

Introduction:

- In our journey through the Kingdom of God theme this year we have looked at the mystery of the Kingdom, what is the kingdom, the characteristics of the kingdom, the priority of the kingdom, what a king is, and Jesus King of the kingdom.
- Here is what the study is doing to my own heart. The more I read about the kingdom, the more I contemplate the kingdom, the more I see kingdom in the scripture: the more I realize its reality on the earth and what Jesus is after in me. I also realize that I am really a part of God's plan now and not just trying to endure until we all get to heaven. I am not just plundering hell to populate heaven. I am plundering hell to dominate earth! That is what the study of Kingdom is doing to my heart.
- This morning I want to look at another important person in the Kingdom and how He fits into God's plan. I want to look at the Holy Spirit and the Kingdom of God. How does Holy Spirit relate to Kingdom and what is His purpose in it.
 - We know it is the Father's kingdom.
 - We know the Son came to redeem us in order that we be positioned to take dominion in the earth now through Jesus Christ, God's Son. The King has all authority. We are subjects of the King! Our lives are not our own. (Lordship)
 - We know that the Holy Spirit was sent by the Father to accomplish a mission just as the Son was sent by the Father to accomplish a mission.
- IE. I had a dream a few weeks ago that I have been sharing. In the dream I am clothed in white lying on my side and watching as a hand is smearing oil all over me. When I awoke I heard the Lord say, "I am anointing my body." It is an experience that God intends the body of Christ to have.
 - In scripture, Jesus is called the Christ. The word Christ means 'anointed One' or Messiah. Those words are titles that point to an experience. He is called the Anointed One not because He came from heaven that way. He is called the Anointed One because He received an anointing through an experience that the Father desired Him to have.
 - The anointing that Jesus received gave Him the equipment needed in order for Him to live beyond human limitations. He was man (limited) and fully God (without sin).
 - The anointing is what connected Jesus the man to heaven/the divine and empowered Him to destroy the works of the devil. Acts 10:38
 - Anything that opposes that anointing, denies that anointing or rejects that anointing is of the spirit of the anti-christ. (Anti-anointing).
- God's desire is for His church to walk in the anointing!

I. Something Greater Is Here

- A. *""I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he is!"* (Matthew 11:11, NLT) I want to connect Holy Spirit and Kingdom.
1. John the Baptist was the greatest man to have ever lived. These are Jesus words. I remind us that both of our guest speakers have brought this word to us this year. Apostle Andres and Dan Mohler.

2. But, the least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater. (greater - Gr. megas - meaning great or very big. Outside the norm. The least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater, bigger and even outside the norm of JTB.
 3. It is our relationship with the Holy Spirit that enable us to surpass John. John wanted the baptism, the anointing of the Spirit! That is part of the reason he wanted Jesus to Baptize him. He had seen the Anointed One in the Spirit and wanted the Holy Spirit and Fire that he preached in announcing the coming of the Messiah!
- B. Jesus, in declaring these words, draws a line in the sand: *JTB was the greatest of all men who ever lived.*
1. He directs our eyes to a Kingdom location called (greatest man). That location sets a standard of greatness up to that point. It is important that we see this. He is the greatest, yet we have no known miracles that JTB did. He is the greatest though he has no know wonders like Abraham, Moses, David or the prophets.
 2. With this outlandish statement, Jesus is attempting to get us to see ourselves as heaven sees us. IE. Abraham, Moses, David, Elijah, JTB all soldiers of the kingdom of light.
 3. It is here that Jesus adds: *"But the least in the Kingdom of heaven are greater than he."* The Least are now greater! There is now a new breed of soldiers! A new and greater warrior of the Kingdom of Light.
 4. Jesus is not talking about people in heaven as being greater. He was talking about a spiritual realm coming into the earth. We thought it was about getting us to heaven. He says it is about getting heaven in us to take over!
- C. Something Greater. *"I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not worthy even to be his slave and carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."* (Matthew 3:11, NLT)
1. **Someone greater is bringing something greater:** Holy Spirit and Fire! This is for the least of all the saints! (*Unlearned men who had been with Jesus*)
 2. The baptism in the Holy Spirit for His people has been His goal since the beginning!
 - a) Joel 2:28 The pouring out of God's spirit on all flesh.
 - b) Ezk 36:26-26 Give you a new heart and a new spirit. You shall dwell in the 'promised land.'
 3. The baptism in the Holy Spirit makes a lifestyle available to us that JTB did not even have access to. He was the greatest of all men but the now, the least in the Kingdom of God are greater! We want to please our King and our King has given us the equipment to accomplish that. Take dominion by the Holy Spirit - over our flesh, over sickness, over demons.

II. The Goal of Greater

- A. What is the goal of those greater than JTB? The Moravians said it well, "To win for the Lamb that was slain the rewards of His sufferings." The goal is to win! Win at loving! Win at living! Shining as beacons of hope and light in this world. The goal is dominion. Dominion over sin. Dominion over sickness. Dominion over everything that opposes the Anointed One! With the Holy Spirit I am equipped to fight for my King! I am a part of His army. I am under His dominion and He is Good!

