

“Helping Others Win”

Pastor Rick Shelton

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- God's dream was that He wanted a family. But man lost the dream in the garden with the fall. Christ legally paid the price (His death) to get back what was lost in the garden. This restoration process is defined by seven fundamental needs of man. Each of these needs is spoken of in a Hebrew name given to God.
- Jehovah – Nissi shows us that Christ has come to restore the authority and victory lost in the garden. God made man to win, to be on top not on bottom.
- Say, “God has designed me to reign. I am to walk in victory, to exercise dominion. God has given me authority. I am a winner. I am to succeed at what God has put me here for.”

Mark 1: 14-15 (NKJV) *“Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”*

- Jesus came preaching the good news of the kingdom of God. In the concept of this message, there is something vital for us to understand in order for us to walk out God's plan for our life here on earth. To get this, you must understand what the “kingdom of God” is.
- Kingdom is the word “bassillia” in Greek. This word is translated into basilica. This means a place from which a king rules and reigns.
- As Protestants, we don't believe in a “physical” basilica from which Christ reigns.
- Even when Christ came back before he ascended, the disciples wanted to know when a physical reigning would occur.
- Jesus replied in a different way saying, “It's not for you to know the times or the seasons. But here is what you need to know, you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be witnesses for me in the other most parts of the world.”
- Jesus was saying, don't look for a physical throne or place.

Luke 4: 17-21 (NKJV) *“And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: “**The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.**” Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “**Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.**”*

- Then Jesus demonstrated it afterwards by immediately casting out demons and healing the sick. They had never seen anyone with such authority. They were used to messages preached about what God did in the past or what He is going to do in the future. Jesus was the first to say it was going to happen NOW.
- **Luke 4: 40-43 (NKJV)** *“When the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them. And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, “You are the Christ, the Son of God!” And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak, for they knew that He was the Christ. Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowd sought Him and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from leaving them; but He said to*

them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent."

- These scriptures are fundamental to "who" we are as Christians. Jesus not only casted out demons and healed the sick, He also laid hands on the twelve disciples to do the same. Afterwards, He does the same thing with 70 others and then He does the same thing for all of us in the Great Commission. The gospel of the Kingdom comes with power.

Luke 17:20 (NKJV) "Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation;"

- Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come. They were looking for something physical, not spiritual.
- This mentality is why Pastor Rick rejects the idea of having a lot of religious paraphernalia around. We have a tendency to allow those physical things to take our attention off what God really wants to do on the inside of us.
- God's kingdom is not physical. That is why Jesus says, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation".

Luke 17:21 (NKJV) "nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

- This is the place from where King Jesus reigns and carries out his business on the earth!!!
- The very throne of God's authority from which He carries on His business on the earth is set up on the inside of every born again Christian.
- *Many want Christianity with no risk – never having to step out in faith.*
- **We desperately need a gospel with power demonstrated through us!**
- **But this power needs to be demonstrated with a heart of humility, character, and integrity.**
- Pastor Rick saw an evangelist pray for a girl when he was eleven. The devil manifested through her and said in a different voice to the evangelist, "I know who you are. You are the one I tried to kill in that car accident a while back!" No one knew it, but he did have a bad car accident where he was almost died. The evangelist took authority, rebuked the devil, and cast it out. When you see something like that, it changes you forever.
- Another Evangelist (Brother Mahurin) was also used mightily by God in healing. He prayed for Pastor Esther who had cancer in her female organs. God healed her. And to this day - over forty years later – she is still healed.
- Brother Mahurin also called Pastor Rick out in a meeting and said, "God told me to lay my hands on your hands and impart these same gifts to you." He prayed and Pastor Rick fell under God's power.
- A week later, Pastor Rick was preaching in Illinois. He had people come up for prayer. The first lady had a golf ball sized cancerous growth on her neck. He prayed, feeling nothing, and went to the next person. Within seconds, she started screaming and the growth was gone.
- Pastor Rick went on from there preaching with power and demonstrating it.
- A few months ago, a mother brought her son to Pastor Rick. He had become violent and suicidal. Pastor Rick discerned it was demonic and prayed with authority. He was delivered.
- **You can preach 1,000 messages and talk 1,000 times at work but when you realize you have authority, you will see people differently and do what needs to be done to set people free.**