

In this meditation, we will consider building a lifestyle that is in harmony with the kingdom of God. This becomes necessary when you know the mind of God, that God is committed to building a kingdom. Kingdom establishment is the trust of the Father. He has made it known from the beginning of the books. *Genesis 1:26* says “*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth*”. Dominion is related to the word ‘kingdom’ which means king’s domain or king’s sphere of authority. This means that from the beginning when God brought man to His sphere of authority, the mandate is to manage a kingdom. Hence, a man that would be relevant in the hand of God must be well acquainted with the Kingdom life.

Now, we dwell in an environment of democracy and politics and that, in a way, has affected our ideas about how a kingdom is. Democracy promotes freedom of speech and equality and gives power to the people. This is a demonic idea of governance and that is why we are having corruption and wickedness governing the nations. The kingdom of God is not democratic. In the kingdom of God, there is no freedom of speech. In the kingdom life, everything belongs to the King: you say only what the king wants you to say, you have only what the King wants you to have, you live in the sphere where the King gives to you. You are living at the benevolence and at the mercy of the King. Whatever He gives to you, He gives for His own pleasure. When you utilize the gift, whatever profit you make belongs to Him, everything belongs to the king in the kingdom. That may sound a bit weird because we live in a democratic setting, each man owns what he owns. However, as believers who are looking for the kingdom to come, like Jesus thought us to pray; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, *Mathew 6:10*, this is our first prayer and our first request. Surely His kingdom will come. *Revelations 11:15*. If we are going to be officiating ministers or relevant in that kingdom, then we must begin to train ourselves through the help of the Holy Spirit to adopt the kingdom lifestyle, *John 16:13, John 14:26*. Jesus made it clear from the beginning, He said repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Everywhere He spoke, He spoke of the kingdom.

*Daniel 2:44* says “*And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.*” Jesus Christ came to fulfil the setting up of the kingdom, *Daniel 2:34-35* and we are to be the completion of it. The kingdom is indestructible. The nation of Israel was at some time left for other people, the Assyrians took it at some point and gave it back to them, then the Babylonians,

despite the glory and splendor of David and Solomon. However, this kingdom will not be dominated by any devil or nation, it shall reign forever. We must begin to prepare ourselves for that kingdom. It is already within us, because one key character of the kingdom is that it is a growing kingdom, *Daniel 2:35* and it is growing within us. It is the lively stone cut without hands that grew and became a mountain. We should be careful not to think that this is afar off, it is already in progress. Jesus Christ began it and it is going on the increase and it shall increase until it fills the whole earth. Blessed be the almighty God who has chosen you to be a part of that kingdom. The citizens of that kingdom are not elected into it, they are born into it. God gives birth to them, they are children of the Kingdom, *John 1:13, 1 Peter 1:23*. Seeing that God is fully committed to the kingdom and has given all that He has to actualize that, we must reorient our mind to fit the demands.

Developing the kingdom Mindset – Exodus 19:6, Daniel 4:17, Matthew 6:10-13, Colossians 1:9-13

We have been translated into the Kingdom of His son, *Colossians 1:9:13*. However, it is one thing to be translated into the kingdom and it is another thing to live like you are in the kingdom. God told Israel that He wanted to make them a kingdom of priests, *Exodus 19:6*, however they never became that. They were free, yet they were in captivity and so they kept saying that the onions and garlic of Egypt were better than the liberty they now had under God, hence they were all destroyed. *Numbers 11:5-6*. Our translation is not a thing of the future, it is a living reality. However, you can be translated into a kingdom and not manifest the character of the kingdom. Because of the long years in slavery, their minds were so bruised that the thought of the new life, as a kingdom of priests, was not connecting. Unfortunately, this is the way many believers live their lives; delivered from the kingdom of darkness, but still living as though under the bondage of the devil. This forms a lot of prayers and prayer houses, due to fear of the kingdom of darkness. Their mind has been full of all manner of lies. When speaking to another child of God, you do not need to point out their weaknesses and magnify it, that is known to God and He has factored into His plan. Speak to them about their strength. We must say what the word of God says. Yes, the giants may be in the land, this is a reality we see with our eyes. Yet, spiritual understanding will make you to see that they are meat for us., *Numbers 13:30-14:10*. Caleb said, let us go up and possess the land, we can overcome, but the ten said no, we are no match for them. What the ten said were facts, however it was not the truth. A lot of times, we get so glued to facts that we forget the truth. Only God holds the truth and the much of the truth you have in you gives you understanding and stability. You can have all the facts, but if you do not have the truth, you are miserable and easy target for the enemy. God wants a people who know that they are delivered and are no longer under the jurisdiction of the kingdom of God. **The greatest deliverance you can have is that that comes**

