

# The Kingdom Worldview Sees Long-Term

It is so important to have a total Kingdom worldview, not a religious or even a Christian worldview. We are called to align ourselves with heaven, not the world system ('Babylon').

Bringing our mind into line with the Kingdom gives us a Kingdom mind-set, a Kingdom worldview. We see everything differently through the eyes of these 'glasses' because we are looking at circumstances from heaven's perspective.

Scripture tells us that we are seated in "heavenly places"<sup>1</sup>. Most Christians read this and get a warm fuzzy feeling when the phrase effectively contains much more than our adoption as sons with the promise of eternal life with Father. Being seated in heavenly places with the King means that we are able to see things from his perspective – from 'up there' looking down on the world. Along with the mind of Christ that we are to mature into, our heavenly seating allows us to partner with heaven because we think the way he thinks, we hear what he hears, we sense what he senses and so we speak what he wants us to speak and do what he wants us to do. Our mind and spirit are aligned with him in oneness.

There is much we need to 'chuck out' from the way we have thought in our religious past. Derek Brown gives some insight into some of these changes that will come from a Kingdom worldview.

*"Seeing the Kingdom changes the way we look at the world. For many Christians, the world is a hostile place, and they are grateful they are only 'passing through' on their way to Heaven. The Bible talks about the world in a different manner. In the Kingdom parables, Jesus describes Himself as the owner of the world (Matt 13:36–38). After the resurrection, Jesus declares that all authority in Heaven and earth is now His (Matt 28:18–20). Paul adds that the world is the inheritance of the seed of Abraham (Romans 4:13). So rather than feeling uncomfortable in the world, Christians should affirm the earth is the Lord's (Psalm 24:1) and should be about bringing the Kingdom of God into every expression of human existence on this planet.*

*To add to this negative view of the world, many Christians believe we are living in the last days. When you add a sense of alienation from the world to a confidence the world will end soon, it's only logical that solely immediate mission objectives like evangelism and church planting are worth pursuing. Other considerations are both a waste of time and counter-productive to the promotion of the gospel. In fact, some go so far as to say working for community transformation could delay the second coming.*

*To my mind, a Kingdom perspective is different. Irrespective of their eschatology, a Kingdom person thinks and plans long term. They are concerned about future generations and the legacy we are leaving to our children and grandchildren. They see the earth as a realm that can experience the redemptive power of God's grace, so they work to see this realised. They don't do this in an unrealistic, utopian way, but in an intentional, focused application of the principles of the Kingdom."<sup>2</sup>*

*"Rediscovering the Kingdom has powerful consequences in the way we view our responsibility as Christians in the world. It helps us understand that God loves the world – not just the individuals within it, but all that the world represents. Our role as His people in the world is to help create a better world that comes closer to reflecting the heart and character of God. This means we will plan and think long term, and that our efforts will be broad based across all the issues that challenge God's will being done on the earth."<sup>3</sup>*

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1 - Ephesians 1:20

2 - Derek Brown (2013) "There's Got to be More: Rediscovering the Kingdom", Inspire Pub. Co. p:67-68

3 - Derek Brown (2013) "There's Got to be More: Rediscovering the Kingdom", Inspire Pub. Co. p:70