**Truth Sowers Life Group**

July 15, 2012

**God’s Secret Kingdom – Part One**

**2 Kings 6:8-17**

*8 At that time the king of Aram (Syria) was making war against Israel; and he had a meeting with the chiefs of his army and said, I will be waiting in secret in some named place. 9 And the man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, Take care to keep away from that place, for the Aramaeans are waiting there in secret. 10 So the king of Israel sent to the place where the man of God had said there was danger, and kept clear of it more than once. 11 And at this, the mind of the king of Aram was greatly troubled, and he sent for his servants and said to them, Will you not make clear to me which of us is helping the king of Israel? 12 And one of them said, Not one of us, my lord king; but Elisha, the prophet in Israel, gives the king of Israel news of the words you say even in your bedroom. 13 Then he said, Go and see where he is, so that I may send and get him. And news came to him that he was in Dothan. 14 So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army; and they came by night, circling the town. 15 Now the servant of the man of God, having got up early and gone out, saw an army with horses and chariots of war all round the town. And the servant said to him, O my master, what are we to do? 16 And he said in answer, Have no fear; those who are with us are more than those who are with them.*

**Introduction:**

Back in the time of Elisha the prophet, the King of Syria was told by one of his servants that God was telling Elisha everything he was doing and Elisha was reporting that to the King of Israel. The King of Syria was furious and he sent his armies to capture Elisha.

Elisha had a servant named Gehazi. Gehazi was not the most spiritual man of the time. In fact, he was a very carnal man. His name even means, “one who denies or diminishes.” Gehazi was small-minded, introverted and was a “what’s in it for me?” kind of guy. After a series of problems, Elisha dismissed Gehazi and took on a new servant. Apparently Elisha had a hard time finding good servants.

As we see in 2 Kings, a large contingent of Syrian soldiers with their weapons and chariots, came and surrounded Elisha and the new servant but Elisha was not worried because he KNEW that God was with him. The new servant was terrified though! How would you feel if you looked out your window one morning and the S.W.A.T Team was there to capture and to kill you?

Elisha prayed and his servant was able to see the spiritual world! Elisha never saw it but he KNEW it was there. We may never actually see it, but God’s kingdom is here, now!

1. **The Natural World**
   1. The news says, “The world is in crisis.”
   2. The world’s economy is shattered.
   3. There are “wars and rumors of wars” all around.
   4. The world’s weather is haywire.
   5. Everywhere we look, we see trouble all around us.
2. **The Invisible World, The Secret Kingdom**
   1. Most Christians acknowledge the existence of this supernatural realm.
   2. Too many Christians fail to perceive that the Kingdom, or realm, is here, NOW!
   3. We need to learn how to reach into that kingdom and pull what we need into this realm.
   4. There are “laws” if you will, that work in that kingdom just as there are laws that rule this realm
      1. Law of gravity
      2. Theory of relativity
      3. Law of cause and effect, etc.
   5. When Christ returns, the world will operate by the same laws that work in the kingdom of God - NOW.

**Romans 8:18, 19**

*18 I am of the opinion that there is no comparison between the pain of this present time and the glory which we will see in the future. 19 For the strong desire of every living thing is waiting for the revelation of the sons of God.*

* + 1. When Jesus returns, everything will be turned inside out.
    2. Everyone will operate by spiritual laws at that time.
  1. The natural world is held together by spiritual power.

**Colossians 1:17**

*And He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

* 1. Jesus began His ministry by proclaiming that this kingdom is here NOW! (See 119 References to the “Kingdom of God”)

**Matthew 4:17**

*From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven* (Literally, "kingdom from the heavens.") *is at hand.*

**Luke 17:21**

*And men will not say, See, it is here! or, There! for the kingdom of God is among you.*

* 1. Even John the Baptist proclaimed, before Christ, that the kingdom was at hand. **Mt. 3:2**

*"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

* 1. Right now, everything is “inside out.” When Christ returns, it will “outside in.”
  2. At the transfiguration, three of the apostles saw the “outside in.”
     1. The apostles did not understand this:

**Matthew 16:28**

*Truly I say to you, There are some of those here who will not have a taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.*

* + 1. **Matthew 17:2**

*And he was changed in form before them; and his face was shining like the sun, and his clothing became white as light.*

* 1. In this secret kingdom or realm:
     1. The impossible becomes possible.
     2. The finite is infinite.
     3. The mortal is immortal.
  2. Jesus operated by the principles of this kingdom.
     1. He healed.
     2. He calmed storms.
     3. He provided food for thousands when there were only two fish and five loaves.
     4. He raised the dead.
  3. Jesus said that WE would do the same things and even more!

**John 14:12**

*Truly I say to you, He who puts his faith in me will do the very works which I do, and he will do greater things than these, because I am going to my Father.*

1. **Reaching Into the Kingdom and Receiving**

*“Faith is the thread that makes up the very fabric of Christianity.”* Dr. Fred Price

* 1. We reach into this Kingdom by faith.
     1. The curse of the fig tree. Mark 11:12-22
     2. Jesus said in verse 22, “Have faith in God.”
     3. Jesus finished explaining this in verses 23 and 24.

**Mark 11:23, 24**

*23For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*

**Conclusion:**

God gave us the Bible to be, not just a religious history book or a book of rules and laws but rather, a handbook on how we should live as believers. God gave man dominion over the earth and all that is in it. Through Adam’s sin, that dominion was legally transferred to Satan but through Christ’s work on the cross, that dominion has been given back to us. Most believers understand there is a supernatural kingdom but they fail to realize it is available for us to reach into NOW and to operate in its principles NOW! The Bible is, “a practical book of life containing a system of thought and conduct that will guarantee success. And it will be true success, true happiness, true prosperity, not the fleeting, flashing, inconsistent success the world usually settles for.”

In the next few lessons, we are going to discuss more about this secret, supernatural realm and how we enter into it plus some of the spiritual laws of this secret kingdom. Laws that, when followed by faith, will change your life!