

LESSON 4 The Gospel

REVIEW

Lesson 1 we established God's Plan was his Glory to fill the earth through Adam as expressed ruled over the earth as His representative.

Lesson 2 we revealed that the Kingdom is God's plan
From creation to the church and born again believers -

His purpose is the manifestation of the Kingdom - rule, reign, and authority dominion.

Last Lesson was how Jesus brought about the believer's restoration as the image and representative of God.

Now look at the Gospel & Kingdom and it's application to our lives.

THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM

Jesus' first message was the Gospel Kingdom

- Mar 1:15 *And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.*
- Mat 4:17 *From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*
- Mat 4:23 *And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.*
- Gospel = good news
- What good news was Jesus proclaiming?
 - Remember definition of kingdom: rule, reign, dominion

He was proclaiming the Good News of dominion, reign, rule or authority of God/heaven being restored

~~Mar 1:15 the time has come~~

~~15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.~~

~~Repent mans to change your thinking~~

~~The authority, reign of God is at hand, change your thinking and believe the good news!~~

How was the gospel or good news of the kingdom to be manifest?

Through the redemption and restoration of fallen mankind

Fall of Man

(ONLY IF NEW PEOPLE PRESENT) touched on first lesson

Rom 3:23 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

- For all have missed the mark and come short of the form or appearance that attracts attention and brings recognition of God

- Lk 19:10 *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*
 - Context of the gospel is the good news that God's image, kingdom and dominion has been restored!
 - Save – sozo - also be whole, heal preserve
 - heal, be made whole. – Strongs
 - to make well, heal, restore to health – Thayer's
- That which was lost – one word – NT:622 to destroy (utterly – vines) i. e. to put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to, ruin: Thayer's

What was destroyed, God's image and glory on this earth

In our last lesson we discussed how Jesus came to restore what had been destroyed: God's image on the earth

You And His Kingdom

God has chosen to manifest his Kingdom plan today through his church.

What must grasp is that the church is not buildings or organization it is the born again believer that is commissioned as his representatives to demonstrate His kingdom.

- *“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son” (Colossians 1:13).*
 - *“translated” is methistemi and means: “to transpose, transfer, remove from one place to another: change of situation or place” (Thayer's).*
- *“That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory” (1 Thessalonians 2:12).*
 - The word *“called”* here is *kaleo* and it means, *“to call anyone, invite or summon”* (Vine's).
 - we have been invited or summoned the Kingdom!
- *“Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: (Hebrews 12:28*

These and many other texts show that born again believers are placed into the place of kingdom demonstration or authority.

The New Birth

So How Do we receive the Kingdom?

How are we transferred from one kingdom to the next?

In a dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus, a religious leader of his time, we are presented the method of our access to the Kingdom. Jesus stated:

In 3:1 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do

these signs that You do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' NKJV

- "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3)
- "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5)
- *again* original greek word *anōthen* = from above, from a higher place
 1. of things which come from heaven or God

Jesus' statements clearly tell us that our new birth experience not only allows us to see the Kingdom, but also allows us to enter into the Kingdom.

At our born again experience we change citizenship from the kingdom of darkness into God's kingdom.

New birth is more than salvation; it is restoration of God's plan for mankind

- It is about being restored back to God's original purpose for mankind - his image and representatives.

How Are We Born Again?

Jesus stated this born again

- "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5)

Water & Spirit

Jesus mentions born of water and of the spirit - How?

We see by biblical example Jesus taught and the disciples obeyed was water baptism in Jesus name and it was the baptism of the Holy Spirit

Jesus Instructions on Baptism

- *Luke 24:44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, 46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in **his name** among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

Disciples obeyed

- *Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

Examples

Samaritans

- Acts 8:12 *But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.*
- Acts 8:16 *(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)*

Cornelius Household

- Act 10:48 *And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.*
- Acts 19:1 *And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, 2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. 3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 4 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. (KJV)*

Baptism

Identification with Jesus and Image regained

Baptism Buried with Jesus

Rising in his image and newness of life

- Rom 6:3 *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*
- Col 2:10 *And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: 11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with [him] through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.*
 - Buried with who?
 - A grave marker has the name of the person buried there
 - I we are buried with Jesus His name must be over the grave
 - If we are buried with Him in baptism, then his name must be over the baptism.
- Gal 3:27 *For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*
 - put on - [G1746]
 - as to put on clothes
 - to envelope, hide in
- Luk 24:49 *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued[G1746] with power from on high.*
- Eph 4:24 *And that ye put on[G1746] the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*

- New man created after God
- *Col 3:10 And have put on[G1746] the new [man], which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:*
 - Put on new man renewed after image of one created
- *Act 22:16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*

Not on power point

- ~~*1Pe 3:21 The like figure whereunto [even] baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:*~~
- ~~*believeth not condemned*~~
- ~~*Jn 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*~~
- ~~*tie in with believe and is baptized*~~
- ~~*Mar 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.*~~

Spirit

Jesus Prophecy Holy Ghost

Jn 7:37 In the last day, that great [day] of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet [given]; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

back to luke

Lk 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Act 1:4 And, being assembled together with [them], commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, [saith he], ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Act 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the

Spirit gave them utterance. ... 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: ... 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. ... 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, [even] as many as the Lord our God shall call.

View in relationship to restoration of image

Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10 And if Christ [be] in you, the body [is] dead because of sin; but the Spirit [is] life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with [him], that we may be also glorified together.

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also [in the likeness] of [his] resurrection:

1Co 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, [and] become the firstfruits of them that slept. 21 For since by man [came] death, by man [came] also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

The new birth is essential for the following reasons:

- Salvation
- Restoration of God's image
- Discipleship
- Sonship