

# REIGNING IN LIFE OVER A DARK WORLD

## PART 4 of the KING OF KINGS Series

Romans 5:17 BLB **SLIDE**

*For if, by the trespass of the one [Adam], **death reigned through the one [Adam]**, how much more will those receiving the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness **reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ.***

- THERE ARE ONLY 2 RACES OF PEOPLE ON THE EARTH AS FAR AS GOD IS CONCERNED.
  - THOSE PEOPLE DESCENDED FROM **ADAM**
  - THOSE PEOPLE DESCENDED FROM **CHRIST**

**Adam was the head of the whole human race ... but ...  
Jesus became the 'Head' of a Whole New Race of people.**

Romans 8:29 BSB

*For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that **He [Jesus] would be the firstborn among many brothers.***

(See also Colossians 1:18)

- THESE 2 RACES **EACH HAVE AN ENVIRONMENT OF THEIR OWN & EXIST SIDE BY SIDE.**  
ONE HAS AN ENVIRONMENT OF **DEATH**  
THE OTHER HAS AN ENVIRONMENT OF **LIFE.**  
**SLIDE**
- THESE ARE THE 2 REALMS IN WHICH **ALL PEOPLE EXIST**
  - PEOPLE EXIST IN EITHER **THE REALM OF DEATH & DARKNESS THROUGH ADAM** (Romans 5:17a)  
OR ...
  - PEOPLE EXIST IN **THE REALM OF LIFE & LIGHT THROUGH JESUS CHRIST** (Romans 5:17b)
- THESE TWO REALMS OR KINGDOMS ARE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO EACH OTHER ...
  - AS DEATH IS TO LIFE
  - AS DARK IS TO LIGHTAND WE EITHER BELONG TO ONE OR THE OTHER

**IF YOU ARE BORN AGAIN OF SPIRIT – REGENERATED ...  
YOU HAVE SPIRITUALLY & INSTANTLY BEEN TRANSLATED  
OUT OF THE ENVIRONMENT OR REALM OF DEATH &  
DARKNESS ... INTO THE ENVIRONMENT OR REALM OF LIFE  
& LIGHT**

In fact the only way out of the Kingdom of Darkness is to be Born-Again of the Spirit. (See John 3:5-6)

*No matter how good a person may be - how good a reputation they may have as an outstanding member of society - if they are not 'Born Again' into this NEW REALM ... **THEY REMAIN IN THE REALM OR ENVIRONMENT OF DEATH & DARKNESS.***

*They may have been nominated as 'The Australian of The Year' ... Or have won the Nobel Peace Prize'...*

*But if they are not born-again ... **they remain in the Realm or ENVIRONMENT of sin and death – locked into Adam's race ... Adam's ancestry ... His legacy ...***

**NO RELIGIOUS WORKS CAN GET YOU OUT ... YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN!**

**BUT NOW, IF YOU ARE A BORN AGAIN BELIEVER, YOUR SPIRIT AUTOMATICALLY EXISTS IN THE REALM OF LIFE & LIGHT –**  
The Kingdom of Righteousness, Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost.  
(Romans 14:17)

**This is the Good News of God. YOU ARE **ANCHORED IN THIS REALM OF LIFE & LIGHT.****

**NOW, IF THAT'S WHERE THE STORY ENDED, WE WOULD HAVE NO MORE PROBLEMS ...**

*If, after this, Jesus returned and took us physically to Heaven ... we would be **Body, Soul and Spirit** drifting on clouds **in the perfect environment** without interruption ... **in perfect health and wholeness** ... and you wouldn't have to come to church and hear me speaking ...*

**BUT THAT'S NOT WHERE THE STORY ENDS. AND *EXCEPT FOR THE THIEF ON THE CROSS, WE HAVE ALL BEEN LEFT WALKING DOWN HERE IN THIS SIN-SOAKED WORLD.***

**YOU SEE, THE PROBLEM WE FACE IS ...**

WHILST WE ARE SPIRITUALLY ALIVE IN **THE REALM & ENVIRONMENT OF LIFE** UNDER OUR KING JESUS ...  
WE PHYSICALLY STILL WALK IN THE REALM OF DEATH WHICH REMAINS UNDER ADAM ... AND THIS IS A GREAT ANOMOLY

FOR YEARS WE HAVE WALKED IN THE ADAMIC WAY ...  
Our brain and emotions are conditioned to think, act and feel the way of Adam ...

WE ARE USED TO LIVING WITH fear ... anger ... depression ... disappointment ... disillusionment ... despair ... doubt ... criticism ... bitterness ... resentment ... pride ... ambition ... and self-gratification.

