

Preface

The Bible is, in fact, a Kingdom Story. God is the King, and all who believe in Him are His subjects.

However, a rebellious angel and his followers became an opposition force and ensnared mankind into sinning and turned away from God. A history of treachery was thus begun. God in His mercy, has been calling mankind, through His servants to come back to Him and be His subjects again.

In the Old Testament era, God expected His chosen people, the Israelites, to be His witnesses in the world, “...*all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*” (*Gen. 12:3*) Yet the Israelites failed to accomplish God’s will.

During the New Testament period, God, through His Church (Christians) continued to call mankind to return to Him: “*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...*” (*Matt 28:19*). The Church can not fail because Christ is the head of the Church. By following Christ the Church will gain victory and the Gospel will be proclaimed in the whole world before Christ returns (*Matt 24:14*). This is our Lord’s promise.

Given this mission, how much the Church should strive to be Kingdom-minded and emphasize Kingdom growth. Church growth is actually for Kingdom growth, for the Church is only an intermediate stage of process that leads to God’s eternal Kingdom.

May the Lord give His Church today a deeper understanding of the “Kingdom Concept.” Let the whole Church work in unity, regardless of label, organization, or self-imposed divisions, and call all peoples to repent, to come back to God’s Kingdom. Heaven broke its silence when the seventh angel sounded his trumpet: “*The kingdom of the world has become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.*” (*Rev. 11:15*) Amen!

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