



Hesed Ministries ♦ 1282 Smallwood Drive West #125 ♦ Waldorf, MD 20603 ♦ Email: info@hesed-ministries.org

An Atmosphere Conducive For God's Presence To Come

Introduction:

Luke 8:10-12 – And He said, “To you is had been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is in parables, so that *“seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.”* Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God. Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes way the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved.

- It has been granted us access to know the mysteries – the hidden secret counsel which governs God in dealing with the righteous (those in right standing relationship through obedience) and which is hidden from wicked and ungodly men.

Dt 28:15,23 – disobedience to God locks us out of his blessings and prosperity. The heaven over your head shall be bronze and the earth under you shall be iron.

Darkness and gross darkness increases. The earth is groaning because of the weight of the sin while God is preparing his sons to be manifested.

- Little distinction between church and the world
- Lack of understanding who we are in Christ
- Willfulness and lawlessness abounds
- Where sin abounds, grace much more abounded – are we fully tapping into the grace of God?

I. The Kingdom of God

- the rule of God in the realm of obedience – he must have total priority and preeminence in our lives
- different from the kingdom of heaven which is representing the rule that God asserts from heaven in the kingdoms of earth at any given time – his sovereign reign

We must understand our purpose and function in the kingdom of God.

- We usually focus on function whether than purpose
- When we understand and conform with purpose everything is provide in order for us to effectively function

Luke 12:30-32 – For all these things the nations of the world eagerly seek; but your Father knows that you need these things, But seek first His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom.

- We're not created to seek what the world seeks
- What the world seeks will wear out and be destroyed along with them, or taken from them and given to another
- Our priority is to seek God's rule of government and order, as our source He adds the rest
- It is His good pleasure to give us charge of the kingdom, to have dominion

Luke 17:20-21 – Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, “the kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, “Look, here it is! Or, ‘There it is!’ For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst *or within you.*”

- The kingdom of God is within you
- Heaven and earth must come into alignment for God's glory and full manifestation of his power to fill the earth.
- Matthew 6:10 – Your kingdom come, Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.
- Matthew 6:13 – And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. It is his kingdom, we must follow his instruction.

John 3:5 – Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

- That born of flesh is flesh and has not eternal value
- That born of spirit is spirit which knows no beginning or end

- We must learn to discern that which is tradition and that which is eternal for tradition and religion renders the things of God powerless and of no effect.

We don't understand the fullness of who we are in Christ because we still identify ourselves too much with the world's way of doing things.

II. Identification in Christ

Genesis 2:7 – man was formed from the dust of the ground and God breathed in him life. Everything else God created and spoke into existence.

- Before the fall of man, we had creative ability just as God for we were made in his image and after his likeness
- After the cross, we are being restored to who we were created to be and possess creative ability by the Spirit of God dwelling within us.
- We have the life of Christ within us and the ability to create life.

John 14:16-17, 19 – I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, “whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

- Others can only see the Holy Spirit's function, operation and effectiveness through us as we yield to Him.

Romans 8:8-10 – and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

- The spirit of life has set us free from the law of sin and death
- We are not condemned with the world
- Through us the world can come to know life and freedom

Romans 8:14-21

- Creation is groaning and waiting for the revealing of the sons of God
- The sons of God representing Him will set creation free releasing them into liberty.
- Just as Jesus gave us an example of sonship in his earthly ministry, we are to be that example to the rest of creation that doesn't know him
- Matthew 5:16 – let your light shine so they can see your good works and glorify the Father in heaven.

We have the ability to change atmospheres as part of our weapons of warfare.

III. Atmosphere Conducive to God's Presence

Genesis 3:8 – Adam and Eve hid from the presence of God in the garden after they sinned.

- God fellowshiped with man regularly on earth – there was an open heaven
- Before the fall man had authority and dominion in the earth. Satan continues to be prince over this world (Luke 4:6-7)
- After the fall only righteous men had access to God's presence at his will through the kingdom of heaven until Christ

God responds to certain sounds that are released in the earth upward towards heaven.

- Sounds which brings honor or causes remembrance of covenant

Proverbs 3:9 - Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the first of all your produce; so your barns will be filled with plenty And your vats will overflow with new wine.

1 Samuel 2:30 - But now the LORD says, May it never be! For I will honor those who honor me, but those who despise me will be cursed!

2 Ch 26:5 He followed God during the lifetime of Zechariah, who taught him how to honor God. As long as he followed the LORD, God caused him to succeed.

Psa 50:15 Pray to me when you are in trouble! I will deliver you, and you will honor me!"

Psa 66:2 Sing praises about the majesty of his reputation! Give him the honor he deserves!

Psa 67:7 May God bless us! Then all the ends of the earth will give him the honor he deserves.

IV. Ways To Create An Atmosphere:

Through prayer:

- 1 Kings 18:36 – Elijah at Mount Carmel
- 2 Chronicles 7:1 – Solomon's dedication of the temple
- Acts 2:2,6 – The ushering in of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost
- Acts 4:24-31 – Second outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Through praise & worship:

- Isaiah 6:4 – Seraphims and the presence of God
- Psalm 22:3 – God enthroned the praises of Israel
- Revelation 19:6 – The sound of many waters and the sound of mighty peals of thunder

Through desperation:

- Exodus 3:7 – the cries of bondage
- Judges 3:9 – raised up judges as deliverers
- 2 Kings 20:5-6 – reversal of judgment

Through declarations:

- Ezekiel 37:7 – valley of dry bones
- Ezekiel 43:2 – glory of the Lord coming from the east