

## The Heavenly Kingdom

LUK. 17: 20-21

The pharisees in the time of Christ were enemies of Him inasmuch <sup>TUNICA, MISS.</sup> that they hired Judas to betray Him. They often tried to trap Him. It was perhaps for no good object that they were asking when His Kingdom should come. As usual Christ knew their hearts and was ready to answer them.

"The Kingdom of God comes not by observation <sup>with</sup> neither shall they say 'Lo here or lo there!' for behold the Kingdom of God is within you!" This is the great truth that faces the human race to-day—the Kingdom is within you! This Kingdom of God is a condition.

This condition is shaped into a form of government with God as the great sovereign at its head. His eternal throne is in heaven and the glorious condition that exists there exists in every human heart that submits itself to God's will and opens its doors for the reception of the Kingdom.

We see the electric light plant. There electricity is generated. Wires are connected with this force and to the wires are hung the bulbs. But before there is any light given out by these bulbs a condition must be met—

that of turning on the current. <sup>switch</sup> This being done we have light. The soul with <sup>out</sup> the Kingdom of God in his heart is like the unlighted bulb, dark and useless. But when we take Christ in then in comes His Kingdom and our lights shine. We give forth the evidence of the Kingdom within. We are carrying the Kingdom with us. Light system on the train, not connected with light plant.

Therefore the members of this Kingdom are those whose lights are shining. Those who dwell not in darkness but

have the light of life. Being a member of some denomination does not make us a member of the Kingdom, some however seem to think that putting name on Ch. book is the end of Christian duty. Yes many people become better Methodists than Christians. The same is true with all other denominations.

There are two classes that get their names on the Church books: those who are not really converted i.e. those who are not born again and those that have been reborn and justified.

The former class are not members of the Kingdom because their lives are not surrendered nor consecrated to God. They are parasites to the Church sucking the life out of it and adding nothing whatever to it. They look upon the church as being indebted to them for joining and that it ought to feel honored to have them in it. (Such a person is to be pitied more than censured some times I think because there must be a weakness somewhere. And if there is not a weakness why then is the condition sad indeed for although that person claims religion, you might roll that religion up, if such a thing were possible, and immerse it in a drop of water and it would have as much room for floating as a mustard seed would have in the Pacific Ocean. Yes) such persons want to form a new creed for if the Bible condemns their wickedness and does not conform to their wishes they are willing to persecute the church and criticise the Bible and all its principles. If you will notice

3 you will find that such a person never win  
any body to Christ but on the other hand turn  
members of their own household (and their friends)  
into the paths that lead into eternal damnation.  
Looking at hell with all of our power of conception  
we fail to see in it anything too bad for such a  
person as we have described. Such a person has  
not God and His Kingdom dwelling within but  
are intograted to the highest knotch with the  
Satanic Kingdom.

very closely allied with this class of pre-  
tenders is a class that are out of the church as  
well as out of the Kingdom. They are those  
who even being out of the church want to set  
a standard for the church and if they are  
checked in their wicked perurits by the truth  
~~they become great behind the ears and pickled in~~  
the face and focusing at the mouth and looking  
blazes of indignation try to defile the cause of  
righteousness and persecute the good men  
and women who carry the truth and stand  
for the Cause of Christ. [But thanks be unto God  
for church members who having the Kingdom with-  
in delight in the work of God although perse-  
cutions come.]

yes the above classes are under the curse of Jesus  
(Exempts for sin)  
and are lost and it behooves me as a minister and  
you as a layman or Christian woman to reprove  
~~and~~ rebuke such a person when we find  
them and try to persuade them to do right

One thing that causes so many people to  
be found out of the above classes and all

JAMES D. WORTHEN, PASTOR  
M. E. CHURCH SOUTH

The Kingdom is their allowance to pre-  
scribe for them a list of prerogatives for  
entering the Kingdom. <sup>(some are rejoicing now)</sup> <sup>(that I have spoken of those who love</sup>  
<sup>wealth)</sup>

Some through the devil's influence think that  
they can buy their way into the Kingdom. It will  
be a sad day for the man who has always gone in  
any circles he wished to, then to fall down when  
he tries to buy his way into heaven. See him as he  
starts into eternity he does not pay any attention  
to those standing by and scarcely any to the  
righteous judge but he is stopped and told  
that he is not a member of the Kingdom. Oh look  
at his face now! What a shame it is for any  
man to worship his dollars to the loss of his soul!  
I hate to see money make a fool out of a man.