FOR YEARS WE HAVE THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS NORMAL – WHICH IT IS FOR ADAM'S FALLEN RACE.  
BUT NOW ... **YOU NO LONGER BELONG TO ADAM'S RACE ... YOU BELONG TO CHRIST'S.**

HOW ARE WE NOW SUPPOSED TO WALK THROUGH THIS WORLD SYSTEM ... NOW THAT WE BELONG TO ANOTHER REALM?

**SLIDE** MAKE NO MISTAKE ...  
**THIS WORLD THAT YOU CAME OUT OF IS NOT YOUR FRIEND ... THIS WORLD IS DARK & DANGEROUS ... EXISTING IN AN ENVIRONMENT OF DEATH.**

THERE IS NOTHING GOOD ABOUT IT AT ALL!  
IT IS UGLY.

I love that song by Louis Armstrong, 'Wonderful World' –

*I see trees of green, red roses too  
I see them bloom for me and you  
And I think to myself what a wonderful world.  
I see skies of blue and clouds of white  
The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night  
And I think to myself what a wonderful world.*

BUT HE IS NOT SINGING ABOUT THE WORLD ...  
HE IS SINGING ABOUT THE EARTH.

The New Testament makes a distinction between **The Earth and The World ...**

- **THE EARTH ... FULL OF GOD'S CREATION – EVEN IN IT'S FALLEN STATE – CAN BE 'WONDERFUL' AS LOUIS ARMSTRONG SINGS ...**  
**BUT ...**
- **THE WORLD SYSTEM IS NOT - SATAN is called 'The Ruler of This World ...**

John 14:30 NASB 1977

*I will not speak much more with you, for **the ruler of the world** is coming, and he has nothing in Me.*

2 Corinthians 4:4 NASB

*... **The god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelieving*

*...*

***THERE IS NOTHING FOR YOU AS A BELIEVER IN THIS WORLD.***

Ephesians 4:17-18 & 20 BSB **SLIDE**

*So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that **you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do**, in the futility of their thinking.<sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding and alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardness of their hearts. <sup>20</sup>But this is not the way you came to know Christ ...*

1 John 2:15-17 NKJV **SLIDE**

***Do not love the world** or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him <sup>16</sup>**For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father** but is of the world <sup>17</sup>And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

***IT IS A DARK WORLD & WE CANNOT ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE LULLED INTO A FALSE SENSE OF HUMAN SWEETNESS***

➤ **HUMAN SWEETNESS**

*The Jews were not allowed to use any honey in their offerings because **honey stands for natural sweetness** which is NOT ACCEPTABLE TO GOD (Leviticus 2:11)*

**Human sweetness is sickly and it denies God's Truth ...**

*It excuses people and makes sin acceptable ... to be seen to be 'tolerating' people ...*

*It says, 'We are all friends at any cost.'*

*Hollywood is putting out more and more melancholy dramas celebrating human sweetness where people die with a soft heart but without hope ... Where audiences are touched and weep and go away quite depressed because there is NO HOPE!*

**HOLLYWOOD HAS REJECTED GOD.**

➤ **LOVE WITHOUT TRUTH**

**THE WORLD HAS A LOVE BUT IT IS A LOVE WITHOUT TRUTH.**

**THEY SAY' We're all in the same boat.**

**IT'S GONNA BE OK! WE'RE ALL JUST THE SAME!**

**But we are NOT all the same and often things are NOT gonna be ok!**

**James 4:4**

*... Do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God?*

...

**1 Corinthians 13:6 BSB**

**LOVE ... REJOICES IN TRUTH.**

**NOT THAT WE ARE AGGRESSIVE ... UPTIGHT ... UNCARING ...**

**But we speak The TRUTH in LOVE.**

**We don't practice tolerance ... we walk in Agape love with compassion.**

**THIS WEAK 'WOKE' SOCIETY IS NOT FOR US, FRIENDS.**

**Romans 12:2 BSB**

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.*

**John 15:19 KJV SLIDE**

*If you were of the world, the world would love his own: but because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.*

**SO HOW DO WE WALK & EXIST IN SUCH A DARK ENVIRONMENT?**

**WE BEGIN TO WALK IN THIS WORLD IN THE NEWNESS OF LIFE  
(Romans 6:4)**

*We start out from the realm of life with a happy, peaceful smile and our heart filled with peace ... We sing songs of life and praise ... 'Jesus loves me this I know ...' We smile at people as we walk past. BUT THEN WE START TO NOTICE THEY ARE STARING ... AND FROWNING AT US.*

