

Section Two: The Kingdom of God on Earth (Present)

Category A: Church – Kingdom Intelligence Report #6

Topic: The Distinction of the Mystery

Perhaps the most unique element of this phase in the furtherance of Plan B, is the emphasis upon the spiritual nature of God's Kingdom on earth. The Church Age is referred to as the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 22:2), in contrast to the nation of Israel under the Mosaic Covenant, described as the kingdom of God (Matthew 21:43). This does not mean that the current dispensation is some ethereal abstraction. Far from it. The building of Christ's Church is a tangible reality that has grown over the course of two thousand years in a manner comparable to that of a mustard seed emerging as a full grown tree (Matthew 13:31-32).

Nevertheless, the undeniable fact of the Church Age is that followers of our Savior have a dual citizenship and purpose; one that is earthly, and the other, which is heavenly (Romans 13:1-7; Philippians 3:18-21; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5). The initial expression of this new reality was given by our Lord in His High Priestly prayer in John 17:14-16, and confirmed in His testimony before Pilate in John 18:36. No wonder the author of Hebrews tells his fellow Jewish Christians, who were struggling with this monumental transition, that they were in possession of a new identity, which he confirms to them in Hebrews 3:1 –

“Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, The Apostle and High Priest of our confession. . .”

The primary focus and responsibility would now be on receiving and experiencing the spiritual blessings in heavenly places that belong to every believer in Christ; in contrast to the earthly blessings promised under the older and lesser covenant. The promise of heaven on earth is now transformed into the promise of heaven in one's heart, as revealed in Matthew 5:8 and confirmed in Ephesians 1:3 –

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. . .”

Paul elaborates upon the superiority of this new reality in giving prominence to heaven above earth, and the spiritual over the physical (Romans 14:17). This clear distinction serves as an admonition for all of us. However, no group of Christians, at any point in all of Church history, is in greater need of this reminder than those who have allowed themselves to be deceived by the devil, in these last days, through the teachings of Dominion Theology. So please take heed to the words of the apostle, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, in Colossians 3:1-4 –

“Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.”