**by knowledge.** That one that comes by knowledge takes time. God brings it in gradually, He feeds you with truth, as you eat, you get fat and grow. This may not be visible at first, but keep eating, it is the anointing (fatness) that breaks the yoke and that deliverance is permanent, *Isaiah 27:10*. Translation happens immediately you give your life to Christ, but transformation is a process. We must give our energy and our life to this transformation process. *Romans 12:2*. It is the continuous transforming of the mind, by understanding, that sets you free to live like one in the kingdom. Know and know assuredly that everything about the kingdom revolves around the king. You have been bought with a price, you are no longer your own, the king owns you, *1 Corinthians 6:20*. In *Numbers 3:13*, God said the first born are mine and everyone born in this new testament age into the church, is a first born, *Hebrews 12:23*. By the Passover, you are completely owned by God. Hence you have no business crying over anything that goes wrong in your life. You know assuredly that all things work together for good to those who love God and have been called, *Romans 8:28*. There is no 'chance' event in your life, neither are you God's child by accident. *Ephesians 1:4*. He has made arrangement for all things you need for life and godliness and He gave it to you the day you gave your life to Christ. *2 Peter 1:3-4*. The scripture speaks of the horns coming out of his hands wherein is His strength, *Habakkuk 3:4*; You are that horn, *Isaiah 49:16*. He has engraved you in the palms of His hands. You are God's unique creation, there is no one else fashioned like you in heaven or on earth. He custom made you for His glory. You must begin to lift up your head and think like a child of God who you are. The book of *Jude 1:4* said that God, having brought the Israelites out of Egypt, destroyed them. This is very unlike our God, of whom the scriptures say there is no shadow of turning, *James 1:17*. With His love and kindness He delivered them from Egypt but took 40 years to systematically bury them in the wilderness. This was because, even though they had been delivered from Egypt, translated from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of His dear Son, their mind was still backwards. This will not be your portion in Jesus name.

The words of Jesus give us a clue on how to develop the kingdom mindset. We do not have enough time in this meditation to examine everything. We would need to go through Matthew 5,6 and 7 which talks about the character of the kingdom and Matthew 13 and 14 which talk about the mystery or the hidden things about the kingdom. Those two things we need to be conversant with. These are the things that form the lifestyle of the kingdom. Matthew 5, 6 and 7 examines how a kingdom minded person is supposed to behave, how He is supposed to interact with His brethren and with those in the world, *Matthew 5:2-13*. This is the foundation. In Matthew 13, He begins to talk, in parables, about the kingdom of God. The disciples asked Him why He spoke to the multitude with parables, but He said that it had not been given to them to understand the mysteries of the kingdom. Beloved, it has been given to you to know and understand the mysteries of the

kingdom. How do we know? Because you have His Spirit in you. *Romans 8:9*. Do not live as though it is a mystery to you. You cannot use the excuse of ignorance or not understanding. *Matthew 22:29*. It is given to you to understand. We must decide to use that which is given to us from God well, for profiting.

Examining *Matthew 5:2-13*, the sons of the kingdom are meek and seekers of righteousness and poor in spirit, etc. When you compare this with the character of the world, anyone who practices these is considered foolish, but for you to truly manifest the character of the kingdom, you should be ready for that; before God, you will be considered wise. *Matthew 5:13* says you are the salt of the earth. Salt is for preservation. It fights against corruption, it is for keeping things fresh. You preserve the souls of those around you from decadence. It is a kind of spiritual superiority. If you have a bowl of rice, they might be many grains, but just a pinch of salt can re-orientate the flavour of the rice; you do not need a bowl of salt. It is intentional that the Lord did not say you are the grain of the earth, because He knew you are going to be few. *Luke 12:32*. As a member of the kingdom, you have what is called angelic attendance, who have been given to minister to those who will become heirs of salvation. *Hebrews 1:14*. Please put your angel to work. Kingdom children do not call for a pity party, they are bold, they are confident and courageous. *Proverbs 28:1, 2 Timothy 1:7*. You are the light of the world. More on the character of the kingdom is found in *Matthew 5,6 and 7*. These are excellent chapters for regular personal reflection and prayers. *2 Corinthians 5:15*

