

KINGDOM: Wordly-mindedness Is Not Kingdom-mindedness

➤ Remember:



The Kingdom Trumps Religion & Culture

➤ Remember:

EVERYTHING MUST CHANGE

...to align with the Kingdom

➤ Remember:

Romans 8:6 (NKJV) – *For to be carnally minded is **death**, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

(1) ‘Carnal’ doesn’t mean ‘evil’ or ‘sinful’. It means ‘temporal’, ‘earthly’ or ‘worldly’. Carnality has to do with the ‘flesh’, the senses, the base human nature, things of weakness, rather than things of the Spirit.

Carnal refers to being a non-Spirit-led human being. It means following the ways of the world and the ways the unregenerate operate.

Being in the Kingdom is NOT about having more Kingdom knowledge – that’s NOT the Tree of Life, that’s what religion produces. Being in the Kingdom is about being Kingdom citizens – thinking Kingdom, speaking Kingdom, enjoying the Kingdom, focussing on the Kingdom, working in the Kingdom, extending the Kingdom, etc. Like Jesus when he was the Messiah, our whole life must be about the Kingdom. You can tell the reality of this in a person by: listening to their conversation; watching how they spend their time and money; and noting their desires.

“Earthly or worldly temporal thinking is simply minding the things of life from the mindset of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. It is the normal pattern of thinking in most all of the people on earth including many Christians.”¹

(2) The natural things must submit to the things of the Spirit for those in the Kingdom. In fact, it is an all-or-nothing situation. We must be totally Kingdom-minded, just as Jesus of Nazareth was. We can't hang on to family and friends and homes and money and possessions. Jesus told his listeners:

Matthew 10:37 (NKJV) – *He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.*

Matthew 19:29 (NKJV) - *And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife² or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.*

He told his disciples:

Luke 9:3 (NKJV) – *And He said to them, “Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece.*

Matthew 6:25, 30 (NKJV) - *Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?...Now if God so clothes the grass of the field...will He not much more clothe you...*

We already have had this ‘drummed’ into us:

Mark 8:34b-37 (NKJV) – *Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?*

Why? Food, clothing, money, resources – these are all supplied by the King for those in the Kingdom who implicitly trust him. He must become our Resourcer. If he gives more than the basic needs, it is as a blessing to be used for the Kingdom and its citizens, not squandered on SELF.

(3) Other things must change too – our looks for instance. We are not to be concerned about how others see us. What we wear, how we do our hair, whether we have a beard, etc., should be about utility – i.e. comfortability and functionality. Fashion: is out in the Kingdom. Making ourselves visually appealing: is out in the Kingdom.

Anything to do with the praise of men, the approval of men, the acknowledgement of men, or the acceptance of men is not a Kingdom way of operating. Peer-pressure is about the approval of man. Being fashionable is about the approval of man. Beautification is about the approval and praise of man. This is all about SELF, and the self must ‘die’. SELF has no place in the Kingdom.

Remember this:

Mark 12:38-40 (AMP) - *Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes [displaying their prominence], and like to receive respectful greetings in the market places, and [they love] the chief seats in the synagogues and the places of distinction and honor at banquets, [these scribes] who devour (confiscate) widows' houses, and offer long prayers for appearance's sake [to impress others]. These men will receive greater condemnation.*

1 – Ron McGatlin “The Next Move of God” (canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/the-next-move-of-god.pdf)

2 – NU-Text omits ‘or wife’.

What about this:

1 Peter 3:3-4 (NKJV) – *Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.*

I had a discussion with someone recently who challenged me about the drab clothes I wear. They told me that I don't represent the King by not dressing smartly – I think they were thinking about dressing like royalty. Their reference to wearing nice clothes smacks of the approval of man and I won't have anything to do with it. As a young man I used to find my identity and the approval of others in my fashionable clothing. I have been delivered of that failing and won't go back to it.

Oh, BTW: The greatest honour in Heaven is to wear 'The Cloak of Humility' which is a drab garment.³

"I can tell you what God your teen serves by looking in their closet!"⁴

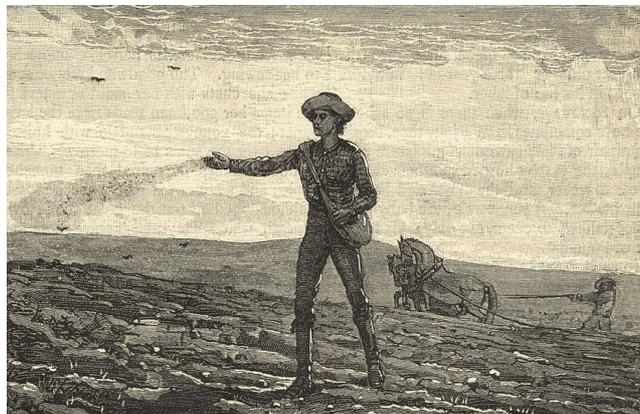
On another point, the way I have my hair and beard is something between me and my Lord. It is **NOT** about being noticed. In fact, it's the opposite – "can I cope with the disapproval of man".

(4) When you are Kingdom-minded you're always contemplating Kingdom knowledge while you live the Kingdom life. Unlike the church system phenomenon of 'hearing but not learning', the Kingdom process is one about learning so that there is maturity. Kingdom people listen with their spirit and allow the Spirit to teach them. They read and reread teaching so that it cements itself in their natural mind. This assists in their 'repentance' – changing their mind so they think God's way, his Kingdom way.

Kingdom people are so focussed on growing up in Father's family that they are wanting to learn – not just hear. 'Hearing only' is called "tickling the ears" and is a sign of the Last Days. It's worth reading about that at this point:

2 Timothy 4:3 (AMP) - *For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine and accurate instruction [that challenges them with God's truth]; but wanting to have their ears tickled [with something pleasing], they will accumulate for themselves [many] teachers [one after another, chosen] to satisfy their own desires and to support the errors they hold,*

(5) Remember the sower?



3 – This is described in: Rick Joyner (1996) "The Final Quest" p:56

4 – Tommy Hilfinger, Branding Expert, Marketplace Leaders webcast advertisement

The word (*rhema*) deposited in a person can not take effect because of:

- Hard-heartedness
- Having no place for it to stay
- The cares & distractions of the world
- Persecution
- Troubles and worries of life

(6) Follow the cloud – there’s life in the new wine and in the new move of God.



(7) Here’s a new Kingdom imperative for you:

“Be responsible for yourself only”

That’s besides your family, societal, employment and Kingdom responsibilities. That must be your focus for training, maturing, changing, etc – not other people.

Laurence

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