



KINGDOM COMMUNITY:

HEAVEN IN THE EARTH

BISHOP FELTON HAWKINS

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Hebrews 12:22-25

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

25 See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:

- Kingdom community should never be put off into the future. Kingdom community is a present reality.
- The scripture teaches us that the kingdom of God is within us.
- Jesus reminded us that the kingdom of God is at hand. This gospel or good news is one of the key realities taught by Jesus and the apostles.
- The kingdom is first and foremost a spiritual kingdom which operates in the natural earth. Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, established the restoration of the people to God and restores the kingdom back to his people.
- The scripture teaches us that we are complete in him because of the redemptive work he has done in us.

Acts 20:28-31

28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

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- Paul teaches that we were purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ and that he has made man stewards over the kingdom which he purchased.
 - He acknowledges that there would be those who would rise up with a personal agenda that had nothing to do with advancing the kingdom but advancing their own personal agenda.
 - He also acknowledges that they would speak perverse things to draw disciples after themselves rather than after Christ.

Ephesians 1:19-23

19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

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- His power is exceeding great to us who believe, the faithful, those who choose to walk by faith and not by sight.
 - Once again, Jesus is declared to be at the right hand of power over all power, might and dominion in both this world and the world to come.
 - He is lord over all that pertains to the church, which is his body, the fulness of Christ who fills all in all.
 - The key is for the community of believers to know that not everyone in the community of believers are believers. Therefore, we have the wheat and the tare in the community.

Matthew 13:24-30

24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

Matthew 13:24-30

28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

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- Too often we forget that we are not lords over the kingdom, we are just stewards of the gospel and kingdom community.
 - **Tare** - a species of rye-grass, the seeds of which are a strong soporific poison. It bears the closest resemblance to wheat till the ear appears, and only then the difference is discovered. It grows plentifully in Syria and Palestine.

Colossians 2:1-5

1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

4 And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.

5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

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- Paul says, “as a steward of God’s kingdom I have struggled for you and with you,” even for those who he had not personally known.
 - The struggle is to keep the hearts of people assured, knit together on one accord, properly aligned with a kingdom mindset, and full of the knowledge and understanding of the mystery of God the father and of Christ.

Romans 16:25-27

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

27 To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever.
Amen.

Romans 16:25-27

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

27 To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever.
Amen.

To us it has been given the mystery of the kingdom.

- The mystery of the incarnate son of God Jesus Christ
- The mystery of the cross
- The mystery of the resurrection
- The mystery of the Bride, the church
- The mystery of the resurrection

We have access to the mysteries of the kingdom

Mark 4:11

11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: