



The Centrality of Christ

Set BACK? or Set UP?

Prov 19:21 “Many are the plans in a man’s heart..but it is the Lord’s PURPOSE that PREVAILS”

God is..

- *“RECLAIMING” His Church*

it’s not the “SELF- INDULGENT” IMMORALITY of our culture but

the “SELF-SUFFICIENT MENTALITY” of the church that is hindering God’s work through the church

We think we can do it without Him

- **“RESETTING”**

The church has been too focussed on DOING church rather than BEING the church

- **“REFOCUSING”**

The Church is over politicized & under gospelized!!

We are getting our agenda from the World instead of His word

- **“REALIGNING” & “REPOSITIONING”**

Jesus as..

HEAD

HEART....of the Church

HOPE

We are His hands & feet

- **“RELEASING”** us from things for a greater **“RELEASE”** into things

Our CHRISTOLOGY determines our MISSIOLOGY

& our MISSIOLOGY determines

our ECCLESIOLOGY !!

..FOCUS on Christ

..He will Focus our MISSION

..Our MISSION will shape our CHURCH

Col 1:13-18

Col 1:13

For He has RESCUED us from the DOMINION of darkness and BROUGHT us into the KINGDOM of the SON he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Supremacy of Christ

15 The SON is the IMAGE of the INVISIBLE God, the firstborn over ALL creation.

16 For in HIM all things were CREATED: things in heaven & on earth, VISIBLE & INVISIBLE, whether THRONES or POWERS or RULERS or AUTHORITIES; all things have been created THRU Him & FOR Him.

17 He is BEFORE all things, & in HIM all things HOLD together.
18 And HE is the HEAD of the body, the CHURCH; HE is the beginning & the firstborn from among the dead, so that in "EVERYTHING" HE MIGHT have the "SUPREMACY"/PREEMINENT"

..He will have FIRST PLACE in EVERYTHING."

We need to understand CONTEXT!

1) "LIFE"

Ps 139:13 For YOU created my inmost being; YOU knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you because I am FEARFULLY and WONDERFULLY made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,

16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ORDAINED for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

..“DELIGHT”

..“DIGNITY”

..“DESTINY” (PURPOSE)

..“DUTY” (RESPONSIBILITY)

“We make a LIVING by what we GET.. we make a LIFE by what we GIVE”. Winston Churchill

2) "LOCAL CHURCH"

You can't be connected to JESUS but SEPARATED from His body!!

There is no scripture in the Bible that backs that!!!

..Every "BRICK" needs a "WALL"

..Every "PRIEST" needs a "HOOD"

..Every "SHEEP" needs a "PEN"

..Every "TREE" needs to be "PLANTED"!!

“SUBMITTED”

“SERVING”

***Psalm 92:12..“The righteous will FLOURISH like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;
13 PLANTED in the house of the Lord,they will FLOURISH in
the courts of our God.
14 They will STILL bear fruit in old age,they will STAY FRESH
and GREEN..***

3) **"GREAT COMMISSION"**

2 Pillars of the church..

•• Great "COMMANDMENT"

Love God with *EVERYTHING* & *LOVE* our neighbors as we love ourselves

&

•• Great "COMMISSION"

The Great Commission is "EMPOWERED" by the Great Commandment & the Great Commandment is "EXPRESSED" by the Great Commission

.. "If a COMMISSION by an EARTHLY king is an HONOR, how can a COMMISSION by a HEAVENLY King be a SACRIFICE?" - David Livingstone

The first 5 books of the NT give us some of OUR "BIBLICAL BASIS" for the GREAT COMMISSION ..

Matt 28:18-20 speaks of the "DEPTH" of the Great Commission.

Mark 16:15 speaks of the "BREADTH" of the Great Commission...

Luke 24:46-47 speaks of the "SURETY" of the Great Commission...

*John 20:21 speaks of the "**MODEL**" of the Great Commission...*

*Acts 1:8 speaks of the "**EXTENT**" of the Great Commission...*

Choose Acts 1:8 so that God doesn't have to choose Acts 8:1 FOR you!

4) "GOSPEL"

What you win people WITH is what you win people TO.

Romans 1:16..I am NOT ASHAMED of the gospel, because it is the POWER of God for the SALVATION of everyone who believes..

Gospel NEEDS to be..

A) **“TOLD”** to the **WORLD**

It's the WHOLE business of the WHOLE Church to get the WHOLE Gospel to the WHOLE World!! Charles Spurgeon

Distraction in End times

Acts 1:6-8

6 So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

To the disciples the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel was a question that had eschatological & end times implications because they conflated God’s Kingdom with their nation..it was all just the same thing

We mix Politics & nationalism with religion, theology & eschatology

7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority.

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

2 Pet 3

Scoffers

How will you be found living?

Question wasn't when will you come...

What sort of people should we be?

How will we be found living?

Matt 24:3-14

3 As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

4 Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you.

5 For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.

6 You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.

7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.

8 All these are the beginning of birth pains.

9 “Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me.

10 At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other,

11 and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. 12 Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold,

13 but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

3 Questions 3 different texts..

- ***LOST & the UNREACHED***
- ***Ethnos not nations***
- ***197 Nations or countries***
- ***Unreached***
- ***11,730 people groups (7.8 billion ppl)***
- ***7077 unreached (4.6 billion)***

A people group is considered unreached (UPG) when there is no indigenous community of believing Christians able to engage this people group with church planting.

Technically speaking, the percentage of evangelical Christians in this people group is less than 2 percent.

