

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

(John 14:26, NKJV)

- God has placed us here on earth at this time with a purpose
- This purpose cannot be accomplished without Him

“But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.” **(1 Corinthians 2:9–10, NKJV)**

The Holy Spirit searches for things that have never been seen or heard by human eyes and ears

The truth is we are hosting the very presence of God

- Not just for miracles
- He desires to bring the atmosphere of heaven through a person
- This forces a shift in the atmosphere over a home, business, or city

““Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.” **(John 14:12, NKJV)**

By design, Heaven is to influence earth

- We know that the devil came to kill, steal, and destroy
- The effects of his influence are measured by death, loss, and destruction
- Jesus came to give life – **John 10:10**
- In doing so, He came to destroy the works of the devil – **1 John 3:8**
- We cannot attribute death, loss, and destruction to God
- Good God – Bad devil

Freedom will only be experienced in the measure to which we see God as being good

- Jesus rebuked a storm
- If that storm was the will of God then Jesus was fighting the will of God
- A kingdom divided cannot stand – **Mark 3:24**

Jesus brought the atmosphere of heaven to earth and taught us to do the same

“But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.” (**Matthew 12:28, NKJV**)

- Here we see that Jesus brought life to one who was blind, mute, and demon-possessed
- Jesus drove out the demons by the Holy Spirit
- Giving that person an encounter with the Kingdom of God
- That encounter brought liberty and freedom

The effects of Heaven on earth are practical, gradual, and increasing wherever faith is exercised

Jesus often performed a miracle and then announced that His Kingdom was present or near

- A manifestation that brought an end to the devil's work
- Followed by the abundant life that only Jesus can give
- In essence, fulfilling His prayer – *“on earth as it is in heaven”*
- There is no sickness there, so there should be no sickness here
- There is no sin or torment in heaven, and there should be none here

We should never again question what God's will is in a given situation if it involves sin, sickness, or torment

- It may be challenging, but it is not complicated

Three ways His Kingdom is manifest

Power – Purity – Culture

Power over the powers of darkness

- Jesus met every dark situation of lack, sin, torment, and disease with a redemptive solution
- He never made an excuse for the problem nor let it remain
- He always settled the issue by demonstrating what the Father's Will looked like

Jesus never withheld a miracle because of weak faith

- Don't tell someone they didn't get their miracle because their faith is small
- Jesus never did that
- Faith is not examined by turning inward to look for a problem
- Faith is found by fixing our eyes on Jesus!
– **Hebrews 12:1-2**

“If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.”
(John 10:37–38, NKJV)

- Without miracles there is no access to the life of faith He desires of us
- When people see the touch of heaven come to earth it is redemptive but also requires a life change
- Miracles are to bring us to repentance

Power over personal flaws and weaknesses

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” **(Galatians 5:16, NKJV)**

“And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.” **(Galatians 5:24, NKJV)**

- The power of God is for personal freedom, that our character would be consistent with His power

Power for endurance in difficulty

The hardest part of living in a culture of miracles and the manifestation of His Kingdom is waiting to see it manifest

- The battle is in the mind
- Many have suffered greatly for the Gospel
- They have been beaten, shot at, imprisoned, betrayed, and more
- Their miracle didn't come quickly or maybe not at all
- The Holy Spirit gives us the power to endure without blaming God

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—”

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.”

(2 Corinthians 4:7–9, 16 (NKJV))

Purity

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

(Matthew 5:16, NKJV)

The effect of Heaven is seen in my character

- It is seen when I'm quick to repent when I am wrong
- It is seen in my willingness to clean up any mess I have caused
- Sometimes we miss the chance to represent Him well in our conduct
- We are then privileged to represent Him well through our repentance

Personal Holiness is a Big Deal

- So is the corporate expression
- This is seen in how we value and cherish other people
- We have the privilege of celebrating others, treating them as Jesus treated His own

“And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

(Ephesians 4:32, NKJV)

“Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!”

(James 5:9, NKJV)

“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” **(James 5:16, NKJV)**

We cannot confess Christ but live like the devil and call it grace

The purity of Christ is illustrated in how we value one another
When people see our lives and glorify the Father in Heaven, we have succeeded

In the same way, the natural body cares for itself, so the Body of Christ must do this to illustrate the continuity of His nature, which is holiness

“because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”

(1 Peter 1:16, NKJV)

Culture

Culture is basically the values, principles, beliefs, and attitudes that influence how life is lived in a specific location

The goal is that people should be able to taste and see what it would be like to have Heaven’s culture shape the value system of the world we live in

- It seems like a huge task – and it is
- Start with our homes and the local church and go from there
- Everything in Heaven thrives because of the presence of God
- There is nothing in Heaven that exists apart from His presence

The measure of Heaven to earth is seen in the importance we place on His presence, His values, and His lifestyle

A single act does create a culture

When core values become instinctive reactions to problems or opportunities, they become the culture

