

# Kingdom Vision Unto Doing Missions – RICHEL PARKS

## BHOP BASIC PRINCIPLE–GREAT COMMISSION

### I. MISSION OF GOD:BIG PICTURE

#### A. Proper Perspective

1. I want to see life through the proper perspective and story line of God. In order to have that proper perspective, I must know where it is that God is aiming when it comes to the scope of humanity and keep His vision always before me.

***Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." Rev. 11:15***

***"and I will bring them to dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God (in light of the next age after Christ's coming), in faithfulness and in righteousness." (referring to Israel) Zech. 8:8***

***"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matt. 28:18-20 (also in light of after Christ's return)***

***And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. Rev. 21:3***

#### B. Desired Outcome

1. The mission of God is to dwell w/righteous humanity (resurrected believers), in His fullness, once again (like in the beginning), on the earth. Following Christ's first coming, the Scripture is filled with language of this reality. They wanted to "walk worthy" of God's invitation (calling) to eternity w/Him, "endure to the end", and keep the "blessed hope" in sight. (Eph. 1:16-23; Matt. 24:13; Titus 2:13)

***But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him (upon His return), not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith--that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead (overcome death by resurrected body "then", through dying to self "now"). Not that I have already obtained this (resurrected body) or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own (endure to the end w/my heart set on "the goal for the prize of the upward call"/invitation to the wedding supper of the Lamb), **because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus...But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Phil. 3:20,21 Phil. 3:7-14,20-21*****

***For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. Rom. 6:5***

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2. Jesus has conquered death (first born from the dead-Col. 1:18), and we must allow Him to lead us to the outcome that He has come to Himself.
  - a) Our resurrection to eternity w/Christ depends purely on the state of our heart. Everything flows from that reality, and if we forget that, we have the potential of losing it all.
  - b) The reality that Christ had while on the earth during His first coming, was to overcome death fully (body, soul and spirit), and thus lead the rest of humanity to that reality in order to bring us full circle upon His Second Coming; to spend all of eternity w/Him as was in the beginning.
3. When you know the desired outcome, then all you do in the here and now (missions) will begin to align with that mission, and flow from it at even the smallest of levels.
  - a) So, the desired outcome for us as humanity is to receive our resurrected bodies unto life, when Christ returns as King of the nations, thus overcoming death as Jesus did and dwelling w/Him forever and ever on earth.

**II. KEEPING HIS MISSION BEFORE US BY KEEPING HIM BEFORE US: HEAVENLY REALITY****A. Looking Up**

1. As shared above, His Kingdom will one day fully be realized on earth, as it is in heaven (**Matt. 6:10**). He has a throne room that exists in the heavens right now and is a real reality described in the Word of God for us to tangibly grasp and pray around.
  - a) If we keep Him before us, then His mission will remain before us and our lives will be shaped around it. Why? Because we realize that the things above will become the things of this earth, and they serve as a reminder to what is coming (our hope of glory).
    - (1) Thus, we are compelled to live toward that Kingdom, displaying it, and it comes near to us and the reality of it lives in us. (**Matt. 3:1,2; Luke 10:8,9; Matt. 4:17**)
    - (2) It no longer is ethereal (up there somewhere floating and distanced from a real reality) and untouchable. The more we sit in the place of prayer, “seek first His Kingdom,” and meditate on His Word, the more we will come to life in our inner man and do the works of the Kingdom and preach the gospel of His Kingdom!
      - (a) It causes trembling, compelling and doing out of a place that is clearly marked by the unseen realm.

***If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Col. 3:1-4***

***But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you. Matt. 6:33***

***So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. 2 Cor. 4:18***

***For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. Rom. 8:5,6***

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*B. Father In Heaven****Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name... Matt. 6:9***

1. Before we can pray for His Kingdom to come and for His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven, we first must shift our eyes to the Father who is in heaven. If we don't see the Kingdom and His will (which is revealed in just looking at His established government in the heavens), then how can we pray that it would come.
2. Jesus took his disciples right to the throne of God in teaching them how to pray.
  - a) Described in Ezekiel 1, Daniel 7, Revelation 4 and elsewhere.
  - b) Perspective is everything. I believe Jesus was telling his disciples that they needed to become familiar with the beauty of God's throne and with the One who sits on the throne.