- ***UNENGAGED 3037 people groups = 276 million people***

Unreached people groups are unengaged (UUPG) when there is no church planting strategy, consistent with evangelical faith and practice, under way.

Gathering believers and planting churches are the keys to establishing an effective & multiplying presence among these people groups.

B) "TAUGHT" to the CHURCH

Gospel IS..

... "REAL" ..(WAY of life) (Gal 1+4)

...Not just a MESSAGE but a LIFESTYLE!

... "REGULATOR" for relationships (Gal 2:14)

Our personal issues can actually hinder the progress of the Gospel!!

... "REVEALS" the Standard for Christian living

Phil 1:27 .. "CONDUCT" yourself in a manner "WORTHY" of the Gospel...

5) **"KINGDOM"**

Matt 6:33..But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

The CHURCH is IN the KINGDOM & KINGDOM is IN the CHURCH, but the CHURCH is NOT the KINGDOM!!

Matt 16..I will build my church..keys OF the Kingdom

"ADMINISTRATE" His Kingdom here on earth !!

Church is the agency thru which the Kingdom comes!

We need a KINGDOM shaped VIEW of the CHURCH, NOT a CHURCH shaped VIEW of the KINGDOM

• • 2 KINGDOMS in CONFLICT !!

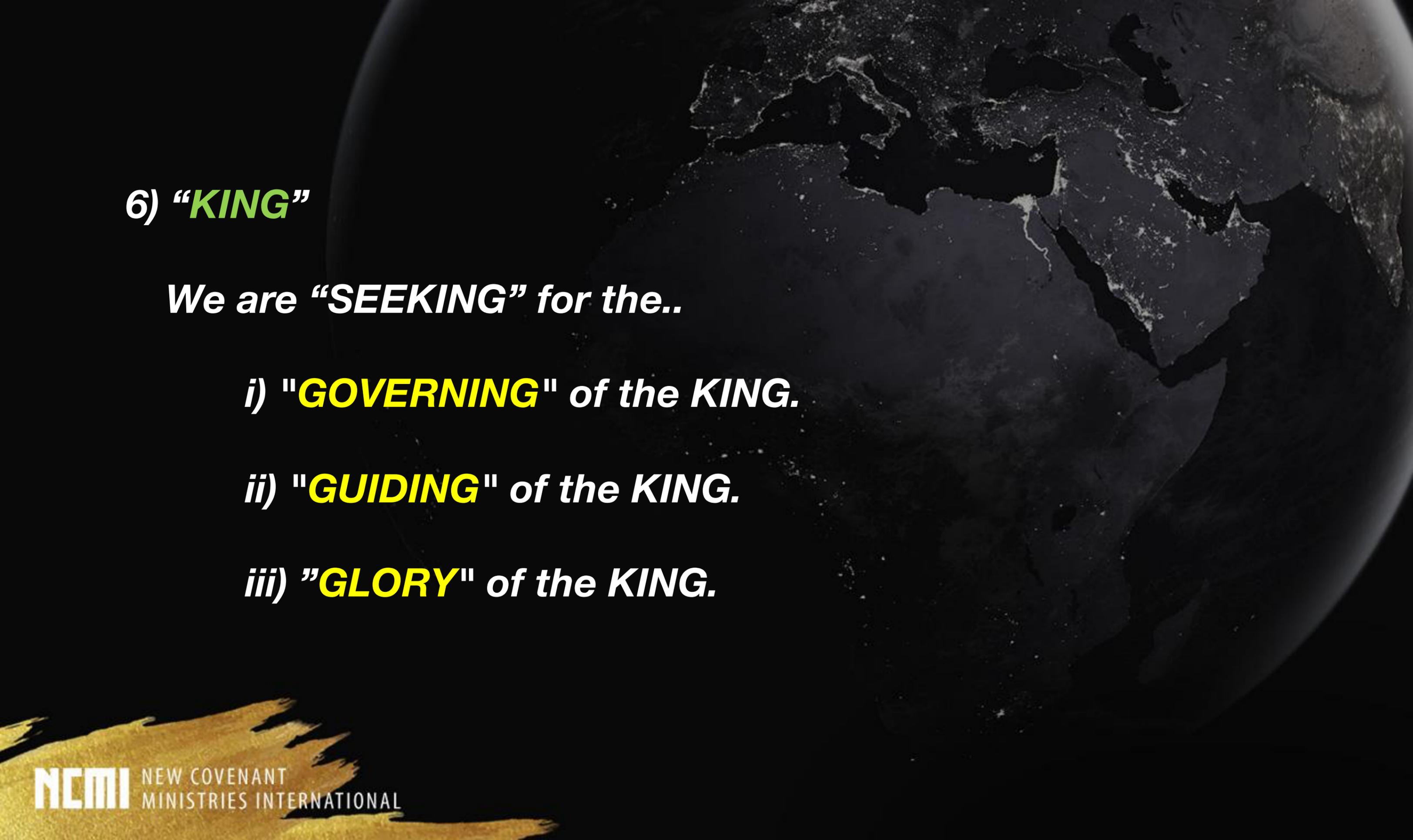
They can not CO-EXIST

Why don't we just all get along!!

If we are "CHURCH" focused we CAN!!

If we are "KINGDOM" focused we CAN'T!!

A church WITHOUT a KINGDOM vision eventually becomes SELFISH & SELF SERVING!!



6) **"KING"**

We are **"SEEKING"** for the..

i) **"GOVERNING"** of the KING.

ii) **"GUIDING"** of the KING.

iii) **"GLORY"** of the KING.



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