the <sup>2</sup>wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against <sup>m</sup>principalities, against powers, against <sup>n</sup>the rulers of <sup>3</sup>the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand <sup>p</sup>in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, <sup>q</sup>having girded your waist with truth, <sup>r</sup>having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> above all, taking <sup>t</sup>the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. <sup>17</sup> And <sup>u</sup>take the helmet of salvation, and <sup>v</sup>the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; <sup>18</sup> <sup>w</sup>praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, <sup>x</sup>being watchful to this end with all perseverance and <sup>y</sup>supplication for all the saints—<sup>19</sup> and for me, that utterance may be given to me, <sup>z</sup>that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which “I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

1) **Having Girded Your Waist With Truth** (Eph. 6:14): The waist or abdomen area was generally thought to be the seat of emotions. To gird this area with truth is to commit your emotions to believe the truth. Often a person knowingly allows herself to believe a lie because of fear or self-pity. Believers must hold a commitment to truth regardless of the repercussions (John 8:32, 36).

2) **Having Put On the Breastplate of Righteousness** (Eph. 6:14): The breast is generally thought of as the place of the soul. The heart must be kept pure and righteous because sin gives a foothold to the enemy. Confession and forgiveness on the basis of the blood of Christ cleanse the heart (1 John 1:9).

3) **Having Shod Your Feet With the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace** (Eph. 6:15): Proper shoes enable the feet to go from place to place. The believer is to be about her Father’s business, which is to **spread the gospel of peace and reconciliation**. An undaunted sense of this mission keeps the believer headed in the right direction (Matt. 28:19, 20).

4) **Taking the Shield of Faith** (Eph. 6:16): The Wicked One is “the accuser of our brethren” (Rev. 12:10) and will send his fiery darts to instill doubt, fear, and guilt. Faith acts as an invisible shield that deflects such false accusations (Heb. 11:6).

5) **Take the Helmet of Salvation** (Eph. 6:17): A helmet protects the head, that is, the brain and thoughts. Assurance of salvation is a mighty defense against doubt and insecurity and the kinds of works bred by them (1 John 5:11–13).

6) **Take the Sword of the Spirit** (Eph. 6:17): The **Word of God**, the only offensive weapon in this armor, was used by the Lord Jesus against Satan (Luke 4:1–13). The living Word is powerful, effective, and instructive (Heb. 4:12; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

7) **Praying Always** (Eph. 6:18): Prayer opens the channels between us and God. In the midst of battle, we as believers must keep in constant communication with our Leader for directions and encouragement. Our prayers for one another are important and effectual (James 5:16).

Ps 91:11-12

1 For he orders his angels  
to protect you wherever you go.  
2 They will hold you with their hands  
to keep you from striking your foot on a stone.

1 cor 15:33-34

“do not be misled: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’ Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning ; for there are some who are ignorant of God – I say this to your shame.”

Hebrews 10:26-30

Dreadful thing to fall into the hand of the living God.

Proverbs 13:20

<sup>1</sup>Holy Bible : New Living Translation. 1997 (Ps 91:10-12). Tyndale House: Wheaton, Ill.



## The Three Kingdoms Your Kingdom

“He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.”

2 Timothy 2:20-26

“In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord our of a pure heart. Don't; have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their sense and escape from the trap of the devil who has taken them captive to do his will.”

1 Peter 3:

<sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered<sup>d</sup> for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you<sup>e</sup> to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit,

Prov 11:16a

“A kindhearted woman gains respect...”

FRUIT:

- a.) Love (agape) : **1 COR. 13** It grows thru feeding it patience, kindness, seeks truth, protects, trusts, hopes, preservers...sans the envy, boasting, rudeness, self-centeredness, quick temper, record-of-wrong keeping. 1 Cor. 13:4-7



## The Three Kingdoms Your Kingdom

- b.) Joy (chara.khar-ah'): **JESUS BAROMETER** These grow thru spending time in Christ's presence. Joy is our barometer, the measure of time spent with Christ.
- c.) Peace (i.ray.nay) **SET AS ONE AGAIN** is the application of joy to our lives circumstances.  
Philippians 4:4-7 "Rejoice...And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your heart and your minds in Christ Jesus."

The above three SHOW UP in our spiritual relationship (w/Christ)

- d.) Patience (makrothumia) **ENDURANCE** (patience + endurance = perserverance)  
Babystepping, keep facing the direction of Jesus Christ. Active waiting. Philippians 3:12-14
- e.) Kindness (chrestotes.khray-stot'-ace) **KINDNESS DOES** usefulness, moral excellence in character and demeanor  
Kindness is shown and developed as we spend time w/others. Kindness is in the dna of forgiveness.  
Ie. David and Mephiboseth 2 Samuel 9:1-13
- f.) Goodness (agathosune.ag-ath-o-soo'-nay) To **GENEROUSLY BENEFIT OTHERS**: Physically, Emotionally, Spiritually w/o thinking of what it will cost you in \$, reputation, or time.  
Virtuous, Generous, Beneficial  
What do we do for Goodness to grow? Focus on His goodness to us and pass it on. Psalm 103.
- g.) Faithfulness [emunah /em-oo-naw/] **STABLE**, Stick-to-it-ness  
What do we do for Faithfulness to grow? Just Keep Doing It...

**h.) Gentleness (prautes) FAIR MERCY HUMANE (Humanitarian acts)**

**1932** ἐπιείκεια [epieikeia /ep-ee-i-ki-ah/] translates as "clemency" once, and "gentleness" once. 1 mildness, gentleness, fairness.

**The Art Of Ego Displacement...(Process, can look like weakness to the world)**

- i.) Self-control (egkrateia.eng-krat'-i-ah) temperance, from: strong in a thing, masterful  
**SELF MASTERY: What you grant access to**

**restraint:** the ability to control your own behavior, especially in terms of reactions and impulses  
Pro Active Warfare

Controls the whole fruit tree.

Book end w/Love which is the motivator of the Fruit (stimulates)

Self control directs that stimulation, motivation it gives it boundaries

An amazing set up

Dissecting a parable:

- Understand what a parable is and why Christ used them.  
A parable is a lesson from daily life that teaches a spiritual truth.  
Jesus often told parables to provide an understanding of life, especially life in God's kingdom.  
Thirty-five percent of all gospel teaching is written in parables = Effective teaching method.
- Ask: Does this truth require belief/thoughts captive only or is there an immediate action (Praxis: belief induced action) that goes with it?

Jesus used parables to teach about God's Kingdom.

42 stories told by Christ to illustrate a truth.

Additional 33 brief sayings and metaphors.

Christ, himself, identified certain stories w/the Kingdom and the gospels identify these as parables.

### **Principles for Kingdom Living**

Ask: Does this apply for this age or the age to come?

This age: *What does this require of me today?*



## The Three Kingdoms Your Kingdom

1. *Thought life only...understanding that shapes my beliefs.*
2. *Thought life & Praxis*

*KEEP HERE OR PUT SOMEWHERE ELSE?*

*Do you know Your Heavenly Father is constantly looking throughout the earth to see whose committed heart needs strengthening? 2 Chron. 16:9*

*“For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”*