

KINGDOM LIFE -7

“KINGDOM CULTURE”

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Eph. 6:12 *For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. (NLT)*

THE BATTLE FOR EARTH IS A BATTLE FOR CULTURE.

Components of a Nation or Culture

- a. Territory
- b. Language
- c. Laws
 - Constitution
 - Moral Codes
- d. Symbols

PEOPLE MANIFEST THEIR CULTURE THROUGH:

1. Values

1 John 2:15-17 *Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. (NLT)*

The Values of the World

- a. Physical Pleasure
- b. Visual Craving
- c. Pride in Achievements and Possessions

Matt. 16:24-26 *“If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?” (NLT)*

2. Priorities

Matt. 6:31-33 *“Don’t worry and say, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ The people who don’t know God keep trying to get these things, and your Father in heaven knows you need them. The thing you should want most is God’s kingdom and doing what God wants. Then all these other things you need will be given to you.” (NCV)*

3. Behavior

Luke 4:18-19 *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.” (NASB)*

4. Standards

Eph. 4:13 *We must become like a mature person, growing until we become like Christ and have his perfection. (NCV)*

5. Morality

1 Cor. 13:4-7 *Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. (NLT)*

6. Relationships

Matt. 18:21-22 *Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.” (NASB)*

7. Physical Appearance

1 Peter 3:3-4 *Don’t be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. (NLT)*

8. Food

Rom. 14:13, 17 *I know and am convinced on the authority of the Lord Jesus that no food, in and of itself, is wrong to eat . . . For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (NLT)*

9. Distinctiveness

Eph. 5:8 *For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! (NLT)*

Rom. 12:2 *Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (NLT)*