**SLIDE**

**THE WORLD IS A VERY INTIMIDATING PLACE**

*Now you see stern faces ... angry faces ... You feel aggressive vibes ... suddenly angry voices with criticizing words ... We hear them jeer and mock us ... they are now surrounding us ... encroaching in on us ...*

**WE HIDE OUR LIGHT ... WE START TO RETREAT INTO OURSELVES & COVER OUR HEART ...  
BETTER TO BE AN UNDERCOVER CHRISTIAN ... TO GO INCOGNITO ... ANONYMOUSLY ...**

*Like Peter following Jesus to the cross –  
WE START TO DENY HIM. WE ARE SCARED*

**SO HOW DO WE WALK IN THIS WORLD  
WITHOUT BEING CRUSHED BY IT?**

**WE MUST START TO REIGN IN THIS WORLD FROM LIFE**

**Romans 5:17** tells us that by receiving abundant grace we reign **IN** Life –

Romans 5:17 BLB

*For if, by the trespass of the one [Adam], death reigned through the one [Adam], how much more will those receiving the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ.*

**SLIDE** We now need to start to reign **FROM** that Life.

**WE ALSO NOW MUST START TO REIGN OVER THIS DARK WORLD.**

**'IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF LIFE' YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN A CROWN OF GREAT AUTHORITY**

**BUT WE MUST BEGIN TO WEAR OUR CROWN OF AUTHORITY IN THIS DARK WORLD AND BEGIN TO REIGN OVER THIS WORLD.**

**SLIDE**

**WHEN WE REIGN FROM LIFE ...**

**WE BRING THE ENVIRONMENT OF LIFE WITH US**

**THINGS WILL BEGIN TO CHANGE SPIRITUALLY AROUND US WHEREVER WE GO.**

**THE SPIRITUAL ENVIRONMENT CHANGED EVERYWHERE JESUS WENT ... even though the physical environment didn't change.**

**AS HE WAS IN THIS WORLD, NOW SO ARE WE.**

**THE ATMOSPHERE AROUND US WILL ACTUALLY CHANGE ...**

*Peace will emanate from us and reign over panic ...*

*Joy will reign over sorrow ...*

*Righteousness over sin ...*

*Light will reign over darkness ...*

**WE WILL BEGIN TO WALK THROUGH THIS DARK WORLD WITH THE AUTHORITY OF HIS LIFE ...  
AND THINGS WILL BEGIN TO CHANGE.**

**THIS IS NOT TRYING TO CHANGE ALL THE NEGATIVE CIRCUMSTANCES AROUND US,**

**OR THE NEGATIVE CIRCUMSTANCES WE FACE ...**

**THIS IS NOT FIGHTING THE POWERS OF DARKNESS**

**OR YELLING AT THE DEVIL ...**

**OR COMMANDING PHYSICAL THINGS TO HAPPEN IN JESUS' NAME.**

**THIS IS STANDING IN THE AUTHORITY WE HAVE IN CHRIST, FROM THE REALM OF LIFE, AS WE WALK THROUGH THIS WORLD. WE STAND WITH STRENGTH & AUTHORITY IN THE MIDST OF NEGATIVE CIRCUMSTANCES.**

Philippians 4:1 NKJV

*... Stand Fast in The Lord ...*

1 John 4:4 NKJV **SLIDE**

*You are of God little children and have overcome them because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.*

**SLIDE** *When I was in business in Sydney, I'd been working in the suburbs where I felt more confident of sales. But the Lord put it in my heart to go right into the center of the city. My first appointment was with 'Burns Philp' who do freight. As I drove up and down Bridge Street where they were, the buildings seemed to frown down on me from overhead, threatening me as I encroached on their territory. I felt very small and intimidated. But I remembered a friend's testimony of how he had spoken out that he was a son of God, in a situation that had threatened him. And I started repeating over and over that I was a son of God. And slowly, it made a difference and I believed it and felt my strength rise. When I went in before the men who were to hear me, I again felt quite intimidated at their somber faces and cynical demeanors and I again spoke in my heart that I am a son of God. And as I did I felt God's Spirit strengthening me and I began to rise up above this situation and to reign in this place. The biggest sale I'd made up to that date was very small compared to the \$2,500 sale I made that day.*

**SLIDE** ARE YOU BEING REIGNED OVER BY THE WORLD  
OR  
ARE YOU REIGNING OVER THE WORLD?