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**“Understanding the Power of Kingdom Righteousness”- Kingdom 5**

**Matthew 6:31-33 Ampc.** *“Therefore, do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For **your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.** <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”*

God’s number one priority is seek first the Kingdom, not seeking a living, not seeking food or what we are going to wear or how we are going to pay for this or that. He said don’t take anxious thought about these things

**First** means priority, first things first, **the kingdom**. And the **second** thing is the **righteousness** of God. When these are at the top everything will be added.

**Righteousness** means right positioning with government authority; right standing; righteousness is the ability to stand in the presence of God without a sense of fear, guilt or condemnation, seek right positioning with that government and when we do everything else will be added.

When we seek these two things then all the things will seek us. **Seek means to desire to know.** **Desire** to know first the kingdom of God. **Pursue** first the kingdom. **Study** first the kingdom. **Explore** first the kingdom. **Understand** first the kingdom. **Learn** first the kingdom, **consider** first the kingdom. **Have a passion** to know the kingdom first. **Diligently dedicate** yourself first to the

kingdom and His Righteousness, **Then all these things will come to you..**

**A kingdom** is a government with a domain; a governing influence on the earth; seek first the governing influence of heaven on earth. A governing influence of a king, impacting that territory with His will, purpose, and intent, producing a culture and moral standard for His citizens. A kingdom is a country not a religion. We are citizens, sons, royal priest, Adam lost a kingdom not a religion.

**Kingdom and dominion** come from the same Hebrew words, Mashal, mamlikah, malkut, radah. The Greek word is basilera. These words mean- govern, rule, control, master, manage, have authority, to lead; to dominate with His nature; kingdom; responsible for reigning over a designated territory. With the inherent authority to represent and embody as a symbol, the territory, resources and all that constitutes the kingdom.

**Genesis 1:26-28 NKJV** *"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them **have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over <sup>[g]</sup>all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> Then **God blessed them**, and God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that <sup>[h]</sup>moves on the earth."*

**Image** -tsekem- essential nature; copy; characteristic; true substance

**Likeness**- is exact duplication in kind. The exact duplication is a little lower because it's a duplication. To function like He does (**Ephesians 5:1**)

**Dominion**- radah- govern, rule, control, master, manage, have authority, to lead; to dominate with His nature; responsible for reigning over a designated territory (What territory are we called to?)

Here is how we dominate. **To Bless**- to empower to prosper, empower to excel, empower to succeed, empower to increase. **Be Fruitful**-productive, to bring forth, to create (**John 15:16**). **Multiply**-reproduce your productivity, increase in number, increase in development; **Replenish or fill**-distribute, resupply, renew, restock, to fill; **subdue**- keep it under or control the market and have **dominion**. This is our mandate.

**He didn't give man religion but relationship and dominion**

Earth was supposed to be a colony of heaven. We are supposed to make earth like Heavens culture. Adam had a government assignment not religion. When he sinned, he lost rulership, dominion, the kingdom. That's why Jesus first assignment, was this

**When Jesus showed up, He didn't come with a message of religion but of relationship with the king and the kingdom**

**Matthew 4:17 NKJV** *"From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for **the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**"*

He wanted them to change the way they thought about Him and themselves. He came to restore what Adam lost in the Garden  
**We have a dominion spirit in us and a dominion mandate on us.**

All through out the gospel He kept telling them, the kingdom has come

Seek first to get back into God's government, your rulership, your citizenship, your relationship and His Righteousness. Every government or country has laws, systems in which they function. No president can determine a law.

In a kingdom it's His law. When a king speaks it becomes law. In a democracy there is all kinds of law or authority in different places but in a kingdom the king is law. He is the court, the law, the head, the ruler, the cabinet, etc.. a king doesn't need a person's opinion. He doesn't need our opinion when it comes to His law.

**The Bible isn't a democratic book.** The Bible is about a king and His kids. It's not a democracy or a republic. You don't vote on this book. In religion including Christianity you can vote, just ask the religious organizations who have voted on homosexual ministers? That isn't kingdom, that's violating the king's law

**HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS: Righteousness** means right positioning with government or authority; right standing; fellowship and right standing with authority, legal lawful alignment with authority, fulfillment of the king's requirement, seek right positioning with that government and when we do everything else will be added. God desires us to be right with Him so He sent Jesus to make us righteous. **Righteousness, is a spiritual force**, it's the ability to stand in the presence of God without a sense of fear, guilt or condemnation.

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21 Ampc.** *"Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is **a new creation** (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come!"*

**New creation** is in GK- a new species of being. Something that has never existed before. Just like a child is born and there never has been anyone like him before. The reason for this new creation is so the fellowship between man and God could be restored. You are not remodeled you are new.

