

Two Invisible Kingdoms

New Life by the Gospel of Grace

You won't find this in your science books. They don't even have it on their radar. What science reveals to us, however, is the presence of invisible realities we never knew existed. Things like bacteria, viruses, cancer cells, and radioactive emissions threaten our lives even though we cannot see them. It's time to gain eyes to see what science is blind to. Two invisible kingdoms are at war all around you; sometimes you even feel the "tug of war" going on within you. It really helps to know what you are up against.

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14 ESV

What We Didn't Know

Before the revelation of Jesus opened our spiritually blinded eyes, there were many things that we didn't know because we absolutely couldn't get a confirming sense for them through our go-to gateway to external realities: taste, touch, smell, hearing or sight. This "common sense" dependence blocks out the immense spiritual realities surrounding us which can only be revealed to us by God. That doesn't make them less real. In fact, they are far more real than this world—more real in the sense of being everlasting, not passing; more real also in the sense of having far greater power to affect our lives than the material realm.

Prior to conversion, we didn't know that Jesus lives and that He is the Creator of the universe and Redeemer of our world. We didn't know that we were born in an "unnatural" condition—that we should have been born knowing exactly who our God is through a visible fellowship with Him just as Adam and Eve enjoyed before the Fall. We didn't know, therefore, that we were spiritually dead from birth.



We may have been told, but prior to being born again, we didn't know how absolutely real are heaven and hell, the kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of God, angels and demons, and the Enemy of our souls—to say nothing of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. No wonder so much of life failed to "make sense." We were out of touch with huge chunks of reality!

The Kingdom of God

Jesus spoke about the Kingdom of God more than anything else He taught. It is the subject of the majority of His parables and a major theme of His preaching. Clearly, He wanted to "open



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our eyes” to see something that is all around us, within us, coming in greater power, a primary thing for us to seek, and a reality already fully enjoyed by little children. That’s just for starters. See the Scripture section to explore more, but even that list is only a partial collection of His teaching. Ironically, however, it was Paul who gives us the most practical insight into the present reality of God’s kingdom on earth:

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Romans 14:17 ESV

With this description of Paul’s we can begin to identify our own penetration of God’s kingdom in daily life. If we are following the leading of the Spirit in doing “the next right thing” and if we are trusting our God with what He is allowing and asking of us, then the Kingdom’s righteousness, peace and joy become a river of life for us, sustained by the Holy Spirit. That’s our inheritance in Christ and it is a way of living worth seeking at all costs. Just as Jesus taught, however, we will have to seek first the King and His kingdom to experience life on this plane. But it is worth it! As we “press in” to the Kingdom we not only enter the river of peace, we become far more fruit-filled from within and fruitful in outward work and ministry. Everything goes better under the Lord’s [leadership](#) and the Holy Spirit’s [guidance](#).

Advancing this Kingdom with Power

There is yet another dimension of life in the Kingdom: empowerment for the supernatural operations of the Holy Spirit. The “re-birth” of this dimension of the Kingdom, so much a part of the Early Church’s experience came about through the Pentecostal and Charismatic movements of the 20th Century with the re-introduction of the [baptism of the Spirit](#). Healings, miracles and demonic deliverance are genuine Biblical signs that the Kingdom has come with power.

Advancing into the Kingdom of God might be difficult enough—it is unfamiliar and invisible “territory” to us, especially in the beginning—but our task is rendered far more difficult by the invisible opposition that surrounds us. The Kingdom of Light isn’t the only kingdom out there—there are two invisible kingdoms! There is that other realm filled with creatures who hate God and us. They work in relentless opposition to any attempt to advance of God’s kingdom into our world.

The Kingdom of Darkness

Before we pull the lid back on this can of worms, let’s think for a moment about what it means to live in a world with germs. For a long time, we didn’t know that they were there and that often proved fatal, especially since we didn’t have the medical arsenal to combat them. Now we all know they exist and are “on guard” when someone who is sniffing and sneezing gets too close.

Would it really help to see the germs? Suppose you had that kind of vision and you could see the mites on the sofa, the germs on your spoon, or the surface bacteria on your body. That could easily make you either paranoid or obsessed. Such vision would also completely spoil your ability to enjoy this world’s beauty, because these infernal microbes would be forever cropping up. Instead of seeing how lovely a flower looks or a child’s smile, you would be distracted by the germs crawling around on the surface.

Resisting this Kingdom with Knowledge

It does help to *know* that germs exist. With knowledge you can take appropriate precautions to cleanse yourself of them, especially in caring for wounds or in preparing food. Notice the spiritual parallel. Our [emotional wounds](#) can be easily “infected” by the kingdom of darkness; so can what we choose to “feed” our minds by way of education or entertainment. Like germs the devil and his demons are always nearby it seems, looking for opportunities to “infect” us with doubts or fears, blame or shame, anger or hatred, wrong desires or false ideas.

Fortunately, just as our bodies have immune systems to fend off infections, we, too, have a protective covering in the Lord. We need to understand that the Lord’s protection, as good as it is, is limited. Some things will still get past the “hedge of protection” despite our best efforts to stay united to Him. But that is nothing compared to what jumps on us when we stray away! He is a rewarder of those who seek Him and a shield to those who make being close to Him their great Reward.

There Is More to This Story

We have much more on these two invisible realms at our sister site, healingstreamsusa.org.

- 1) [Kingdoms in Conflict](#) describes the infernal kingdom in greater detail.
- 2) [Keys to the Kingdom](#) reveals the keys that Jesus has give us for overcoming the enemy and advancing into the Kingdom’s peace and joy.
- 3) [Spiritual Warfare 101](#) outlines the most essential elements of our daily warfare.
- 4) [Exposing the Darkness](#) unmasks the most dangerous and deceptive ways that spiritual darkness works to destroy lives.
- 4) [Exploring the Spiritual Landscape](#) lays out all of the Bible dimensions of reality left out of our science books and shows their interactions.
- 5) [Discerning Between Flesh and Spirit](#) gives a “heads up” for how to recognize when you may be wrestling with the enemy, not just your own emotional strongholds.

Two More to Explore

[Two Powerful Motivations](#) It takes passion to “press in” as you reach to go higher and deeper into the intimate embrace of our God. It also takes grit and determination to “stick and stay” when the going gets rough or the temptations get too tempting. To help us stay on course and sail when we can, we have been given two powerful motivations to fire us up: the fear of God and the love of God. No, they are not primarily feelings. Feelings are notoriously flimsy and fickle; these are tough as nails!

[Two Warring Natures](#) Take a good look in the “mirror”—the mirror of God’s Word. What you will see is that there is now the new you and the old you. At times the old you may seem more real than the new you, but don’t fall for its disguise. You are no longer who you once knew

yourself to be. *You are a new creation.* However, your true self—your real life—is a mystery “hidden with Christ.” It can only be revealed as you walk with Him in trusting obedience into the new life He has planned for you. Get used to not being in charge!

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For over a decade Steve Evans and [Healing Streams](#) have been helping people recover inner peace and freedom through the free eCourse for healing, [Matters of the Heart](#). Through Forerunners4Him he has been showing how we can be saved for heaven and teaching the way to live a Spirit-filled life on earth. Go now to receive a completely free primer, [Getting to Heaven](#) and/or an introduction to [Living in the Spirit](#) at our website.



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