This meditation will focus on *Matthew 13*. The kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God are often used interchangeably. They are all one and the same. Either might be used depending on what is being referred to at a particular time. The kingdom of Heaven is the kingdom of God in its growing stage or embryonic stage, it is the church. When it is fully mature and comes into the full estate of Christ, it becomes the kingdom of God. From *Matthew 13:3*, we will consider the parable of the sower. In verse 9, Jesus told His disciples that they were given the privilege of understanding the mysteries of the kingdom of Heaven, but to others, it was not given. Paul said in *1 Corinthians 2:7* spoke about this mystery as the hidden wisdom of God. As a note, they crucified the Lord of glory because they did not have the wisdom of God. If they did it to Christ, they will do it to you too. They did so not because they couldn't have done otherwise, but because it is not given to them to know. If anyone will live righteous, he will be a target of persecution. *2 Timothy 3:12*. Be persuaded about what you believe. God reveals these things to you by His Spirit. The Lord has given unto us Joy as a strength in our inner man, *Nehemiah 8:10* and that Joy we must guard else we will be weak and feeble. Praise Him out of gloomy situations and as you do so, your spirit is stirred and light shines into the things you

have read and understanding into the mysteries of God is open to you. Jesus said Blessed are your eyes because they see.

Returning to the parable of the sower, the first category spoken about are those who receive the word and do not understand. This is the beginning of the depreciation of that individual. The two parables spoken about here are connected, however, we will consider the first parable. Focusing on the parable of the sower, there is a seed, a good seed and it is looking for a good heart, a heart full of understanding. What is understanding in the light of the scriptures, the new testament? The prominent one is that understanding is declared to be your mind, your thought. *Ephesians 1:17* says the eyes of your understanding (literally mind) shall be enlightened. Also understanding is the ability to put things together to make things work. They said this of Jesus a lot of the time. Things work in the kingdom as long as it is in line with the will of the king. Whatsoever is outside the will of the king cannot work in the kingdom. It is lack of understanding that will make you to do the thing that is out of the will of the king. We must understand that the kingdom is about the king and everything is done for the pleasure of the king. *Revelations 4:11*. The bible says that God works all things according to the counsel of His will, not ours. Until we get the mind of the king, we have no right to talk or express our desires. When we have this mindset, it will enable us to walk freely among God's people. *1 Timothy 3:15*, *1 Corinthians 2:6*. Solomon prayed for wisdom to know how to move freely among God's people. *1 Chronicles 1:10*. Among His people, it is about Him. When we have this mindset, whether your counsel is accepted or not, there will be no strife; what matters is the will of God. We have the mind of Christ already, *1 Corinthians 2:16*, we just need to make use of it, by being enlightened by the word of God and walking in the light of the scriptures. *Romans 12:2*. Let the word of God guide you. Every other kind of prophecy (e.g. dreams, etc.) is a secondary witness which should be judged by the word of God.

Jesus said that he who received the seed in the good ground received the Word and understood it. The difference between the two hearts is understanding (in this case it is the ability to put things together). If a person first hears the word of the Kingdom (being born again), and he decides to stay there, not putting the scriptures together to realize that he needs the baptism of the Holy Spirit to move forward, he lacks understanding. Being baptised in the Holy Spirit will make Him to put things together and move on to the fullness of Christ. If you choose to remain in the light of being born again and not progress, very soon, that light will become darkness. Being able to put things together will keep you in the path, bringing forth fruit as you move on, this is what the Father seeks, fruits. *John 15:8,16*. The fruits you brought forth in the previous stage may look like nothing to you compared to the fruits being brought forth as you advance, but the Father

receives it with gladness. The reason why Jesus cursed the tree was not because it bore fruits and the fruits were bad, but because it did not bear fruits at all. *Matthew 21:18-19*. He said the branch that does not bear fruits are cast out. These fruits are fruits of the Spirit, *Galatians 5:22-24*. Therefore, He gives understanding. Do not allow your mind to be blocked by the devil, plead the blood of Jesus over your mind daily.

*Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created*

*Revelations 4:11*

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit!*