*<sup>21</sup> For our sake He made Christ [virtually] to be sin Who knew no sin, so that in and through Him **we might become** [I<sup>9</sup>]endued*

*with, viewed as being in, and examples of] **the righteousness of God** [what we ought to be, approved and acceptable and in right relationship with Him, by His goodness].”*

We have learned that man was made in His image and likeness and was given dominion. He was right with God and created to be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth. The first thing man saw was Gods face and the first thing he heard was be blessed and walk in your dominion. **Adam knew he was made right, in right standing with God.**

Our gift of righteousness connects us to God and empowers us to discover our gifts of righteousness, our redeemed gifts, our original gifts

When satan saw Adam, He saw God’s man, God’s ruler, reminding him he isn’t in charge

This crown of glory that Adam had was symbolic of what God is and what God does, what His nature is, His attributes is, His Characteristics is and what His power does, His authority does, His faith does.

When Adam sinned, he was stripped of his authority, His nature changed, his faith was perverted to fear, he went from right to wrong, from life to death

He ate and they were separated from God

**Romans 3:23 NKJV** “<sup>23</sup> *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”*

**Sin** means to miss the mark

**Romans 5:12 NKJV** “<sup>12</sup> *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned”*

**Death** means separation from God

**Romans 6:23 NKJV** *“<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but **the [b]gift of God is eternal life** in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

The wages of missing the mark is separation from God and that is what happened to Adam. Because of his disobedience we all sinned and came short but through Jesus we are made right again.

**Romans 5:17 Ampc.** *“For if because of one man’s trespass (lapse, offense) death reigned through that one, **much more surely** will those who receive [God’s] overflowing grace (unmerited favor) and **the free gift of righteousness** [putting them into right standing with Himself] **reign as kings in life** through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).”*

We are made new creations, completely born again, our spirits are reborn and we are made right with God because of Jesus and now it is up to us to bring our mind and body in alignment with with our spirit.

**Romans 12:2 Ampc.** *“<sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but **be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind** [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].”*

Notice how we are made right spiritually. We are righteous which gives us the ability to be in the presence of God with out a sense of fear, guilt, condemnation, etc.. but its up to us to bring our bodies as a living sacrifice and change our thinking then we discover the will of God for our lives. Paul tells the christians in Ephesus that were righteous, but they needed to put off the old man and put on the new man.

**Ephesians 4:22-24 Ampc.** *“Strip yourselves of your former nature [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which*

*characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from delusion;<sup>23</sup> And **be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude],<sup>24</sup> And put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image, [Godlike] in true righteousness and holiness."***

We are made right through Jesus and that happens instantly but the changing process is a choice to be constantly renewed in our mind which will bring about a new life. **New thinking brings a new life.** Renewing our mind to the truth of who we are in Christ starts the process of us living out our righteousness. We start to do different things because we are righteous but not doing them to try and become righteous.

Think about this. As a citizen of our country, you have the bill of rights which are lined out in the constitution and as long as you obey the laws of the land then you are in right standing with the government.

Well, in the kingdom of God, you are a citizen and because of the the covenant made between God and Jesus we are in right standing with God and we have rights. Because of accepting Jesus we have certain rights in the kingdom whether we partake of them or not that's up to us.

**2 Peter 1:3,4 Ampc.** *"<sup>3</sup> For **His divine power** has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).<sup>4</sup> By means of these He has bestowed on us **His precious and exceedingly great promises**, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and **become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.**"*

- We fell short of the glory but He is calling us back to our position of glory. Through the promises we partake of our

new nature, our righteousness. We learn and partake of our rights.

God wants us to learn to live in the kingdom and to partake of all that Jesus died to give us and what God originally created for us. We learn how to live from this place of righteousness through relationship with Him.

- Jesus was an example of a man operating as righteous and we have His same righteousness. We are an example of righteousness.

### **DEVELOP THE RIGHT MINDSET ABOUT RIGHTEOUSNESS!**

**Hebrews 10:1,2 NKJV** *"For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. <sup>2</sup> For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once [a]purified, would have had **no more consciousness of sins.**"*

Under the old covenant the animals they sacrificed couldn't take away sin, it just covered their sin until next year then they would have to do it again. Because of what Jesus did, our sins are not covered but totally taken away and we should have **no more consciousness of sin**. This is one of the benefits of 1 John 1:9. This was written to Christians, not sinners, in order to stay in fellowship with God.

**1 John 1:9,10 NKJV** *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us."*

**1 John 2:1,2 NKJV** *"My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup> And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world."*

He has done away with our sin and wants us to focus on what His blood has done instead of our sin. If we continue to focus on the sin then we will continue to sin but if we focus on the power of the blood and the reality that we are righteous then we will start to live in our true freedom.

