

Empowering People to Change the World

A Kingdom of God Revolution in Colorado Springs, Part 2

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2021-A Kingdom of God Revolution in Colorado Springs Part 2

Road Declaration...

- The main theme of Jesus' revolutionary ministry was the Kingdom of God.
 - He spoke over 100 times on the Kingdom of God.
 - Jesus taught us to seek FIRST the Kingdom of God.
 - To pray, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."
- The vision of The Road: A Kingdom of God revolution in our city and in our time
- Last week I gave a definition of the Kingdom of God.

Definition of the Kingdom of God: The Kingdom of God is the reign and rule of Christ over His domain. He is the King over His Kingdom. His Kingdom begins with the King, Himself.

Today, I want to talk about the power of God working through the local church.

We need a "vision for a 100-year revolutionary Kingdom movement."
 A vision and Kingdom strategy that is for the next 100 years that would work toward, plan for, and build with a long-term strategic plan for a Kingdom of God revolution in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and America.

Matthew 16:18-19

A Kingdom of God revolution is the ongoing move of God through the citizens of the Kingdom, emanating from local churches, that permeates all of society.

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It is the Great Commission over a city:

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

- The drama of the ages is not who is president of the United States, as important as that is; but the drama of the ages from a biblical perspective is the coming of the Kingdom of God, and that happens most effectively through the local church.
 - You know how I know this? Look at the Bible.
 - Coming of Jesus the only reason we know anything about Herod or Pontus Pilate is because they were just "set up" guys, "supporting actors" in the drama of the birth of Christ.
 - The only reason anyone knows anything about Nero and Domitian is because they were the persecutors of the Church.
 - The drama of the ages, that which God has His eye on, is the expansion of the Kingdom of God through the Church.

Verse 18a

- Notice first that God builds HIS Church.
- What God builds, God watches over and protects. Not every church is being built by God.
- In **Revelation 2-3** we read about the seven churches, pictured there as a lampstand...and the first church is Ephesus, and He says (Jesus is speaking to John) that if the church in Ephesus doesn't repent, He will remove their lampstand.
- When a church ceases to repent, ceases to follow Christ, He removes their lampstand. In other words, since they have no light, He just removes them.

- Ex. Barna Report is saying that during the Covid Crisis, 30% of the churches will close their doors.
- The Senior Pastor, capital "S," of The Road is Jesus Christ. I'm only the small "s" senior pastor. All of the pastors at The Road are small "p" pastors, in partnership with Jesus. We want Him to build this church in partnership.

What is the Church? The word used is Ekklesia.

- Liddell and Scott define "ekklesia" as "an assembly of citizens summoned by the crier, the legislative assembly."
- Trench gives the meaning as "the lawful assembly in a free Greek city of all those possessed of the rights of citizenship, for the transaction of public affairs."
- The Church is not a building, but an assembly of citizens, the governing body of the Kingdom of God.
 - In the United States, it is our Congress.
 - o In the United Kingdom, it is Parliament.
 - o In Israel, it is the Knesset.
 - The governing body of the Kingdom of God on earth is the Church!

The Church is a Kingdom of God embassy made up of citizens and ambassadors who represent the King and reflect and witness to the values of the King on earth as it is in heaven.

Verse 18b

There is one Old Testament Scripture quoted more times in the New Testament than any other.

- It's not being born again, it's not about the rapture, it's not about the Second Coming, it's not about revival.
- It is quoted seven times in the NT.

 It is one of the key passages quoted on the Day of Pentecost, in Peter's sermon, Acts 2:34-35.

"For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at My right hand,
Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

- The Church has been given authority on the earth to bring about the subjection of the enemy on earth.
- A Kingdom of God revolution is a church that is being built through the proclamation and demonstration of the Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.
- Gates were a legal political term. The elders met at the gates, the place where legislation happens.
- The gates of hell should be fearing the Church! Gates were the governing place for a city, and the Church should be proclaiming and demonstrating the Kingdom of God into the gates of hell.

Verse 19

The Church has been given the keys of Kingdom authority.

- Keys represent authority. This is authority that Jesus delegated to the Church.
- <u>Kingdom of God authority</u> is the divinely-delegated right, power, and responsibility for believers in Christ to enforce the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven.
- Kingdom prayer, in which heaven invades the earth through the binding and loosening.
- You are exercising God's authority through prayer.
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- This is not a magic formula, but it is a powerful formula.
- And there is a war going on in which the Church is taking ground away from hell.
- Keys of the Kingdom: starts with the earth—what you bind on earth, is bound in heaven; what you loose on earth is loosed in heaven.
- This is specifically given to the Church! Only the Church can do this.
 Only the Church has this Kingdom authority.
- It happens when someone on earth binds and loosens.
- When someone in the physical world binds and looses on the earth, something is bound and loosened in heaven.
- God actually can't do something unless we do our part—He has given us this authority.
 - O Why is this happening in my life?
 - o Why is this or that happening in America?
 - o It is because we don't use our authority.
- "Whatever" <u>you</u> bind, not God. The starting point is with us, not God. He has given <u>us</u> the formula.

We have power over the enemy in prayer.

And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (Luke 10:18-19)

- We have been given two keys.
 - "Bind"- restrict, restrain, tie down, hold back something; you are wrapping it up; locking.

- o "Loose"- unlock, release, permit, free something up, unlock.
- We come to church for many reasons—for the preaching, for the fellowship, for worship, for the food…but there is another part of the church that is important here—legislating from the spiritual realm.
 - We represent heaven. We have homeland security over the earth.

Matthew 18:18-20

The Power of Agreement

- So powerful is the Church we are building that hell cannot defeat it.
 When we see the devil defeating the Church, then we are not building His Church!
- Two or three witnesses. Deuteronomy 17 and 19 must be two or three witnesses. You have to have two or three witnesses for legality.

Building a House of Prayer: War Room

- God is building a house of prayer.
- Noonday Prayer.
- Honestly, it is more like a War Room.
- "Prayer Alerts" from time to time (i.e., Tuesday a week ago)