***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. John 13:3,4*** (lived the practical out of heavenly reality)

***When Jesus had spoken these words, He lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son that the Son may glorify You..." John 16:1***

***These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. Hebrews 11:13***

***They endured because they saw Him who is invisible. Hebrews 11:27***

***Looking unto Jesus...who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame. Hebrews 12:2***

3. I believe one of the biggest obstacles hindering the Church from praying is a lack of true revelation concerning the nature of God.
4. There is a lack of the knowledge of God, and not understanding His majesty and holiness. The high and lofty exaltation of God in our hearts and minds needs to be restored.
  - a) Where we see who He is and fall at His feet. Like Isaiah, where we say "Woe is me! I am lost..." in seeing His true nature. Or like Daniel who grew faint at His sight.
5. When Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer, His goal wasn't to give us something to memorize easily as a religious prayer. But He wanted to root our prayer lives in the clear and increasing revelation of the One who sits on the throne and of our relationship to Him.
6. Rev. 4 describes the seat of government in heaven, and chapter 5 you see where authority rests...in Jesus. But we must understand Rev. 4 in order to feel the full weight of Rev. 5.

***After these things, I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here and I will show you things which must take place after this." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. Rev. 4:1,2***

7. I believe the cry in this verse of "Come up here..." is, in a sense, a cry that God gives to His Church to get vision of the heavenly realm, so that we might be gripped with eternity's values and realities in order to prepare for Second Coming.
8. The result of being brought into the right understanding of God is faith. Faith is seeing, knowing, and understanding the realities of Heaven. Faith gives us boldness and confidence to live in the unseen, and to call "those things which do not exist as though they

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did” (**Rom. 4:17**)

9. Jesus wanted to root people in this reality before He ever told us to ask for anything. Before He said “Let your Kingdom come”, he has a call to heavenly reality. We are calling us all to “ask”, but we must be seeking to know Him and His reality, in order to set that asking in it’s proper place. Knowing the One we are asking is more important than the asking itself.
  - a) I am becoming more convinced as I study that the prophetic cry of the hour is for the church to set their lives on heaven. Heaven is the least spoken on reality in the Church and yet I am finding that it was the driving force of the early apostles.

## C. Pilgrims Passing Through

1. “Jonathan Edwards, the great Puritan preacher, often spoke of Heaven. He said, “It becomes us to spend this life only as a journey toward heaven . . . to which we should subordinate all other concerns of life. Why should we labor for or set our hearts on anything else, but that which is our proper end and true happiness?” (Heaven by Randy Alcorn)
2. “In his early twenties, Edwards composed a set of life resolutions. One read, “Resolved, to endeavor to obtain for myself as much happiness, in the other world, as I possibly can.” (Heaven by Randy Alcorn)
3. Successful business leaders say that the one of the most powerful ways to become successful is to journey decades into the future to find out where they want to be, and they work their way back from that starting point. It’s when believers understand where they have come from and where they are going, that they are empowered to live life on this earth truly as strangers and pilgrims.
  - a) Four of the most critical chapters in the Bible are the first two and the last two.
4. It’s as we are filled with a vision of heaven now, that we begin to long for that realm, that city, that kingdom to come to the earth.

***Our citizenship is in heaven, from which we eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able to subdue all things to Himself. Phil. 3:20-21***

## III. RESULT OF KINGDOM REALITY FOR MISSIONS MOVEMENT

***“And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony (witness) to all nations, and then the end will come.” Matt. 24:14***

A. *Being A Witness: Proclaim Gospel Of That Kingdom*

***...for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard. Acts 4:20***

***All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord , and all your saints shall bless you! They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Ps. 145:10,11***

1. When you see the Kingdom above, then everything flows out of that reality...increased faith (signs and wonders), boldness of message (preaching, evangelizing), etc.
  - a) You speak of what you have seen and heard from your citizenship in the heavens, and then you naturally become a witness or testimony. It is orchestrated by the revelation of the King’s heart, agenda, and reality of His kingdom that is coming to earth, through the place of prayer, that you can then testify of it.

