



How things fit together in the Kingdom

The Kingdom's Joy Economy

We're used to hearing about our nation's economy, and sometimes about capitalist economy when it's analysed in juxtaposition to socialist economies. On a different level, those who've been involved in the Charismatic or Pentecostal movements, there's also Heaven's economy, the type that Israel lived under. Even so, living in the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth, we need to live within the Kingdom¹ and be supported by the Kingdom's economy.

There's a problem, though, when the term 'economy' is used in context with the Kingdom, because it's normal in our educated society to immediately think of an economy as financial. (I've covered this topic in relation to capitalism already,² so it's not a focus of this teaching.)

Looking at 'economy' from a non-financial perspective, the term also refers to "the arrangement or mode of operation of something"³, especially a system of interaction and exchange.⁴ In this respect, it's definition also includes "the orderly interplay between the parts of a system or structure"⁵.

The Kingdom is a system which has structure, so it fits the above definitions. Therefore, looking at the Kingdom's economy from that aspect, we find that it has a joy economy. This means that it functions on joy, not on duty, obligation or any form of legalism. Whereas 'money makes the world go 'round', the Kingdom doesn't function on money. Money is involved in many Kingdom operations on Earth, but it's not involved in how the Kingdom itself functions.

From the Kingdom view-point, sons should have more joy in being and doing, rather than in money and what money can buy. There should be greater joy in Kingdom life, while living on Earth, than making a profit or becoming financially rich.

To take all that onboard, it will require a paradigm shift for most believers, one that will have to come from revelation, not teaching. Teaching (like this), however, should produce a conducive mind that will accept such a revelation when it's downloaded.

An outworking of such a shift in the way we operate will see changes in the way we live our lives. For example: We'll work for the pleasure of working or for the enjoyment of serving others, rather than working to make a living. To achieve that mode of working will require us to live out of the Internal Kingdom⁶ where all our personal needs are being met, otherwise, the first instance of financial problems will see the joy evaporate.

The Kingdom principle behind working for enjoyment, rather than money, is 'we're blessed to be a blessing'. Our motive, then, is to bless others, not parasitize or use them, while the Kingdom provides our every need – and more.

When it comes to finances, the Kingdom has a thanksgiving or gratitude⁷ economy, one that is joyful. It's

1 – "Live Totally Within the Kingdom" (5-9-2023) canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Live-Totally-Within-the-Kingdom.pdf

2 – "Capitalism and the Kingdom" (6-8-2023) canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Capitalism-and-the-Kingdom.pdf

3 – 'Economy': Meaning #3a www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/economy

4 – 'Economy': Meaning #3b www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/economy

5 – 'Economy': In British English, meaning #8 www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/economy

6 – "The Internal Kingdom Life" canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Internal-Kingdom-Life.pdf

7 – "Gratitude is an Essential Attitude for Sons" (30-7-2023)

much easier to be joyful when the Kingdom is your resource, eliminating financial misery from your life. Under that regime, the Spirit trains us to be content with what we have, which allows joy to remain unsmothered⁸ by fear, jealousy and regret.

Joy, thankfulness and gratitude are positive attitudes which allow the Kingdom to work even more in our lives, for our benefit. Of course, negative attitudes result in the opposite effect. Such negatives include criticism, quarrelling, warring against others or verbally attacking them. These have no place in the joy economy, where instead, we operate restoratively with everyone. That's the way Jesus of Nazareth operated, so we can simply take his role modelling as our guideline.⁹

For the joy economy to fully operate in a person's life, there are a number of things needed to support it, such as:

1. Their identity being firmly in their sonship
2. Knowing they are unconditionally loved
3. Making gratitude and thankfulness dominant in their lives
4. Trusting Father fully to supply all their needs
5. Trusting Father that their life is in his hands and whatever happens he will see that good comes out of it
6. Being in a place of peace and rest, rather than striving and performing
7. Having legalism eliminated from their thought-life and mode of living

IMPORTANT: It's essential to understand that joy is not the same as happiness. Happiness is emotional and transient. Joy, on the other hand, is deep-seated and pervades our whole being. People chase happiness all the time when they can have constant joy – but there's no comparison.

For revision of this topic, watch the following very short teachings:

VIDEO: Mike Parsons "Joy Economy" youtu.be/g31lgBQRHt4

VIDEO: Mike Parsons "Rejoicing in Thankfulness" youtu.be/iipdW-2z9bo

Laurence

5-9-2023

(www.CanberraForerunners.org)

COPYRIGHT

This document is free to copy, republish and distribute, but only 'as is'. It is free to quote from at length.

All Canberra Forerunners' documents are licensed under

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License

Quotes are the copyright of their authors.

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/Gratitude-is-an-Essential-Attitude-for-Sons.pdf

8 – www.yourdictionary.com/unsmothered

9 – “See Me As Your Prototype” (24-3-2015) canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/33b-See-Me-As-Your-Prototype.pdf