



KEYS TO THE KINGDOM – 1

“THE LOST KINGDOM”

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Why You Should Study the Bible:

THE BIBLE GIVES YOU WISDOM ABOUT GOD, YOUR LIFE, AND HIS PURPOSE AND DESTINY FOR YOU.

2 Tim. 3:15-16 *You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.* (NLT)

What the Bible Says About God:

GOD CREATED EVERYTHING IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH AND HE MADE HUMAN BEINGS IN HIS IMAGE.

Gen. 1:1 *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* (NLT)

Gen. 1:26 *Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”* (NKJV)

The Original Purpose of God for Creating Human Beings:

GOD’S ORIGINAL PLAN WAS FOR MAN TO HAVE “DOMINION” OVER THE EARTH AS GOD’S “IMAGE” OR “SURROGATE” RULER.

Gen. 1:27-28 *So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”* (NRSV)

Psalms 8:3-8 *When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.* (NRSV)

Man’s Original Qualifications (“Image of God”)

- a. Power of Choice
- b. Capacity for Love
- c. Intimacy with God

God’s Earth Dominion Principle:

GOD’S WILL AND PLAN ARE TO BE DONE ON EARTH ONLY THROUGH MAN ACTING

AS GOD’S SURROGATE RULER.

Psalms 115:16 *The heavens belong to the LORD, but he has given the earth to all humanity.* (NLT)

The Effect of Adam’s Sin on Humanity:

ADAM’S SIN DISQUALIFIED THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE FROM FULFILLING GOD’S ORIGINAL PURPOSE FOR THEIR CREATION.

Rom. 5:12 *When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.* (NLT)

Rom. 3:10-12,23 *As the Scriptures say, “No one is righteous – not even one. No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God. All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one.” For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.* (NLT)

The Longings of Fallen Humanity

- a. The Hunger for Freedom
- b. The Desire for Power
- c. The Yearning for Secure Relationships



Key-1: RECOGNIZE ALL MY YEARNINGS AS A HUNGER FOR GOD.

God’s Plan for Fallen Humanity:

GOD’S UNCHANGING PLAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO RESTORE THE LOST KINGDOM TO HUMANKIND THROUGH THE WORK OF HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST.

Eph. 1:4,5 *Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.* (NKJV)

Rom. 5:18-19 *Yes, Adam’s one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ’s one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.* (NLT)

Rev. 11:15 *“The world has now become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.”* (NLT)

The Good News of Jesus Christ:

BECAUSE OF THE OBEDIENCE OF JESUS, SINNERS ARE MADE RIGHT IN GOD’S SIGHT AND RESTORED TO GOD’S ETERNAL KINGDOM.

Luke 4:43-44 *But he replied, “I must preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God in other towns, too, because that is why I was sent.” So he continued to travel around, preaching in synagogues throughout Judea.* (NLT)

Luke 12:32 *“Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”* (NKJV)

John 3:16-17 *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”* (NRSV)