But like to see a man have money when he ac-  
quires it for unselfish purposes. Look at Geo R.  
Pepper of Memphis whose thousands do not cause  
him to forget reading his Bible even on the R.R.  
cars. Look at Major Millsaps who has given hundreds  
of thousands and Asa Candler who has recently  
given a million for Christian education. Then  
look at some little fellow with just a few  
hundred dollars and a diamond who is too im-  
portant to come to church just because the Ch.  
which has existed in its principles righteou-  
ness for centuries does not agree with his 20th  
century ideas. I am persuaded that when the world  
shakes by the tread of such a giant as that is

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felt only by himself.

another person gets a prerogative from  
Satan - poverty. Because I am poor I am go-  
ing to heaven. I am receiving my troubles  
here on earth and I know God will not  
give me trouble in the world to come.  
By <sup>his</sup> ~~our~~ own carelessness a man becomes  
poor. ~~He~~ dissipates ~~he~~ misuses his talents  
and thereby blights his opportunity for be-  
coming prosperous and at the same time  
hatches out in his <sup>mind</sup> ~~soul~~ the idea that all  
men with wealth will go to hell, which  
is a big mistake. God wants us to be  
prosperous if we labor for it and come  
up it honestly. No poverty is not the key that  
unlocks the door of the Kingdom and  
never be.

Some think that their education will  
save them when at the same time such  
development without the Christian element  
is it is dangerous indeed. I know a man  
who claims to be educated and who says that  
when a man becomes educated he begins  
to see that this thing of religion is a force.  
any man of that class cannot come into  
the Kingdom.

These things above mentioned lead to  
nothing <sup>but</sup> surface religion. It seems that  
the world is taking on to this kind of religion

greatly in these days. The man who desires honors and good business (but who is not born again) joins the church for a cloak just like some men who want to be big politicians they join all the secret orders possible and get the biggest and showest badges possible and wear them where they will be seen.

But there is another class those who are members of the Kingdom in spirit and in truth. It may be that they have wealth, education, honors, or poverty. Matters not under what conditions they exist, materially, mentally, or physically they have the prerogatives which are: faith in God, and obedient to his commands. ~~This man lives in the Kingdom~~ the Kingdom exists in him.

Such a man can say with Paul "I am crucified with Christ nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ liveth in me and the life that I now live I live by the faith of the son of God who loved me and gave himself for me. (Gal 2:20). He has so subdued himself that Christ reigns in his life. That is to say the Kingdom of God is in his heart and Christ the King on the throne.

It is important that we become members of this Kingdom because if first it is a spiritual Kingdom thereby meaning connection with the great spiritual world.

and we begin to realize that we have a connection with the divine.

Kingdoms of this world perish because made up of the perishable but the Kingdom shall never perish nor fade away but is everlasting. This is the Kingdom we want to seek <sup>we see the cloud change</sup> something which will be just beginning when all earthly Kingdoms have faded away.

People who are not members of a nation and not in its boundaries cannot expect protection under its flag. Thus it is in the spiritual Kingdoms no one can expect the blessings of the Kingdom if he is not a member of it.

The nation most apt to stand is the one with the most loyal subjects. If Russia had been populated by Belgians things would have been different in the Russo-Japanese war etc. So in the Church we must be loyal because the Church depends upon us for its success, and whether it succeeds or fails it will do so through us for we are the avenue through which the Spirit does His work. So brethren and friends let us be loyal to

Our King and get the blessings of his  
Kingdom. May our lives be such as will  
show to the world that God's Kingdom  
is with in us.

M. E. CHURCH SOUTH

JAMES D. WOOTEN, PASTOR



"Amen"

TUNICA, MISS.

God's Kingdom

Thou shalt be

Wax under the great

Forest



# I. Pharisees enemies of Christ

II. The K is a condition shaped in form of a war. with Malakhal electric plant. members of Kingdom At lights shine being member of Ch. does not make us a member of the K

III. Two classes get their names on Ch. books

1. Those unconverted = parasites, think Ch. is honored by their being
2. " converted

Added to no 1. is a class ext of Ch. as well as out of Kingdom

IV. Prerogatives of Satan. 1. wealth, 2. poverty. 3. Education  
4. Science. (all this leads to surface religion)

V. Prerogatives for K. = faith, abundance, & perseverance

VI. Important to become members of this K. because  
2. its protection, its eternity

VII. The strength of the K depends on the  
loyalty of its subjects