

**I. BHOP BASIC PRINCIPLE #4: Culture of the Kingdom**

A. The Sermon on the Mount is the lifestyle for walking out the culture of God's Kingdom in preparation for the age to come.

B. The Sermon on the Mount calls us to live and declare the Gospel of the Kingdom.

**II. Living for another age**

A. Holding fast to an eternal perspective (Isa. 6:1,4; Ezek. 1:26-28; Rev. 5:1,5-8)

Col. 3:1-2 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Heb. 11:27b ... for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

Rev. 4:3a And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian.

B. He will reward those who diligently seek Him. (Psa. 33:18)

Proverbs 8:17 I love those who love Me, and those who seek Me diligently find Me.

2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.

1. He is our motivation to run wholeheartedly after Him.

“The One who taught this [Sermon on the Mount] was crushed in death so that we might have abundant life - all this because of the raging love and passion in His heart for humans.” - Nita Steiner

Hebrews 12:2 Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Heb. 5:8-9 Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

2. Each choice we make now really matters.

2 Corinthians 4:17,18 - For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us an eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

**C. The church is a pilgrim nation seeking grace for perseverance in the present age, because we belong to another kingdom. (Heb. 11:13; 1 Pet.2:9-11)**

Psalm 39:12b... For I am a stranger with You, a sojourner, as all my fathers were...

1 Chronicles 29:15 - For we are aliens [sojourners, temporary residents] and pilgrims [transients] before You, as were all our fathers...

Psalm 119:19 - I am a stranger in the earth; do not hide Your commandments from me.

Hebrews 12: 28, 29 - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

**D. We are not of this world.**

1. We set ourselves to resist the spirit of this age by living for another kingdom. (Mt. 6:19)

1 Jn 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world--the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions--is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires.

Jn 15:19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

### **III. Gospel of the Kingdom**

**A. Yeshua, the Jewish Messiah is the rightful King who is coming to rule over all the nations. He will destroy His enemies and reign in Jerusalem. He will work together with the saints to restore the earth in preparation for the Father's coming.**

**B. There's an everlasting kingdom with a king that is seated on the throne who will rule forever and ever. (Psa. 10:16; 29:11)**

Psa. 145:13 - Your Kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

"The restoration of all things comes after Jesus no longer remains in heaven." - Dan Juster

1 Tim. 1:17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 1:32-33 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Rev. 5:9-10 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

### C. Mystery of the Gospel

Eph. 3:6, 8-10 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. To preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Galatians 3:14 So that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

I think we do not attach enough importance to the restoration of the Jews...but certainly, if there is anything promised in the Bible, it is this...the day shall yet come when the Jews, who were the first apostles to the Gentiles, the first missionaries to us who were afar off, shall be gathered in again. Until that shall be, the fullness of the church's glory can never come. Matchless benefits to the world are bound up with the restoration of Israel, their gathering shall be as life from the dead."  
- Charles Spurgeon

Eph. 2:11-16 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands-- remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

"Paul believed that the spiritual power to get Israel saved would require a world movement of people from all nations. This great move of God in world revival will bring the Church to John 17 unity...through intercession and demonstration, to turn Israel to God. ...Salvation coming to the Gentiles is to provoke Israel to jealous desire for their own Messiah and the Gospel."  
- Dan Juster

**D. Major part of the mission** - the believers will provoke Israel to jealousy by their lives. Israel will cry out for their Messiah, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Lk. 13:35

1. We have a high calling to live radically before the Lord and the world. That the Jews would see their inheritance that we received as a result of their partial blindness.

Rom. 10:19a I [God] will provoke you [Israel] to jealousy by those who are not a nation.

Rom.11:11-12,15 *Through their [Israel's] trespass, salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous. Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their inclusion bring!* For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?

#### **IV. What is the culture of God's Kingdom?**

##### **A. Jesus teaching of the kingdom of God in Matt. 5-7**

- o Beatitudes, being salt & light, murder & anger, adultery & lust, divorce & marriage, oaths, going the extra mile, loving our enemies, doing things in secret - prayer, fasting, good works, etc.

**B. We live by another set of values as Jesus embodied them in His life and teachings. As we follow Jesus teachings, we begin to live the way God intended for us.**

1. He came and is coming back to change everything.

Mt. 5:17 Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

**C. Jesus was taking the law given to Israel and He's taking it from the least restrictive to the most restrictive.**

Mt. 5:21-22 You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment. But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment.

1. Jesus is placing us under a higher law than the Mosaic law. It's the law that's written on our hearts and that which the Holy Spirit empowers us to walk out. (Jer. 31:33, Lk. 11:39; Ezek. 11:18-20).

2. These laws are core to the heart issues and to get to that place requires the circumcision of our hearts.

1 Chron. 29:17 I know, my God, that you test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness.

Joel 2:13 So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He [is] gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.

Jer. 4:14 O Jerusalem, wash your heart from evil, that you may be saved. How long shall your wicked thoughts lodge within you?

And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live. Deut. 30:6

Col. 2:11-12 In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

1 Sam. 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him.’ For [the LORD] does not [see] as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

## V. Walking through culture shock

### A. Reality of culture shock

B. He’s calling us to posture our hearts and walk in meekness, love, and freely forgive as He forgave us. And to vehemently oppose the hindrances of our flesh and sin that entangles us in pride, lust, self-preservation, etc.

C. Matthew 5:43-45 You have heard it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.

## VI. How do we live out these values?

A. With much grace = divine favor and power (the ability to persevere and endure) given in this age and the age to come.

Psa. 29:11 The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace.

We access God's grace for our lives thru **prayer**; *this is the only means.*

**B. Ask the Holy Spirit for help and strength, there is absolutely no way we can or have desire to walk in His ways apart from His Spirit helping us.**

1. Pray in the spirit
2. Read the Word

**C. We cannot live this way out of religious duty or obligation because we will get burnt out, angry, and loose interest rapidly.**

1. War against compromise (Heb. 4:15)

**D. Accountability** - we need one another to walk out this journey and to press in and not give up or quit. We weren't made to do it alone.

**E. Learn from others who've gone before us.**

**VII. The call to radical living now.** We do this now but it's in light of ONE DAY that we do all that we do today.

**A. Living to love God and love people radically, a provoking factor**

Mt. 5:14 - You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

**B. What we do must be rooted in eternity and done in faith, because all that Jesus did was rooted in eternity.**

Heb. 11:1 Now faith is the substance [realization] of things hoped for, the evidence [confidence] of things not seen

Heb. 11:10 for he [Abraham] waited for the city [heavenly Jerusalem] which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Hebrews 13:14 - For we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.