



How things fit together in the Kingdom

Life in the Kingdom is a Balancing Act

When our King sent a message from heaven to John on the Isle of Patmos, calling his 1st Century people to come out of Babylon, it was so they didn't come under the same curse as the 'city'.¹ Babylon, of course, was a metaphor for the world system of their day, just as it is today.¹ Although his instruction was an echo of OT prophetic calls,ⁱⁱ it wasn't prophetic in itself. The readers of John's letter understood the call because of their Jewish-Christian background.

NOTE: 'World' in the NT has two meanings for us: (1) The Earth; & (2) The world system. 'World' translated from αἰὼν (αἰών),ⁱⁱⁱ refers to 'the present age'. Translated from κόσμος (κόσμος),^{iv} it can mean 'the world and the universe' or 'the world system'.² It's critical that these are correctly identified when reading scripture.

In the 21st Century, how are we to respond to that call?

Firstly, the call in Revelation was to 1st Century believers, not us. That means we need to hear what the rest of the NT has to say about it before we can respond appropriately.

Secondly, each of us need to hear what the Spirit is saying to us about it so we have his discernment.

(1) SCRIPTURE: In the NT we find these instructions about the world system and coming out of it:

- Father loves the world^v, but that must be qualified by understanding that he was referring to the world he created, including humanity. He didn't want to "save" the world system because that's man-made and therefore a product of The Fall, and it has the enemy's input. Anything that's not of the Kingdom or part the original creation will be eliminated ("burnt up"^{vi}) during the Restoration of All Things, just like it will be with our worldly works.^{vii}
- Jesus stated that we must not love our lives or the world, as it's counter-productive to life in the Kingdom.^{viii}
- We have been chosen to come out of the world system and to be regenerated,^{ix} which is why the world system^x and worldly people hate us. He has not chosen us to be taken out of the world (off the Earth) so we can go to Heaven and be safe. Jesus (our prototype) was "not of this world"^{xi} and neither is his Kingdom,^{xii} but he came here to impact the world. Our task is the same, as we copy our prototype.³
- Loving the world causes believers to desert both Jesus and his people.^{xiii}
- If we love the world, then we don't have Father's love in us.^{xiv} The two are mutually exclusive.
- We need to be like our King, not like the world, so we can have confidence when our life is judged by him.^{xv}
- The Gospel message is so powerful that it will up-tip our society.^{xvi}
- We are heirs of the world (the Earth), through our faith, not the world system.^{xvii}

1 – "What is Mystery Babylon?" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/What-is-Mystery-Babylon.pdf

2 – Strong's definition: "Orderly arrangement, i.e. decoration; by implication, the world (in a wide or narrow sense, including its inhabitants, literally or figuratively (morally))" www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g2889/kjv/tr/0-1/

3 – "Jesus our Prototype" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Jesus-our-Prototype.pdf

- We are not to conform to the world system (our society).^{xviii}
- The wisdom of the world is worthless to have and to live by.^{xix}
- The things of the Kingdom, which are foolish and shameful to the world system, will be what destroys the system.^{xx} We should not put our trust in those things.
- We are to stay in the world, without letting the system corrupt us.^{xxi}
- We are to be in the world, but not caring for and following society's ways.^{xxii}
- We are to live in the world in a holy manner and with no hidden agendas.^{xxiii}
- We are to be dead to the world system so it has no impact on us or control over us.^{xxiv}
- Living like the world does is living according to the enemy's ways, which is taking on the spirit of the world, not Holy Spirit.^{xxv}
- We've have the Spirit, so we can live supernaturally. We don't need the spirit of this world.^{xxvi}
- The world's philosophy and deceit are it's basic principles. These will try to cheat us out of our inheritance.^{xxvii} We are to die to these even though we live in the world.^{xxviii}
- We are to deny ourselves what is unrighteous and what the world lusts⁴ after.^{xxix}
- One of our spiritual activities is to look after the needs of orphans and widows, and to keep ourselves unpolluted by the world system.^{xxx}
- Being a friend of the world system will make us an enemy of the Trinity.^{xxxii}
- Desiring the things of the world is a corrupting influence for us.^{xxxiii}
- Everything that's part of the world system is NOT part of the Kingdom.^{xxxiii}
- The world's goods that we possess are to be shared with those in need.^{xxxiv}
- Our faith brought us into the Kingdom and it allows us to overcome the world system.^{xxxv}

(2) SPIRITUAL INSIGHT: Our King has been constantly telling us how to live as sons in the world. All we have to do is to learn to hear from him and to augment that by reading or listening to what he has said prophetically to others. It's that simple. Doing that will allow the Spirit to give us all the information we need.