Four Cornerstones of Thought to Create the Culture of Heaven

God is Good

- God is as good as He is holy
- God is credited with many horrible things because of the thought that He is God and in control of everything
- God is indeed in charge
- He could force His purposes and will on everyone, yet He chooses not to
- Therefore, He is in charge but not in control
- He has given us something called free will
- So, some things can happen that He doesn't approve of

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

(2 Peter 3:9, NKJV)

- It is God's will that none should perish
- Yet, all men are not saved

Every parent should understand the difference between “*in charge*” and “*in control*”

- We are *in charge* of our households, but not always *in control* of what happens there
- God created a world in which our wills would affect the outcome
- In turn, we are written into His plan
- If I did to my children what some people attribute to God I would be charged with child abuse
- If we want to know what the Father looks like all we need to do is look to Jesus

“Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

(John 14:9, NKJV)

Jesus rebuked a storm, if the storm was the Father’s will then the House of God is divided and will fall

- Jesus rebuked the storm because there was something demonic behind it

He also never allowed sickness to remain

- In every case that there was a willingness to come to Jesus, they left His presence healed
- When His Kingdom comes sickness and disease leave

Nothing is Impossible

We know that God alone lives in the realm where nothing is impossible – He is God! – He is infinite!

- Everything else is finite

The exception to this rule is that He made it possible for those who believe Him to experience the same reality He does

“So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.”

(Matthew 17:20, NKJV)

- Without embracing this value we live a life intimidated and somewhat controlled by the evil circumstances in life
- Without carrying the ability to address these things in Jesus name we assume that whatever happens was meant to be
- It is good to believe that God can heal
- That’s a great place to start
- Faith is one of the ways that God releases His healing grace
- It would be good to find ways to strengthen our faith
- That starts with exercising the measure we have been given

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,” **(Jude 20, NKJV)**

Jesus' Blood Paid For Everything

“So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.”

(John 19:30, NKJV)

- Hanging on the cross Jesus made one final statement
- His job was completed
- Everything that needed to be done for our eternal destiny was done at that moment
- There is nothing that we will ever need that hasn't been provided for at the cross

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” **(Ephesians 2:13, NKJV)**

You could say it will take the ages to come to barely scratch the surface of all that the blood of Jesus has afforded us

“that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”

(Ephesians 2:7, NKJV)

Each Person is Significant

It is easy to place significance on an individual who has accomplished much

- And that would be true but not the whole truth
- Every person is significant in God's eyes
- And therefore must become so in our eyes

“My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality.” (James 2:1, NKJV)

- There are times when we come in contact with someone who is perhaps even behaving in an inhuman way

We need to realize that when every person was born, someone looked at that baby with love and saw them as beautiful

- Rarely are people born in such a place of disrepair
- If they are, they are still valuable to God

Sometimes we do better at recognizing the value of someone else but struggle with our own lives

- Some of us create habits of self-criticism and self-judgment
- We are to love others as we love ourselves
- If we have little realization of our value in God's eyes, it will show in how we love others

In the King's dominion, everyone is celebrated for who they are without stumbling over who they are not

God is Good – Dream Big!

Jesus stated four times in three chapters that we could ask for whatever we wanted and it would be done for us

– **John 14:13; 15:7,16; 16:23-24**

- Remember that God reserves the right to say no to any prayer that undermines our purpose

Nothing is Impossible – Take Risks

If the Spirit of God is in us He expects us to invade the impossible in His name

The Holy Spirit is the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead

“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

(Acts 10:38, NKJV)

Jesus Blood Paid for Everything – I Owe Him My Complete Trust

We owe Jesus our trust when things do not look good or according to what I felt was promised to me

Our lives are comprised of acts of faith, as well as abiding trust

In fact, our *faith* is developed in our lives when things look different than what I planned or prayed for and we make a decision to *trust* Him anyway

- Nurturing this kind of trust is what produces Christ-like character in us
- Love and Faith are absolutes in the life of the believer
- We know that the *“greatest of these is love”*
– (1 Corinthians 13:13)
- And, *“without faith it is impossible to please Him”*
– (Hebrews 11:6)
- Our absolute trust in Him is because we truly believe that Jesus really did cover anything we will ever need

“He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”
(Romans 8:32, NKJV)

We Are Significant – Serve Well

Few people have healthy self-esteem in their place before God as a son or daughter

- Many have fallen into a trap of unbelief about their identity in Him
- Some believe it is an act of humility

A common mistake people make is to get our identity through a title or how we function in a spiritual gift

- Whenever we build our identity around a title, we create a performance mentality in serving the Lord
- Our own emotional, mental, and spiritual stability become compromised with this picture
- We are stable only when we see ourselves as a child of God

When you know whose you are you can serve from a true place of humility because you don't question your identity

“Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.” (John 13:3–5, NKJV)

- We serve well when we see that our significance doesn't come from a position
- We see no task as being too low or beneath us
- Jesus is the ultimate example of this
- When we know where we come from and where we are going we can serve and honor others well
- This is true significance

These four cornerstones of thought help to create a culture in which the people of God succeed in purpose