



# KINGDOM BUILDING



Recovering Scripture's Blueprint for Godly Dominion

Today, we need men of Issachar who know the times and what to do (1 Chron. 12:32).

## RECOVERING THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

Christians sometimes limit the Gospel to only “spiritual” issues or “justification by faith alone”. However, the apostles proclaimed a “Gospel of the Kingdom” that had much wider implications.



*The Gospel isn't about how we personally accept Jesus into our heart, but rather how He accepts us into His Kingdom.*



### What is the Kingdom?

The Kingdom of God is the rule and reign of Christ through His Law-Word over every single person, institution, nation, and square inch of this created cosmos. It encompasses all of reality—material and immaterial—and all spheres. As R.C. Sproul said, ***“The kingdom of God is wherever God reigns, and since He reigns everywhere, the kingdom of God is everywhere.”*** (cf. Psa. 103:19; Dan. 2:44; 4:3; 7:13–14; Isa. 66:1; 1 Chron. 29:11–12; Hab. 2:14; Zech. 14:9; Matt. 28:18; Col. 1:16–17; Phil. 2:9–11; 1 Tim. 6:15–16)



### The Centrality of the Kingdom in Scripture

Part of the reason for the lack of consideration of the Kingdom today is that Christians fail to see its centrality in Scripture. Yet it is all over the Bible.

For example, Matthew's Gospel alone mentions the Kingdom 54 times.

(See Matt. 1:6; 2:2; 3:2; 4:17–23; 5:3–10; 6:33; 7:21–23; 9:35; 10:7; 12:28–29; 13:18–46; 25:14–30, etc.)



### The Extent of the Kingdom

“The Christian cannot be satisfied so long as any human activity is either opposed to Christianity or out of all connection with Christianity. ***Christianity must pervade not merely all nations, but also all of human thought... The Kingdom must be advanced not merely extensively, but also intensively.*** The Church must seek to conquer not merely every man for Christ, but also the whole of man.”

—J. Gresham Machen



*In every area of life, you are always being disciplined, it's just a matter of by whom and for which kingdom.*

## THE KING'S COMMISSION (MATTHEW 28:19–20)

In Greek, it is clear that the object of the main verb (μαθητεύσατε) “to disciple” is “all the nations”. A nation is far more than just a collection of individuals. It implies culture, politics, civil government, laws and all of the other aspects of society. ***Jesus commanded us to disciple all the nations.***



### It's been done before...

Underdog stories are part of the DNA of our faith! Remember that God likes to use the weak and small things of this world to shame the strong (1 Cor. 1:27).



### ...it can be done again.

Dr. Stephen Turley in his book, “The Return of Christendom”, cites three major factors: birth rates, education, and a resurgence of socio-political conservatism.



### RECOMMENDED READS

- *How Christianity Changed the World*—Alvin J. Schmidt
- *The Household and the War for the Cosmos*—C.R. Wiley
- *Gashmu Saith It*—Douglas Wilson
- *The Mission of God*—Joseph Boot
- *Canada: The Introduction of Christianity in Early Canada*—Steven R. Martins
- *The Greatness of the Great Commission*—Kenneth Gentry
- *Rules for Reformers*—Douglas Wilson
- *Family Shepherds*—Voddie Baucham Jr.

# 1. STRATEGICALLY

Jesus once said that the sons of this age are more shrewd in their dealings than the sons of light (Luke 16:8). This is sadly true. We must start to think strategically. What endeavours will yield the greatest influence for us and the cause of Christ in Canada?

## A Decisive Point

*"A decisive point is a place that is significant enough to matter to the enemy if you successfully take it, and insignificant enough to actually take.* This means that the selected target is both strategic and feasible... To identify and go after a decisive point is the way to have a disproportionate impact." (Douglas Wilson, Rules for Reformers, 22)

## Education

Education is one strategic point that will significantly shape the future of a given locality. Education is fundamentally religious because it imposes some form of morality. *In every education, there is an underlying worldview imparted to the students.* Jesus said,

"A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone, when he is fully trained, will be like his teacher." (Luke 6:40)

If you have unbelieving teachers, then according to Jesus, when you've been fully trained by them, you'll be like them. We've been reaping the fruits of the disfigured "paideia" of State-run education. Ephesians 6:4 obliges fathers to give their children a distinctly Christian education. That is, enculturation into a Christian worldview. *Nothing is more powerful to change a culture than paideia.*

**ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑ (παιδεία)** is the transfer of a religious worldview through enculturation to become good citizens of a particular kingdom.

# 2. INCREMENTALLY

Rome wasn't built in a day, nor was Christendom's takeover of that old Roman empire. Christians are not about revolution, but rather Reformation. *Christ's analogies for his Kingdom's growth are slow and steady*—like a tree that grows to take over the garden and leaven making its way through lump of dough. We're not aiming for quick growth—those are usually weeds anyways. We're aiming to plant great oaks.

## Business

Big businesses and corporate empires must be built little by little.

- **LOYALTY:** Galatians 6:10—"do good... especially to the household of faith"
- **BE EXEMPLARY:** Ephesians 6:5-9—work as unto our true Master, Christ.
- **DON'T DEFRAUD YOUR BROTHER:** Leviticus 19:13 & 1 Timothy 5:18
- **GENERATIONAL WEALTH:** Deuteronomy 8:18, Proverbs 3:9 & 13:22

An important part of incrementalism in a locality is building a **shared culture**. Building a shared culture must be done in stages and is immensely important to build something bigger than us and our lifetimes. We are in a culture war and you can't fight a culture war without a culture. *What we breed at home and in the church will multiply in society.*

# 3. GENERATIONALLY

Proverbs 13:22 says that a wise man leaves an inheritance for his children's children. Christians need to think generationally. Psalm 127 says that children are like arrows in the hands of a warrior. *Today, we may be fighting for our children, but tomorrow we must fight by means of them.*



## Family

As the family goes, so goes the nation. This is why it has been relentlessly attacked by the enemy. At the core of every family is the father. Thus, to have strong families, we need to recover fathers with godly masculinity.

*Godly masculinity is the glad assumption of sacrificial responsibility for the benefit of others.*

Note however, we do not try to build strong education, businesses, governments, or families in order for us to build a strong Kingdom for God. Instead, He has established an invincible Kingdom (Heb. 12:28) and told us to seek it first, and all these other things will be added to us (Matt. 6:33). But we must know what we're looking for in order to seek it.



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## NOTES

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