

So we spent yesterday morning focusing on “The Kingdom of The Heavens”. Jesus spoke more parables about the Kingdom than any other topic, and even though it was one of the foremost subjects of Jesus’ teaching, I think it’s still “in parables” that most people think about it. But it’s not just a “concept”, The Kingdom of God is real. In fact, we could say it’s *more real* than what we see and feel, because the things

that are “seen are temporary, while the things that are unseen are eternal.” (2Cor 4:18) So how much do we know? Well, I don’t know about you, but so far I have more questions than answers. Let’s walk through some of it again, and then press in a little bit more.

“For in Him dwells all of the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are filled *en Him*, Who is The Head of all principality and authority.” (Col 2:9-10) Now, before we move on to *arche* (principality), let’s dig a little more into *pleroo*, “filled”. The picture is clear, in Jesus rests “the totality of divine powers”, all of “God in a body”. AND “you are”, that’s Present - “now”; Indicative - “for a fact”; and Active - “a contemporaneous action”. For a fact this is happening in you right now! But we’re not through, it’s also plural. It’s “all y’all! All of us ARE being “filled up with”, jam packed full of, HIM! He is alive in us. All of this “fullness” is in us! The Head of all, in all of His fullness, is contained in us! Hard to believe? Yes, I know, but it’s true, Jesus is alive in you! All of us! Keep that in mind as we look at “principality”.

We can’t go through all we did yesterday, but let’s focus on one part and take it higher. To get a picture of a “principality”, a place within a kingdom that is under the authority of a “prince”, which is one of the definitions of *arche*, we looked into Daniel 10. During Daniel’s encounter with a “man”, (whose description mirrors John’s description of Jesus in Revelation), we learn that, 1) this “man” had to fight his way through the prince of the “Kingdom of the Persians” with the help of Michael, one of the “foremost princes”. 2) When the “man” leaves Daniel he will “return to wage war with the Prince of the Persians”, and 3) “then the Prince of The Greeks will come.” There’s a whole lotta fightin’ goin’ on!

So we have this view of a realm, “The Kingdom of The Heavens”, that is apparently affecting, if not actually interacting, with the earth. This is just a snapshot, used as a sample of the reality of the “things not seen”, and it brings up a lot of questions. “How did these principalities get here?” Not sure. “When did they get here?” Not sure. “Where is here?” I know that one, it’s all around. But as Jesus said, **“it doesn’t come with observation”, it exists within you.”** (Lk 17:20-21) Being born from above of water and spirit you can see it “with your mind” and “enter into in with the thoughts coming to mind”. That’s what Jesus told Nicodemus.. (Jn 3:3&5) There are times when these things are experienced in the natural, but that’s the exception not the rule. And even then, what is true? Like Paul said, “whether in the body or out of the body I cannot tell. God knows.” (2Cor 12:3) But either way, this is not fantasy, it’s reality!

Let’s have some fun for a moment. Yesterday I wanted to talk about the bustling of activity all around the planet in “the heavenlies”, but I was drawn into the many things that Jesus said about The Kingdom, like receiving it as a little child, because it’s so very important. But let’s ask a couple of other intriguing questions, like, in these clashes between principalities, what does it look like? What do angels fight with? Is the rebellion over? Are the boundaries settled? Jesus is the Head having all power and authority, so how do these clashes take place? Is it just that men are willing to go against God and yield their authority and ability to energize the enemy unlawfully? What does all of this look like? You may not come to understand these things, but you can do this - consider continually Who you are a part of and what you have a part in!

Love never fails!

