

THE SONS OF THE KINGDOM

Ge 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.**

When we read this there is a lot that can be missed if we are not watchful and open to what Father has done here.

He did not just make a body for the man and then give him life, HE breathed HIS BREATH, the HOLY SPIRIT, the BREATH of LIFE into Adam.

Now Adam is alive with the life of God in him, he has access to God and the following scripture, that is part of the genealogy of Jesus, says that Adam **“was the son of God”**

Lu 3:38 Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of **Adam, which was the son of God.**

Have we ever considered what that meant at that point and what the LORD’S purpose here was?

Our Father God wanted many sons according to **Rom. 8:29** so I believe that even at this point it was Father’s plan. We all know the rest of the story that Adam did not continue to trust God and what He said. We know that Adam, instead of allowing Father to be his focus of life, changed the focus to himself and his own desire. In this way he **lost the kingdom and lost access to God.**

When I say he lost the kingdom I’m referring to **the dominion** that God had given to them—

Ge 1:26 ¶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; **let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."**

Adam lost access to God but God did not lose access to Adam. Father still did not change His purpose or desire so He gave them skins to cover their nakedness.

Ge 3:21 ¶ Unto Adam also and to his wife **did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.**

I believe that the animals that died, so as to provide skins for them, are a **foreshadow** of the **Lamb of God, Jesus, who died to not cover our sin but to put it away.**

Heb 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to **put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.**

When we were born again I believe that we were born of the Spirit or I could say it this way, God our Father breathed the breath of Life into us and we became a **“new creature” something we were not before, a child of God**

1Jo 3:1 ¶ Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the **sons of God:** therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the **sons of God,(teknon)** and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

At this moment we see **another work of the LORD** taking place that is spoken of in Colossians;

Col 1:12 ¶ Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who has **delivered us from the power of darkness, and has translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:**

We are **delivered from** the “kingdom of darkness” and **translated into the kingdom of his dear Son:**

We have been brought back to the place where God intended man to be “**in the Kingdom**” or under the rule of God our Father. We have come under the **LORDSHIP** of Jesus and have become a “teknon” child of God. We have the privilege now of learning and growing into “huios” **mature sons of God**. The following verse uses this word;

Ro 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, **they are the sons of God. (huios)**

This word is also the word that is used in Matthew concerning Jesus;

Mt 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my **beloved Son (huios)**, in whom I am well pleased.

We see here is that our Father has desired and planned that we be conformed to the image of HIS firstborn, Jesus of Nazareth, that we **come to a place of maturity** in HIM that will bring glory and honor to our Father God.

In order to show how this works we must read further in Paul’s writings to the Philippians’;

Php 3:4 ¶ though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so:

5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee;

6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.

In the above verses Paul is giving us his religious pedigree as well as his ancestry, which was important to any Jew or Israelite. He then tells us that he had come to the place where he realized that **those things were of no value in becoming what God our Father has called him to be.**

8 Yet indeed I also **count all things loss** for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

He has counted all things loss so that he might become and fulfill all that our Father had called him, a son of God.

9 ¶ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

He is no longer depending on his being able to be a law keeper to be righteous but was depending on the finished work of Christ Jesus at the cross for his righteousness.

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

He is saying here that it all came down to knowing Jesus and the power of His resurrection and being able to fellowship with Jesus in the sufferings (hardships, afflictions and emotions) that HE experienced and that he, Paul, would follow fully in HIS footsteps and thereby honor his Father God.

11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

In this verse I don't think Paul is speaking of wanting just to be there on "**resurrection day**" but I believe that he is speaking of seeing the **resurrection power** of the LORD JESUS working in his life.

In order to see why I believe this we have to look at Romans 6;

Ro 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were **baptized into his death?**

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

When we were baptized by the **Spirit of God into the Body of Christ (1 Cor.12:13)** we were baptized into HIS death, burial and resurrection. It means this, when He died we died because we were in HIM. When HE was buried we were buried because we were in HIM. When HE was resurrected we were resurrected because we were in HIM. So that means that we have "resurrection life" in us just as Romans 8:11 says.

So from all of this I believe that Paul in **Colossians 3:11** is speaking of having this resurrection life working in him and us here on this earth now not in heaven.

12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

Here he is saying that he recognizes that he has not yet attained to this but he is pressing on so as to obtain that for which the LORD laid hold of him.

13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

Paul is saying he does not count himself to have laid hold to all that the LORD has for him but he is forgetting those things of the past and continually reaching to those things that are ahead of him in Christ.

14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

He recognizes that there is a prize or as it says concerning **Moses (he had respect to the recompense of the reward)**. I believe the prize is being conformed to the image of Jesus. **(Rom. 8:29)**

15 ¶ Therefore let us, as **many as are mature**, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.

Here Paul is saying that it requires a further **level of maturity** to think this way, to lay aside the lesser things and to be willing to suffer the loss of all things, whatever that might be in your individual case.

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