

THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
**I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
IN CHRIST JESUS.***

(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)

#04-1050

Kingdom Nation

May 12, 2010

In some of my writings on the kingdom of God, I have used the expression *kingdom nation*, which refers to a nation that is under the rule of God, that is, in the kingdom of God. In other words, a kingdom nation refers to a people who are under the government of God, not in lip service but in actual fact as they only do as commanded by the will of God or, if you will, the law of God.

The only kingdom nation recorded in history that meets this definition was the ancient kingdom of Israel that God Himself called forth out of Egypt. I say recorded because it is arguable that the first godly kingdom after the flood was most likely that established by Shem, who was Melchizedek the king of Salem (Genesis 14:18), a type of Christ. However, the call started with Shem's great-plus grandson Abraham whom God promised to make into a great nation.

(2) “And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; (3) and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.” (Genesis 12:2-3 NASB)

We see this promise take root with the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

(5) ‘Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; (6) and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ (Exodus 19:5-6 NASB)

When the sons of Israel were called out of Egypt, God declared that **“all the earth is Mine.”** Acknowledgement of or, we should say, fervent belief in this one statement is where a kingdom nation starts. It is a belief that declares: **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”** (Genesis 1:1). As the Creator and Owner of all creation, God has the sole right to establish His law and government upon the earth. He has the right to build up or plant nations or kingdoms and their leaders and to uproot or pull them down (Jeremiah 18:7-10). In other words, He calls the shots, so to speak, not man.

Without this understanding and fervent belief, a nation will think that it owns the earth or, at least, the territory it might manage to capture and hold. The leaders of such nations will also think that they own the land and thus have a right to control who owns land in their kingdom, as well as take away that land at their own discretion. We see this occurring in many of the nations of the world today, including the United States, whose leaders are acting like impetuous Chaldeans who **seize dwelling places which are not theirs, for their justice and authority originate with themselves and whose strength is their god** (Habakkuk 1:6-7, 11). Some local governments in America have seized property in order to increase their tax base. They have done this by seizing a man's business that is his only livelihood, with the sole purpose of giving the land to others so that they can build a shopping center or a stadium that will bring in more taxes; this is the Chaldean spirit.

Unfortunately, man thinks he has the sole right of ownership and the right to establish his own laws and government, resulting in everything from totalitarian dictatorships, with one man or party taking the right of ownership, to democracies, with the people taking the right of ownership. Some might argue that a democracy is good, even godly, but, in a sense, it is no different than a dictatorship, for each makes man into his own god. Democracies demand that the people rule, not God.

Once a kingdom nation acknowledges God's right as Creator and Owner of the earth, the next important step is to willingly submit to God's law, and this starts especially with the first two commandments of the Ten Commandments given to Moses on Mount Sinai in Arabia as the sons of Israel became a kingdom nation. See article #25, October 2009, *Allegory of Two Covenants*.

(3) You shall have no other gods before Me. (4) You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. (5) You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, (6) but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. (Exodus 20:3-6 NASB)

A true kingdom nation has no other gods before it, which means that there is only one God. Other gods can take on many forms. For example, **humanism** places man at the center of his world, not God. Thus, man is before God under humanism. **Social justice** says that man must be partial in his judgments in order to right wrongs, but God is impartial. Thus, social justice places man's judgment above God's judgment. A nation that proclaims it is one nation under God and whose leaders open their legislative sessions with prayer, and then pass laws and regulations contrary to God's divine law, as if they know better than God, have placed themselves before God. A nation that bans public prayer and the posting of the Ten Commandments on the ground of separation of church and state is acknowledging that God has no place in their government. If He is not in their government, then they have made themselves into gods that have usurped God's government over their lives. This is idolatry and evidence that such a nation does not love God, for they do not keep His commandments.

This people honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. (Matthew 15:8 ASV)

Such nations will be uprooted if they do not turn from their wicked ways. The proof for this is once again discovered in the ancient nation of Israel. As long as the sons of Israel kept God's covenant and His law, they were not simply any nation but a kingdom of priests and a holy nation set apart unto God to be a blessing to all the nations of the world. However, they failed to keep the covenant, broke the law repeatedly, and eventually lost their status as a kingdom nation. Their fall was so great that when the very King that the prophets had spoken of appeared in their midst, they not only rejected Him but demanded that He be crucified in order to usurp His throne. When Jesus, the King of kings, appeared in Jerusalem to face the cross, He confirmed their loss.

Therefore I am saying to you that the kingdom of God shall be taken from you and shall be given to a nation producing its fruit. (Matthew 21:43 CV)

The nation that will receive the kingdom of God to become a **kingdom and priests to God** and that will reign upon the earth in the next eon is **New Jerusalem, the holy city**, the great company of **conquerors** (overcomers) that will be the **tree of life** bearing fruit and healing the nations with its leaves (Revelation 5:10; 20:4-6; 21:2, 7; 22:1-2). This nation will know and do the perfect will of God, and all the nations will be blessed through this nation of the sons of God (Revelation 21:24). The promise to Abraham, the patriarch who sought for **the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God** (Hebrews 11:10), is fulfilled in New Jerusalem.

Today, there are no recognizable kingdom nations on earth. One is forming in the heart of a company of conquerors that will be revealed at the appointed time when the first fruit anointed of Christ are manifested as the sons of God (Romans 8:23; 1 Corinthians 15:23). This comes with the final feast, the fall feast of Tabernacles. These are the ones who have heeded God's word and the Holy Spirit has written the laws of God on their hearts and put them into their minds (Hebrews 8:10). These are the ones who will be raised up in the first resurrection and, along with the living conquerors, will be transfigured into the image of Christ. **This is the kingdom nation that will soon take root in the earth and be a blessing to all the nations until all know the Lord** (Hebrews 8:11).