Unfortunately, many Christians go overboard with not being a part of "the world". In most cases their actions develop out of legalism, which is not a Kingdom way of living at all. Having been there myself, I know that there's a strong pull to live out of the OT. That's Old Covenant, not New Covenant. The Old Covenant has nothing to do with us in any way shape or form, so that's not the way to go.

You'll easily identify legalism because it manifests in ways like this:

1. Keeping the Sabbath
2. Living a prayer & fasting lifestyle (one that causes them to lose the fruit of the Spirit)
3. Taking Communion often
4. Abstinence from righteous activities that the world engages in – e.g. staying celibate, being married but refusing to procreate, having a well-paid job
5. Living a Spartan (austere) lifestyle when circumstances don't determine it
6. Fully engrossed in church activities and refraining from engaging in other righteous activities
7. Keeping the Ten Commandments
8. Keeping Jewish feasts

4 – Strong's definition: To desire, covet, to set ones heart on something, long for something.
www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g1937/kjv/tr/0-1/

9. Becoming a Christian Zionist

10. etc.

These activities are forcefully defended by the person against all opposition, to the point of being aggressive and relationship-breaking. Commensurately, there is no freedom or liberty in their life, which is a characteristic of genuine sonship.

We need to put a wide gap between ourselves and legalistic behaviour as it's the enemy's way to trap us and eliminate our involvement in the proper expansion of the Kingdom.

In regard to spiritual insight, here's just a few things we've been told recently by our King concerning how to live in the world:

- Life is a gift. It's righteous and should be enjoyed and lived to the full.⁵
- Have fun, friendship and adventure in our lives.⁶
- Loving the things of the world will negate our efforts at achieving complete oneness with the Trinity.⁷
- Deal with negative emotions when they arise.⁸
- Monitor ourselves so we stay more on track.⁹

There are many more, but of importance, is to remember that the life we live is actually a gift to us. Life is good, not evil, because Father only gives us good gifts.^{xxxvi} Even so, we have a religious propensity to see life itself as evil, when there's actually no basis for believing that. That's why we are to receive the gift of our life with thanks, dedicate it to the King and enjoy it. It's illogical not to enjoy the gift of life, but we must do it without life becoming our priority or our focus.

The warning for us is that the world will always be trying to pull us back into it. This usually happens covertly so we don't know we're slipping into the ways of the world system. That's why we need to pastor each other by keeping an eye out for other's best interests.¹⁰ Many have lost their way and drifted from the path¹¹ they were on of molding and shaping to become the New Jerusalem¹². Unfortunately, this is the state of the Christian church as a whole. Here's a message from the King about that:

"I kept asking the Lord these two questions: "Where are we?" and "Where are we going?" But I didn't expect Him to show me what He showed me..."

In the first part of the dream, I was in a busy marketplace (or shopping mall) and the Lord was with me. At first, we just simply stood and watched people going in and out of different stores and vendors. "Who are these people?" I thought to myself. Knowing what I was asking, the Lord replied, "This is the church".

I noticed them going into fashion stores, hair salons, nail salons and other beautification services: and while none of those things were bad, I felt the grief on the Lord's heart and that something was amiss. As I tried to figure out what I was sensing, the word "comfort" came to me. This was the "comfortable

5 – That's what Father told me. See points in these documents:

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/The-Word-May-2017.pdf

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/The-Word-August-2018c.pdf

6 – "Fun, Friendship and Adventure"

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Fun-Friendship-and-Adventure.pdf

7 – "Loving the Things of the World Negates Complete Oneness"

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Loving-the-Things-of-the-World-Negates-Complete-Oneness.pdf

8 – e.g. "Deal With Irritations" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Deal-With-Irritations.pdf

9 – "Evaluate Where You Fall Short" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Evaluate-Where-You-Fall-Short.pdf

10 – "Pastor Each Other" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Pastor-Each-Other.pdf

11 – READ: Rick Joyner's "Fire on the Mountain" prophetic series

* #1 "The Path" (2013) www.amazon.com.au/Path-Fire-Mountain-Book-ebook/dp/B00GHTL2R8

* #2 "The Valley" (2018) www.amazon.com.au/Valley-Fire-Mountain-Book-ebook/dp/B07HY8LBMJ

12 – "What is the New Jerusalem?" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/What-is-the-New-Jerusalem.pdf

church" who had created and chosen a lifestyle of comfort over the cause of Christ. **This was the church who couldn't hear the cries of the lost¹³, or the broken, because they were distracted.**

What happened next took me by surprise. Suddenly, one by one, each store shut their doors and asked their patrons to leave. These "comfortable" believers were instantly cut off from their comforts and unable to access them.

