

Maintaining a Kingdom Mentality

Mark 9:1-13

“The Discipline of Kingdom Mentality means we are under the reign of God-past, present, and future! He is in charge of all things, sovereign in Heaven and in our will. He is our identity and our LORD personally and collectively. In contrast to Fullness, which means to be led and ruled by Christ and to allow Him to discipline and run our lives, the Kingdom Mentality is more about how we lead and manage our churches. As a discipline, this means we are to realize and “practice” our faith and church life “as if” He is The Sovereign Rule (well He is!), so that we are willing to grow closer to Him and to lead others to Him. We cannot lead where we have not been. Nor, can we grow a healthy church when we are not healthy ourselves. Contrary to how many churches have a tendency to be run, Christ is Sovereign-not the leaders, elders, or pastor(s). Fullness helps us be healthy and a Kingdom Mentality helps our church be healthy!”
Dr. Richard J. Krejcir

- I. Jesus main concern for his disciples was that they acknowledge and submit to his sovereign rule over their hearts and lives, which is his main concern for all of us who know and love him. Submission to his Lordship is essential if we are to listen to him and do as he say. This obligation is not to come from a mere sense of duty, but from a heartfelt desire to “walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God (Col. 1:10). It is easy enough to read a Scripture like this and acknowledge its importance, but very difficult to put into practice if we are not willing to fully submit to him.

Mark 9:1

βασιλεία (basileia) = kingdom Royal power, kingship, dominion, rule. Not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom, of the royal power of Jesus as the triumphant Messiah, of the royal power and dignity conferred on Christians in the Messiah's kingdom. A kingdom, the territory subject to the rule of a king. Used in the N.T. to refer to the reign of the Messiah (Strong's Concordance)

- II. Our main concern as believers is to deepen our awareness of what it means for us to live under Jesus' royal power and rule, i.e., to live with a kingdom mentality. The disciple's level of faith was directly affected by their understanding of "the royal power of Jesus as the triumphant Messiah." Likewise, our level of faith is contingent upon our understanding of the reign of Christ over our lives. We, by our very nature, i.e., by being born again, reflect the Lord's glory. How we submit to his lordship will either dim or brighten his glory as representatives of the gospel.

Mark 9:2-7

Exodus 33:12-18

Exodus 34:29-35

2 Cor. 3:7-18

Matt 5:17

Luke 9:30

Isa. 53:5

δόξα (dóxa) = glory (majesty, magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity, grace) A thing belonging to Christ. The kingly majesty of the Messiah. The absolutely perfect inward or personal excellency of Christ. (Strong's Concordance)

2 Cor. 3:17-18 *Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*

- III. The transfiguration was a spiritual catalyst meant to deepen the understanding of who Jesus is to the men he chose to reveal the fullness of his glory. It was also meant to help them understand more fully what the transforming power of the gospel would mean for them. Like with the disciples, Jesus is constantly revealing his glory to us in increasing measure. His desire in doing that, is to put in us a thirst for the transforming power of the gospel to change us more and more into his likeness so that we might represent him well in this world.

Mark 9:8-12

John 17:24 *Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.*