1. The goal is not heaven. Heaven is a benefit. The goal is to shine brightly in a sin darkened world bringing the light of the Glory of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people. (2 Cor 4:4)
 2. The goal is to bring Freedom and life to people and glory to God!
 3. Our King holds the keys! And He is in us through the Holy Spirit and in His name we have access to use the keys!
 4. The goal is to fully enter the promised land or the land of promise(s).
 5. IE. Bill Johnson used a great illustration. He said, "Success with an immediate goal makes it possible to reach an ultimate goal.' He compared it to bowling. In bowling you have little markers on the floor. You use them to aim. You can hit that marker but get no points. Points are only given when you hit the ultimate goal...the pins at the end of the lane." Salvation is a marker that allows to us to get lined up for the ultimate goal of dominion! The baptism in the Holy Spirit makes this lifestyle possible.
- B. For Moses the goal was not to get out of Egypt. That was just a marker. The ultimate goal was the promised land. But you could not get to the ultimate goal of the promised land without getting out of Egypt.
1. The blood of the lamb freed them from Egypt. And when they passed through the Red Sea it was a shadow of John's baptism. *"In the cloud and in the sea, all of them were baptized as followers of Moses."* (1 Corinthians 10:2, NLT) Baptism of Moses - freedom from bondage a departure from sin.
 2. When they finally got the bank of the Jordan river they would cross over thus enterer another baptism. In the wilderness they fought wars and won but in the promised land they entered as a new breed of warriors! Marched around a walled city and it falls. Jehoshaphat sends the singers in first to win a war. Gideon sends 30,000 troops home and fights with 300 fire carrying trumpet blowers and they win
- C. The greater goal is the promised land (the land of promises). God makes that Promise land possible. We pay the price to live there. You see, He will give us the Holy Spirit and fire if we will give Him something to burn.
1. Too many Christian are content to live on the bank of the Jordan rather than cross over to the land of promise.
 2. Think of what you miss out on if you do not fully enter in! Leaving Egypt was a tremendous breakthrough but it was not the goal. The goal was something greater...the land of promise.
 3. When we 'burn with God' we exude light and Light drives out darkness.
 - a) Notice the correlation between the Spirit of God and the Kingdom of God. They are different but connected. *"But if I am casting out demons by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God has arrived among you."* (Matthew 12:28, NLT)
 - b) The Spirit manifests the Kingdom! He enforces the Lordship/authority of Jesus.
 - c) Holy Spirit marks the territory of Jesus with awesome FREEDOM! *"For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."* (2 Corinthians 3:17, NLT) Where ever Jesus went He was bringing freedom and life to people. We are christians, we are anointed ones that do the same...drive out darkness.

- d) IE. How hard does darkness resist when a light comes on? Does it argue until the light finally wins out? No, the triumph of light is NOW! This is the manifestation that Jesus is looking for His followers to be in the earth.

III. Measuring The Greater

- A. The 'Greater' happens when we overflow with God. We do not want to just be filled with God. We want to Overflow. That is how fullness is measured in the Kingdom...by overflow.
1. The Holy Spirit is released through faith and love. *"...What is important is faith expressing itself in love."* (Galatians 5:6, NLT)
 2. The anointing is an expression of the Holy Spirit.
 3. God wants us to overflow with Holy Spirit just as they did in the book of Acts.
- B. The 'Greater' in His presence! We have the promise of God in us, Holy Spirit. And we have the promise of God with us! The greatest gift ever received by us is the Holy Spirit himself. When we know the value of His presence we will enter into such realms of intimacy with God that it will naturally result in overflow
1. *"As a result of the apostles' work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter's shadow might fall across some of them as he went by. Crowds came from the villages around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those possessed by evil spirits, and they were all healed."* (Acts 5:15-16, NLT) It wasn't Peters shadow but Holy Spirits presence in Peter that brought about the miracles and healings. Overflow.
 2. Just like Jesus: *"Wherever he went—in villages, cities, or the countryside—they brought the sick out to the marketplaces. They begged him to let the sick touch at least the fringe of his robe, and all who touched him were healed."* (Mark 6:56, NLT)
 3. The reason for the promise of His presence is to accomplish the impossible! The presence of the living God makes all things possible! God did not save us for heaven He saved us to change the world! Ie. Vision: Jesus knighting me and then grabbing my collar and throwing me into the darkness. I was surrounded but beaming with Light!
- C. Loving people is Christs agenda. Loving people is the Anointed One's agenda. And it is to ours too. When I surrender my agenda to His that make me available to be used by Him. When I let Him be King of the Kingdom, He becomes my Lord. And I become a Word filled weapon of Light!

Conclusion:

- Invitation to present ourselves as a sacrifice Holy Spirit and fire may consume us!
- Invitation to those wanting salvation.

"God answered, "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."" (Exodus 3:12, NLT) *"This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."* (Joshua 1:9, NLT) *"The Lord said to him, "I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man.""* (Judges 6:16, NLT) *"Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* (Matthew 28:20, NLT)