This part of the dream was sobering but it spoke so loudly of the things which God is doing. This is what I believe God is bringing about and where God is taking us:

- The church is heading into a greater shaking and a separation from our dependency on earthly things.

- We are going to see doors shut in areas that have been distractions to us and have made us numb to what is taking place around us.

- God is going to highlight more than ever before our need for dependency upon Him rather than on the systems of man." ¹⁴

How do we live appropriately in the world system?

If we are to live in the world, but not be polluted by it, there must be a way to do it, rather than hiding away in churches or becoming a recluse out of the fear of back-sliding. The 1st Century believers and the Apostles were able to do it, so what's the method?

That's a critical question because we can't impact the world for the Kingdom if we're not out there being in contact with people. Jesus spent a lot of his time with "sinners", prostitutes, outcasts and the dregs of society, without being tainted by their sin. He did it to impact them with the Kingdom, so we can do it successfully too.

It's done by doing all these and more:

1. Have your intimate relationship with the Trinity as your highest priority
2. Aim for deeper oneness with the members of the Trinity
3. Have an undivided heart for our Beloved
4. Live out of the Internal Kingdom
5. Stick with the King as your only provider and the resourcer of all your needs
6. Drink of the Living Water and eat of the Living Bread every day
7. Live out of your identity as a son
8. Focus on the King, the Kingdom and the King's plans
9. Don't fear anything – including 'falling' into sin
10. Eliminate all religion and legalism
11. Allow yourself to be reprogrammed
12. Mature in your sonship
13. Live in the right balance between the Kingdom and the world

When your spiritual life is right, **the key is balance**. As we are to live in both systems on Earth (and taking into account that life itself is righteous), achieving the right balance between the two will keep us 'even-keeled'.

13 – This is speaking from his religious perspective, as evangelical training puts a lot of emphasis on this. However, Paul put more emphasis on the widows, orphans and fellow believers who were 'hard up'.

14 – Nate Johnston (4-10-2021) "From the Tomb, the Giant Killers Are Emerging"
charismamag.com/blogs/propheticfire/from-the-tomb-the-giant-killers-are-emerging

It's easy to get over-balanced in life if we choose the wrong priorities.

- We can become so engrossed in our spiritual lives (read “church lives” if it applies to you) that we fail to live up to our righteous family responsibilities.
- We can easily put too much emphasis on loving our Beloved and fail to love our spouses and family.
- We can focus too much on our employment because we have lots of bills to pay, so that we fail to maintain our peace, rest and contentment.
- We can focus so much on “the lost” that we abandon the Kingdom assignments we've been given.
- Etc, etc.

How do we know when we're in the right balance?

For that, we need to be able to hear what the Spirit is saying so he can let us know when we're unbalanced. We must think before we speak or act, so we can check everything with our spirit. Here's our King's instructions on that:

“Take the time to think things through. You will be inclined to make assumptions that will lead you down the wrong path. Push your potential decisions out to discover their logical conclusions before you act. Stay within the parameters of walking in the Spirit and keeping righteous boundaries.”¹⁵

In addition to that, we should check our heart every day to see where our allegiances lie. It's our heart that causes us to be unbalanced because we follow our heart's desires. This is why the King wants an undivided heart from us. If our heart is his, and not our activities for him or our personal desires, we'll go a long way to rightly live as sons in the world system.

Balance is determined by where your heart is

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- vi – 2 Peter 3:7, 12 (the spiritual meaning of this destruction)
- vii – 1 Corinthians 3:13, 15; 1 Peter 1:7
- viii – John 12:25
- ix – John 15:19
- x – John 8:23
- xi – John 8:23
- xii – John 18:36
- xiii – 2 Timothy 4:10
- xiv – 2 Timothy 4:10
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- xix – 1 Corinthians 1:20; 3:19
- xx – 1 Corinthians 1:27-28
- xxi – 1 Corinthians 5:10
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- xxiii – 2 Corinthians 1:12 (TPT)
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- xxxv – 1 John 5:4
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