

50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

#33: “Translated into the Kingdom of His Dear Son”

In the last positional truth, “rescued from the powers of darkness,” we noted how at the point of salvation the believer was positionally delivered from *cosmos diabolicus*. Further, we noted that the believer is to be in practice and experience (i.e. conscious awareness) what he is in position. The believer is to live a life free from the corrupting influences of the kosmic system. Even though every believer is permanently delivered from Satan’s kingdom, it is still possible for him to live in it. To live in Satan’s kingdom is to live in rebellion against God—just like Satan. The world of unbelievers live in the deception of Satan’s kingdom (1 John 5:19). Characteristics of Satan’s kingdom include *darkness rather than light* (Col 1:13), *lies*, and *deceit and deception* (Rev. 13:14). The salient feature of Satan’s kingdom is denial of truth. He hates truth and so he is filled with error. Isn’t it interesting that even in Bible churches, the doctrine of truth as per the theories of truth is not even taught. How many are going around talking about Truth and yet do not even know what it means and likely hold to a false view of truth (coherence, pragmatic, functional, existential, fundamentalist) and logic. You have to give Satan his due: he is a genius!

Now as to positional truth, #33, at the point of salvation we have been translated into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. But what does that mean? Is God establishing a kingdom on earth now like the liberals and the Reformed believe? How can we be in the church age and be in the kingdom too? To understand this kingdom necessitates an understanding of the various philosophical/logical categories of kingdom; there are six:

1. The Universal Kingdom of God. This is God’s universal *rule* over the entire universe, 1 Chron. 29:12; Psa. 145:13. This is the broadest concept of kingdom.
2. The Spiritual Kingdom of God. This is the rule of God over all those who are believers. Anyone from Adam until now who has been born again is part of this phase of God’s kingdom (John 3:1-10). The church age believer is part of this kingdom.
3. The Theocratic Kingdom. “Theocratic” simply means the “rule of God.” This speaks of God’s rule over a temporal, human kingdom of the Jews in the Old Testament—this ended with the departure of the Shekinah Glory from the temple (Eze. 8:4; 9:3).
4. Mystery form of the Kingdom of God (Matt. 13). This refers to a “kingdom” that includes unbelievers who live in a period between Christ’s comings.
5. The Millennial Kingdom of God. This aspect of the kingdom of God is yet future and, as the name implies, will last for a thousand years. This will be the fulfillment of the Davidic covenant (2 Samuel 7).
6. The Eternal Kingdom of God (Dan. 2:44). The first phase is the Millennium and the second phase is the eternal state where God reigns over a new heaven and new earth that is free

from all opposition, to His rule. Jesus Christ will actually deliver up the Millennial Kingdom to God the Father for the Eternal Kingdom (1 Cor. 15:23-28).

The church age and the kingdom of God. The church and the kingdom of God are not equivalent terms. However, the church is part of the universal kingdom, spiritual kingdom, and mystery form of the kingdom, but it has no part in the theocratic kingdom. As the bride of Christ, the church will have a prominent palace in the millennial kingdom as well as in the eternal kingdom. Wow! What a deal!

Actualized by Esse,

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