

LIVING THE ETERNAL LIFE NOW

SESSION ONE:
YOUR KINGDOM AND
GOD'S KINGDOM

1

FOUR GUIDING TEXTS FOR THE WHOLE SERIES

- Matt. 6:33 (and 4:17) “Seek first....”
- Rom. 5:17 “Reigning in life by One....”
- 2 Peter 3:18 “Grow in the Grace....”
- Colossians 3:1-3 “Seek the things above..”

2

WHAT IS GOD'S KINGDOM?

God's Kingdom is His effective reign over things and events. It is 'wherever' what God wants done is done. "Thy Kingdom come."

It is manifest where His goodness and power are manifest.

--But not always manifest.

3

GOD'S KINGDOM...

It is the range of His effective will.

In human affairs it is hidden and must be sought. Isa. 45:15, Job. 23:9-10, Isa. 30:20-21

The Gospel is that it is available to all.
Matt. 4:17

4

YOUR 'KINGDOM'...

- Is the range of your effective will.
What you “have say” over.
- Every person has a ‘kingdom.’
- You were created to “have dominion.”
Gen. 1:26.
- Under God. Ps. 8:6
- Think now of what you “rule over”

5

HUMAN KINGDOM RUINED

- By asserting human will over God’s will.
- The basic temptation: To take our kingdom out of God’s Kingdom and live “on our own.”
- Cain’s problem: He did not get what he wanted. Anger/murder
- Chaos of desires. James 4:1-3

6

THE HUMAN CONDITION

- Born into a world set against God.
Ruled by desire/'lust' (1 John 2:16),
frustration, anger, violence. (Gen. 6:5)
- "The works of the flesh." Gal 5:19-21,
and compare 2 Tim. 3:1-5, Rom. 1:28-32
- The human kingdom on its own.

7

REDEMPTION/RESTORATION

- The "birth from above" re-establishes "the kingdom connection"—subordination of my kingdom to God's Kingdom.
- Now "partakers of the divine nature"! 2 Peter 1:2-4.
- Learning to "reign in life through One, Jesus Christ."

8

HOW MY LIFE BECOMES AN ETERNAL LIFE

- By making all I do a part of what God is doing.
- By accepting God's action (grace) as a part of all I do.
- By acting on His behalf as His 'vicar.'
- Col. 3:17, 1 Cor. 3:12-15.