

# Victory Hour

by Wanda Bolton-Davis

## Kingdom Living Series: Making God the Priority



May 5-6, 2009

### Introduction

Isaiah 55:8-9 says, “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.” Understanding the Kingdom of God requires us to transform our thought processes and actions to be in total alignment with God’s Word. It requires us to let go of all politically correct norms, socially accepted views, economic stability as we know it, and yes, even religion, and submit to the government, rule and reign of God. God does not operate as the world does and to operate according to the Kingdom of God, requires believers to seek Him and walk in His ways, and not in the ways of the world.

“One reason the concept of the Kingdom of Heaven is so hard for many people to grasp at first is because understanding it calls for a complete change of thinking. Moving from a worldly view to a Kingdom view requires a total paradigm shift. Priorities in the Kingdom are different from those in the world. Worth and value are assigned differently. Many of the things the world values most are regarded as worthless in the Kingdom of Heaven. Standards for evaluating greatness are very different between the world and the Kingdom. The world judges greatness in terms of money, power, and influence, while the Kingdom sees it in humility and self-giving service. And finally, the Kingdom and the world take entirely different views from each other with regard to *things*” (p. 161).

In the world, people seek to acquire things to fulfill a void, to satisfy their own desires, or to be perceived by a certain standard or category and things become an end in themselves. However, for Kingdom citizens, things are a means to an end. They are by-products of righteous living, to be used to be a blessing to others and not for selfish purposes. Kingdom citizens understand that things are not blessings. They are by-products of Kingdom citizenship. This is why pursuing things first is out of order. We should pursue the Kingdom and the righteousness of God first, and the things will come.

God promises that He, the King and Lord of the Kingdom, will add unto you, the citizen of the Kingdom, **everything** that you need when you make Him and His righteousness the priority of your life.

- He Will Provide
  - Your physical needs
  - Your social needs
  - Your emotional needs
  - Your psychological needs
  - Your financial needs
  - Your security needs
  - Your need for self-significance
  - Your sense of purpose
  
- **Instructions concerning the Kingdom (Matthew 6:33)**

*Make the rule and reign of God the priority in your life and all you need will be provided!*

  - The pursuit of the Kingdom – “Seek ye ...”
  - The priority of the Kingdom – “Seek ye first...”
  - The passion is the Kingdom – “... the Kingdom of God and His righteousness...”
  - The prize of the Kingdom – “...and all these things shall be added unto you.”



- **Keep the main thing - the main thing**
  - The tragedies in life
    - Life without purpose
    - Not knowing what to do
    - Being busy, but not effective
    - Being successful in the wrong assignment
  
- **Do you have a Protection Plan?**
  - Establish your priorities: A priority is the principal thing upon which we place our primary focus. It is that thing we consider to be of highest value and worth, first among all others.
  - Priority is the principle of progress
    - Correct priority protects time
    - Correct priority protects energy
    - Correct priority protects talents and gifts
    - Correct priority protects decisions
    - Correct priority protects discipline
    - Correct priority simplifies life
  
- **Jesus had two pursuits: What is yours? (Matthew 6:31-32)**
  - We tend to prioritize our lives around things
    - Food
    - Clothes
    - Money
    - Material things
  - Jesus had two simple pursuits
    - The Kingdom of Heaven
    - Righteousness
  
- **The Requirements of the Kingdom**
  - The Kingdom of God demands an exclusive claim (Matthew 6:24)
  - The Kingdom of God requires a test of commitment (Mark 8:34)
  - The Kingdom of God requires that we forsake all (Luke 9:57-62)
  - The Kingdom of God requires a “steward mentality” (Luke 18:18-27)
  
- **Nothing you give up for the Kingdom is ever lost (Philippians 3:8)**
  - The Kingdom is exclusive, but it is not limited
  - In the Kingdom, you gain through losing
  
- **The Addition Principle**
  - All that is needed for sustenance & life is the obligation of the King
  - Provisions for life are the responsibility of the King, not the citizen
  - Kingdom favor is the unearned provision of the King
  - Humankind was never designed to pursue personal provisions, but the influence of Heaven and earth
  - We were created for purpose
  - Your assignment determines access
  - Purpose attracts provision

Munroe, Myles: Applying the Kingdom: Rediscovering the Priority of God for Mankind (Destiny Image Publishers, Inc., Bahamas, 2007).