Intro Into the Kingdom and Warfare

Introduction

- A. These are some topics that are important for Christians since the theme of the Kingdom is one of the primary topics in the Bible.
- B. It is also important because Believers are engaged in a Spiritual Battle/Warfare.
- C. This lesson is an introduction to the subject. We will cover this more in depth in a later session called Spiritual Warfare.

The Kingdom

Question: What does the bible mean when it uses the word, Kingdom?

- 1. The word kingdom comes from the Hebrew word "Mallku" and the Greek word "Basileia." It means realm, authority, dominion, and rule. It carries the connotation of a King or sovereign that rules over a region, country, or area.
 - The Kingdom of God is mentioned over 70 times in the New Testament. Mostly in the four Gospels.
 - When the Bible refers to the Kingdom of God it can refer to a culture, lifestyle, or ethic of those that are a part of the Kingdom of God that live under the authority of God's reign.
 - Ultimately, we must remember that all authority is given by God. John 19:10-11, Romans 13.

Question: What are the two kingdoms that the bible talks about?

- 1. The Kingdom of God & Heaven. We come into the Kingdom of God by being born again through Faith & Repentance. Matthew 18:3, John 3, Romans 10:8-9.
- 2. The Kingdom of the World & Darkness. Daniel 7, Matthew 4:8, Luke 4:5, Colossians 1:13, Revelation 11:15
 - God's purpose is that the Kingdom of God (rule of heaven) would be on earth like it is in heaven.

 God is expanding his Kingdom rule on the earth. He works through the Church to undo the works of the enemy and to expand his Kingdom rule through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Kingdom of God consists of several aspects:

- 1. God is the Sovereign King of the universe. He is omnipotent = All powerful
- 2. The rule of Christ on earth and in heaven and the expansion of his Kingdom
- 3. The blessings that flow from living under Christ's rule
- 4. The subjects, ambassadors of his Kingdom, namely the Church
- 5. The return of Christ, final defeat of the enemy and establishment of the Kingdom on earth

Spiritual Warfare ***We are in a War***

"The Christian life is not just sweetness and harp music. Every committed Christian will find warfare to be part of his total experience." Derek Prince

Question: Why is there Spiritual Warfare?

- 1. The fall of Lucifer (Satan/Devil). Isaiah 14:12-16, Ezekiel 28:13-19
 - Satan is deceived and known as the great deceiver. His ultimate desire is to be like God. His goal is to set up a counterfeit paradise with himself seated as the God of this age. He's inspiring fallen mankind to build a godless civilization on Earth through a global economic, ideological, cultural, and political system united in rebellion against God.
- 2. The fall of Mankind (Adam & Eve). Genesis 3, Romans 5:19

Question: What is the answer to the Fall?

Jesus. Life, death, burial, resurrection and return of Christ, Genesis 3:15, 1
 Corinthians 15, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- 2. The Gospel of the Kingdom, Salvation & New Birth Experience. Matthew 4:23, John 3, Romans 10:9-10
- 3. Final Judgement, New Heavens & New Earth, and New Creation. 2 Corinthians 5:17, Revelation 20:10.

Question: What does the Bible mean when it talks about Warfare?

1. Clash of Kingdoms. Colossians 1:13-14.

Question: Who are the enemies that the Lord and Believers are waging war against?

- 1. Satan (Devil). The word Satan means the Accuser, Adversary. 1 Peter 5:8
 - It's important to remember that Satan is a defeated foe. God is sovereign, all-powerful, in control, and will accomplish his ultimate purpose. Satan is not an equal power to God.
 - The Bible identifies him as the "God of this age." 2 Corinthians 4:4
- 2. Principalities & Demons. Ephesians 6:12
- 3. The Flesh & Fallen Sin Nature. Genesis 4:7 (Cain & Abel), Romans 6:12-14

Question: Who does the Warfare?

- 1. Jesus. Revelation 19:11 Jesus is King & General over his army.
- 2. Believers. Ephesians 6:12, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, 2 Timothy 2:3-4 We are soldiers in his army

Question: What is the basis for victory over Satan, sin, and the world?

"For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world our faith." 1 John 5:4

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57 "The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord."

Proverbs 21:31

"They overcame him by the blood of the lamb, the word of their testimony and they didn't love their lives even unto death." Revelation 12:11

 Believers have victory over Satan and his kingdom through what Jesus accomplished for us on the cross!

Question: Where is the battleground?

** The battle is both internal and external**

- 1. Our Minds & Thoughts. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- 2. Our Flesh & Sin Nature. Romans 6, Hebrews 12:4
- 3. The World (Present evil world system). 1 John 2:15-17, 1 John 5:19, 2 Timothy 2:26
- 4. The Spiritual Realm. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

Conclusion

- 1. The Kingdom of God is advancing, and we are called to extend his Kingdom on the earth.
- 2. Jesus has already won the ultimate victory over Satan, the world and sin. John 19:30, Colossians 2:13-15
- 3. Every Believer is in a Spiritual Battle/Warfare. Ephesians 6.
- Our victory over Satan, sin, and the world is through what Jesus accomplished for us on the cross, not by our own works or righteousness. We are waging war from a place of victory not from defeat.