

DEMONOLOGY AND DELIVERANCE #12

“The Gospel of the Kingdom”

I want to conclude our series on Demonology and Deliverance in a rather unusual way with what may seem like a startling statement about how important this series has been...

It is my personal belief that the end of the world and the 2nd coming of Christ may not take place until the Church includes the ministries of healing the sick and deliverance from demons in its presentation and demonstration of the Gospel of New Testament salvation to all the world.

I did not come to this conclusion overnight.

I. A Personal Testimony

A. The 1st 10 Years

1. Elizabeth and I came to Christ in the early 1970's, a time when the Church in America was very much caught up in the teaching that the 2nd coming of Christ was thought to be imminent, or “any minute”.

2. **Everyone was reading Hal Lindsey's best-seller, “The Late Great Planet Earth” and trying to figure out who the Antichrist was.**

3. All this was fine with me; brother, I was “living to go”; but a funny thing happened to me on my way to the rapture.

B. Fast Forward 10 Years

1. One day I was reading a rather well known passage on the end-times; 11 verses in Matthew 24. I will read all the verses to get to the last one, which caught my attention.

Matthew 24:4-6

And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

So far so good: deception, false Christ's, wars and rumors of wars. Check.

Matthew 24:7-8

For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Check. Check.

Matthew 24:9-10

"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

Check. Check?

Matthew 24:11-13

Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

So far so good. Or sort of. Some of these signs have turned up over and over again down through history. But then I read the verse that began reshaped my entire view of the end times and the coming of Christ...

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

2. I had read these words before. But this time these 3 words stood out on the page: "of the Kingdom".

3. Jesus did not say that the end will come when the "gospel" is preached in all the world. He said the end will not come until this "gospel of the Kingdom" is preached in all the world. Then I felt the Holy Spirit ask me an obvious question...

II. What Is the Gospel of the Kingdom?

A. 3 Passages that Define the Gospel of the Kingdom

1. There are only 3 other places in the New Testament where the term “Gospel of the Kingdom” is used: Matthew 4:23; Matthew 9:35; Mark 1:14. So let’s look at these one by one.

Matthew 24:23-25

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them.

a. If you had asked me, as a born again Baptist, “What is the Gospel?”, I would have said “it is the Good News that we can be saved from our sins by faith in Christ.” Nothing wrong with that!

b. But this passage showed me that the “Gospel of the Kingdom” is not *limited* to salvation alone. I notice it includes 3 things: Preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, and casting out demons.

c. The Gospel of the Kingdom goes beyond the gospel of salvation! It is Good News for the whole man! It delivers our spirit from sin, our souls from demons and bodies from sickness.

2. The 2nd passage confirms the first...

Matt 9:35-36

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

a. Again we see that the gospel of the kingdom has to include a message of physical healing of the body.

b. Then 3 verses later...

Matthew 10:1

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

c. This confirms the “gospel of the Kingdom” has to include healing for the body and deliverance from demons!

d. A further confirmation is found 4 verses later when Jesus sends the disciples out to minister:

Matt 10:5-8

These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Matthew 10:7-8

And as you go, (1) preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' (2) Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, (3) cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

e. This was about 1981; almost 40 years ago! I realized that there is a difference between “preaching the Gospel”, which is just about salvation, and preaching the “Gospel of the Kingdom”, **which must include a demonstration of healing the sick and casting out demons!**

The Gospel of the Kingdom Includes

These 3 Things

- Preaching
- Healing
- Casting out devils

3. The last place the term “Gospel of the Kingdom” occurs is in Mark 1:

Mark 1:14-15

Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

a. It says Jesus came “preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God; so what do we find in the rest of Mark chapter one?

- Mark 1:21-28 Jesus casts out a demon
- Mark 1:29-31 Jesus heals Peter’s mother-in-law

Mark 1:32-34

At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. And the whole city was gathered together at the door. Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons.

- b. Time and again, Jesus never separated the preaching of the Gospel from the ministry of deliverance.

Mark 1:39

And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.

4. So 10 years into my journey with Jesus, I was “divinely ruined” as to my understanding of....

B. The Nature of True Evangelism

1. I am convinced that the Christian church in America, by and large, has a very truncated view of evangelism and what it means to fully preach the Gospel.

2. We have limited the preaching of the Gospel to getting people saved; but Jesus has commissioned us to preach the “Gospel of the Kingdom”, which also includes healing the sick and casting out demons.

Derek Prince

In the New Testament, no one was ever commissioned or sent out to evangelize without first being commissioned to deal with evil spirits.”

- 3. The ministry of Jesus confirms this to be true:

Matthew 10:1

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

- a. We find the same thing in the Gospel of Mark...

Mark 3:14-15

Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:

b. Jesus never separated preaching the Gospel from healing the sick and casting out demons. That's a far cry from what we call evangelism today.

c. We find the same thing in the Gospel of Luke:

Luke 9:1-3

Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

d. Notice Jesus *taught* them *before* He *sent* them; He knew they'd need it.

e. This is exactly what we have been doing in this series. But how many churches teach on demons today?

Luke 10:1-2

After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

f. In verse 9 He tells them what to do...

Luke 10:9

And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

g. Notice that the Gospel of the Kingdom includes healing the sick!

h. Remember in Luke 9:1 Jesus gave them authority over demons...

Luke 10:17

Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

C. Philip the Evangelist

1. Here is another interesting thing. There is only one person in the New Testament who is referred to as an "evangelist".

2. There are about 28 men in the New Testament referred to as “apostles”; but only Philip is specifically referred to as an “evangelist”.

Acts 21:8

On the next day we who were Paul's companions departed and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.

3. The ministry of Philip is found in Acts 8:

Acts 8:5-8

Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.

And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.

And there was great joy in that city.

4. Here you have it: Philip preached the Gospel (v.8) and the multitudes heeded what he said, “hearing and seeing the miracles which he did” (v.6) And what miracles? Deliverance from demons and healing (v.7) And the result? “There was great joy in that city!”

Derek Prince

“The 1st thing in Philip’s ministry as an evangelist was driving out evil spirits. There is no example of evangelism without knowing how to deal with demons.”

5. So the ministry of the only man in the New Testament referred to as an “evangelist” (1) preached the Gospel, (2) healed the sick, and (3) cast out demons. He preached the “Gospel of the Kingdom!”

6. Philip’s ministry brought revival to the whole region, which had been under the spell of Simon the sorcerer.

Acts 8:9-11

9 But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, 10 to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest,

saying, "This man is the great power of God." 11 And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time.

7. This is a picture of what we have today. We live in a culture held in bondage to sorceries and demons.

Acts 8:12-13

But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.

8. When we preach the Gospel, people get saved. But when we preach the Gospel of the Kingdom, cities are changed.

III. Close

A. The Gospel of the Kingdom is the Great Commission

From Mark 16:15-18

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons...they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

1. Notice how the Great Commission includes preaching, casting out demons and healing the sick.

2. But we've turned the Great Commission into the Great Omission; we've left out the ministries of healing and deliverance because we have not preached the Gospel of the Kingdom.

3. Will Jesus really come again until we do?

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then the end shall come.

B. Re-commissioning the Church

1. So we will now close this series by re-commissioning our church to New Testament evangelism; to give ourselves to preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom.

2. And there is no Gospel of the Kingdom that does not include deliverance from demons.

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