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- b) After being a citizen of the world for years, it takes re-orientating ourselves in order to lock into citizenship of God's Kingdom.

B. *Being A Witness: Displaying That Kingdom (Luke 10:9)*

1. Looking to the things above, empowers faith to display His Kingdom (signs & wonders).
  - a) At this point, all I know to say is, meditate on the King and His Kingdom above, and it will begin to become tangible in ways that provoke the human heart to live at the level by which the Word calls for.
    - (1) Many things are compelled within the human heart based on revelation in the inner man, rather than having to strive in the flesh after in a way that causes one to be weary.
      - (a) "His yoke is easy and burden is light" truly is coming in perspective for me, in light of a grasping of the tangibility of His Kingdom above.

***Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! 1 Cor. 9:16***

## C. Discipleship That Bears Fruit

1. It comes down to the heart of the disciple and leading it to know Him and the things above in light of His Second Coming. SO THAT they might be able to know the King, His Kingdom and then proclaim about it (the gospel of the Kingdom).
  - a) If this is not solid and anchored in their everyday, then the "work of the ministry" will have high potential of taking over Kingdom "sight-seeing" and thus slowly erode their heart level reality that their ministry was originally founded on.
    - (1) For the last generation and those right before the last, the pressure of compromise in the ways of God will dramatically increase, and if the hope of glory (resurrection) and His Kingdom is not firmly planted and clear in the heart through revelation in prayer and God's Word, then there is great potential of falling away.
  - b) Kingdom reality must become #1 priority in discipleship. It fosters deep level of humility, fear of God leading to spiritual wisdom and revelation, etc. Which then leads to deeper levels of Kingdom reality.
  - c) They then will live life circumspectly, redeeming their time, knowing that the days are full of evil and they must redeem their time unto Him in order to live a life worthy of His calling (invitation to eternity w/Him). Basically, keep their eyes set on the prize of the upward call!
  - d) The bigger theme of the witness and person of discipleship is for those they live with and speak to, to desire to be w/the King in the age to come and live now for then.
2. It takes much time in prayer and the Word on the front side to gain the heart and DNA of the Kingdom in order to make the unseen a reality in and through your life. It looks foolish to many, but to those who have "considered the calling," their faces are like flint.
  - a) They understand that in order to burn on display for His Kingdom in power, it takes seeing and being gripped by that Kingdom over time. They want to endure to the end in their hearts and **by any means possible...want to...attain the resurrection from the dead** (Phil. 3)!
  - b) If you walk w/that reality in light of doing missions (discipling), it becomes far more about having your heart, and the hearts of those you disciple, in line w/the will (bigger mission) of God than getting stuff done.

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- (1) There is a pressing in to facilitate a discipline in prayer that hits at a heart level and steers the person unto the knowledge of God that comes from revelation in the inner man. Setting fire to the insides of those you disciple, so they burn with God's heart and message, not just echo what someone else says.

*D. Not Fearing Kings*

***"But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. "This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Luke 21:12-13***

***"And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Matt. 10:28***

1. For the final generation especially, there will then be times where we are brought before kings of the earth under persecution, and we will not shrink back in fear because we truly have the reality of a higher Kingdom and call them to it out of fear for them. ***(Ps. 2:10-12; Luke 12:11-12***
2. When placed before the kings of the earth, we will truly be a witness because we have chose to look foolish now in pursuing the revelation and knowledge of God in prayer, in order to be prepared and not swayed or fall away when shakings come in that day.
  - a) We will walk worthy of the calling (invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb), that we might attend when the time comes.
3. Will not fear men based on the reality of God's Kingdom, yet be able to walk it out in humility.