A lot of religion focus on the sin, their short comings and they devalue their self and talk about how unworthy they are and that they are just old sinners, worms and don't deserve anything and those statements are true apart from Jesus but if you are saved by grace then **your nature has changed and you are righteous.**

**Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV** *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."*

**Ampc. 10** *"For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), [d]**recreated** in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live]."*

-the good life is lived when we know we are right and we start thinking right and choosing right

**1 Corinthians 15:33,34 NKJV** *"Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." <sup>34</sup> **Awake to righteousness,** and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame."*

Be aware that you have been made right with God through what Jesus did.

**Philippians 2:5 Ampc.** *"Let this same attitude and purpose and [humble] mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus: [Let Him be your example in humility:]"*

Jesus operating in His authority, dominion, His rulership and relationship, was humble. And we have a right to live the same way. Jesus was right, in the book of Acts the first church was made right and they did what Jesus did. People were saved, healed, delivered because they knew they were righteous. (**John 11:40-43**)

**Righteousness is a force that empowers us to overcome in Jesus name.** I heard one man share how Jesus overcome satan in three areas and we overcome him the same way.

1. Jesus used the word of God in His earthly ministry, in the wilderness and overcame satan, with "it is written"  
**Matthew 4:1-11**
2. Jesus overcame satan at the death, burial and resurrection. He stripped satan of the keys of death, disarmed him and made him nothing **Colossians 2:15, Hebrews 2:14,15**
3. He gained the victory in the new birth. He made a man that was wrong, right again. This is a great victory, sin made righteous. **2 Corinthians 5:21**

**We are approved, acceptable, in right relationship with Him**

**Ephesians 1:4 Ampc.** *"Even as [in His love] He chose us [actually picked us out for Himself as His own] **in Christ before the foundation of the world,** that we should be holy (consecrated and set apart for Him) and **blameless** in His sight, even **above reproach,** before Him in love." (This is because of the blood)*

**Colossians 1:22 Ampc.** "Yet now has [Christ, the Messiah] reconciled [you to God] in the body of His flesh through death, in order to present you holy and faultless and irreproachable in His [the Father's] presence." (**The blood makes us beyond criticism**)

**The righteous get their prayers answered! That is our right!**

**James 5:16-18 Ampc.** "<sup>16</sup> Confess to one another therefore your faults (your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins) and pray [also] for one another, that you may be healed and restored [to a spiritual tone of mind and heart]. The earnest (heartfelt, continued) **prayer of a righteous man** makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].<sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human being with a nature such as we have [with feelings, affections, and a constitution like ours]; and **he prayed earnestly** for it not to rain, and no rain fell on the earth for three years and six months.<sup>18</sup> And [then] **he prayed again** and the heavens supplied rain and the land produced its crops [as usual]."

Remember Elijah wasn't born again like you and I. We are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and God answers our prayers

**1 Peter 3:12 Ampc.** "For the eyes of the Lord are upon **the righteous** (those who are upright and in right standing with God), and His ears are attentive to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who practice evil [to oppose them, to frustrate, and defeat them]."

**We are sons, heirs, in right Relationship with our Father. That's our right!**

**Romans 8:14-16 Ampc.** For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.<sup>15</sup> For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)!

*Father!<sup>16</sup> The Spirit Himself [thus] testifies together with our own spirit, [assuring us] that we are children of God.<sup>17</sup> And if we are [His] children, then we are [His] heirs also: heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ [sharing His inheritance with Him]; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory.*

### **We have internal and external peace. That's our rights**

**Isaiah 32:17 Ampc.** "And **the effect of righteousness** will be peace [internal and external], and **the result of righteousness** will be quietness and confident trust forever."

### **We have the right to rule and reign in this life. That's our right.**

**Romans 5:17 Ampc.** "For if because of one man's trespass (lapse, offense) death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive [God's] overflowing grace (unmerited favor) and **the free gift of righteousness** [putting them into right standing with Himself] **reign as kings in life** through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One)."

When we are **recreated** then God wants us to **renew** our mind to the truth that we are **righteous**. Begin to **develop at righteous mind set** and when we become awake to Who is on the inside of us we start to become confident that He is helping us and we win in life.

### **We have so many rights that He wants us to receive. Its our right!**

**Psalms 103:2-8 Ampc.** "<sup>2</sup> Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul, and forget not [one of] all **His benefits**—<sup>3</sup> Who **forgives** [every one of] all your iniquities, **Who heals** [each one of] all your diseases,<sup>4</sup> Who **redeems** your life from the pit and corruption, Who **beautifies**, dignifies, and crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercy;<sup>5</sup> Who **satisfies your mouth** [your necessity and desire at

*your personal age and situation] with good so that your youth, renewed, is like the eagle's [strong, overcoming, soaring]!"*

**Hebrews 4:14-16 NKJV** *"Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need"*

When we know we are righteous we come to The Father boldly and we aren't moved by what we see or feel but by the word of God. Because you are right you become to know that you belong in the presence of God and His Spirit is in us. We start to gain confidence in our right standing and the rights that we have in Him.

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