

THE KINGDOM WITHIN US — Part 2

When the King Was Born to Live in Men

Primary Scriptures

Luke 17:20-21 NKJV

[20] Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; [21] nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

Romans 14:17 ESV

[17] For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the

Holy Spirit.

OPENING – THE QUIET ARRIVAL OF THE KING

At Christmas, we celebrate the most unexpected arrival in human history.

No armies.

No announcements to kings.

No public display of power.

Instead, God chose a manger.

When Jesus later spoke about the Kingdom, He said something just as surprising:

“The kingdom of God does not come with observation... for indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.” – Luke 17:20–21

The Kingdom did not arrive first as a system –

it arrived as a Person.

And that Person came not just to visit humanity,
but to **take residence in men.**

Paul explains what the Kingdom looks like when it lives within us:

“For the kingdom of God is... righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.” — Romans 14:17

Christmas is not only about what happened *then* —
it is about what happens **now**, when Christ rules within.

1. JESUS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS — THE KINGDOM’S FOUNDATION

Men often measure themselves by:

- performance,
- provision,
- productivity.

But the Kingdom of God begins
somewhere else —
with righteousness.

*“Seek first the kingdom of God and His
righteousness.” — Matthew 6:33*

Righteousness is not self-improvement —
it is **right standing with God through Jesus.**

*“God made Him who had no sin to be sin
for us...” — 2 Corinthians 5:21*

At Christmas, God sent His Son to live the
life we could not live,
so that we could stand before God without
shame or fear.

“People are made right with God when they believe.” – Romans 3:25 (NLT)

This means:

- you do not lead from guilt,
- you do not fight from insecurity,
- you do not obey to earn love.

You lead, fight, and obey **from acceptance.**

When righteousness rules within a man:

- integrity becomes natural,
- repentance becomes quick,
- compromise loses its grip.

2. JESUS OUR PEACE – THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HEART

The first Christmas proclamation was not about power –

it was about peace.

“On earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.” – Luke 2:14

Peace does not mean life is calm.
Peace means **Christ is in control.**

“You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in You.” – Isaiah 26:3

Men carry pressures quietly:

- financial responsibilities,
- emotional weight,
- leadership strain,
- spiritual battles.

Yet Scripture promises:

*“The peace of God... will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” –
Philippians 4:7*

Peace stands guard.

When the Kingdom is within you:

- anxiety no longer rules,
- fear loses its voice,
- stability replaces chaos.

You don't have to find peace —
peace finds you because the King lives in you.

3. JESUS OUR JOY — THE STRENGTH TO CONTINUE

The angels announced it clearly to the shepherds:

*“I bring you good news of great joy.” —
Luke 2:10*

Joy is not emotional excitement.

Joy is inner strength.

*“The joy of the Lord is your strength.” —
Nehemiah 8:10*

A man without joy is easily worn down.

But a man filled with joy is resilient.

Joy enables a man to:

- rise after failure,
- persevere under pressure,
- hope when outcomes are unclear.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace...” – Romans 15:13

Joy is not ignoring reality –
it is trusting God within reality.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT – MAKING CHRIST REAL WITHIN US

“...in the Holy Spirit.” – Romans 14:17

The Kingdom within is not self-created.

The Holy Spirit:

- forms Christ’s character in us,
- establishes inner authority,
- empowers external impact.

Christmas declares: **God with us**

becomes
God in us.

CONCLUSION — CALL TO MEN

The Kingdom is not advanced by noise, image, or appearance.

It advances through **transformed men.**

When Christ lives within you:

- righteousness becomes your identity,
- peace becomes your inner climate,
- joy becomes your strength.

You don't just celebrate Christmas —
you embody its message.

PRAYER POINTS

1. PRAYER — FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS THROUGH CHRIST

Scriptures:

Psalm 23:3 | 2 Corinthians 5:21

Prayer:

Father, I thank You for the gift of righteousness through Jesus. I lay down every attempt to prove myself and receive the finished work of Christ. Align my heart with Your ways and let righteousness shape my leadership, decisions, and relationships.

Declaration:

I declare that I am the righteousness of God in Christ. Shame and striving are broken. I walk confidently as a Kingdom man in Jesus' name.

2. PRAYER – FOR THE PEACE OF CHRIST TO RULE

Scriptures:

Isaiah 26:3 | Philipians 4:7

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, rule my inner world with Your peace. Guard my thoughts and calm my soul. Teach me to trust You fully and rest in Your sovereignty.

Declaration:

I declare that the peace of God governs my heart and mind. I am stable, secure, and anchored in Christ.

3. PRAYER — FOR THE JOY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Scriptures:

Nehemiah 8:10 | Romans 15:13

Prayer:

Holy Spirit, restore my joy. Renew my

strength and fill me with hope. Let joy rise within me as a constant source of spiritual power.

Declaration:

I declare that joy is my strength. I am renewed, hopeful, and empowered by the Spirit of God.