

The Kingdom of God In Seven Equations

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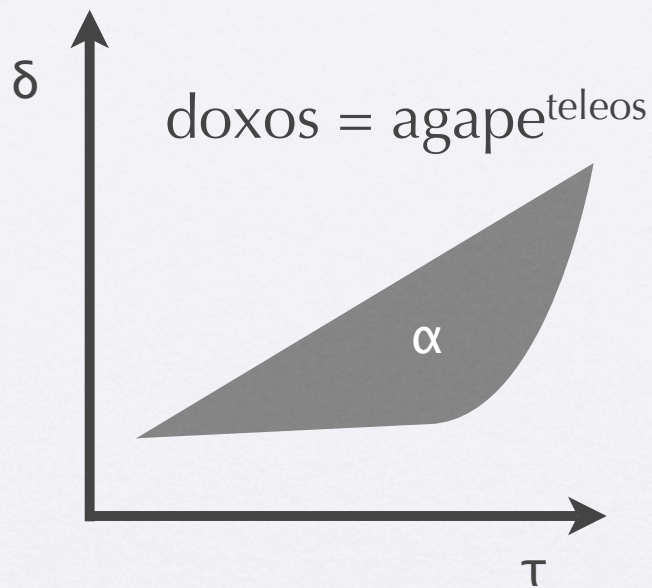
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The Kingdom of God

1. Purpose
2. Process
3. Principle
4. Presence
5. Providence
6. Product
7. Promise

1. Kingdom *Purpose*



Numbers 14:21

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Our Mission is Kingdom, not Church

The World wants (and needs) Kingdom, not Church

The completion (teleos) of love (agape) is what fills the earth with God's glory (doxos) -> route to restoration of the supernatural.

2. Kingdom *Process*

$$\frac{\text{Steward}}{\text{Owner}} = \frac{\text{NNSFW}}{\text{NNRM}} > 1$$

NNRM = *Non-Negotiable Right to Myself*

NNSFW = *Non-Negotiable Surrender to the Father's Will*

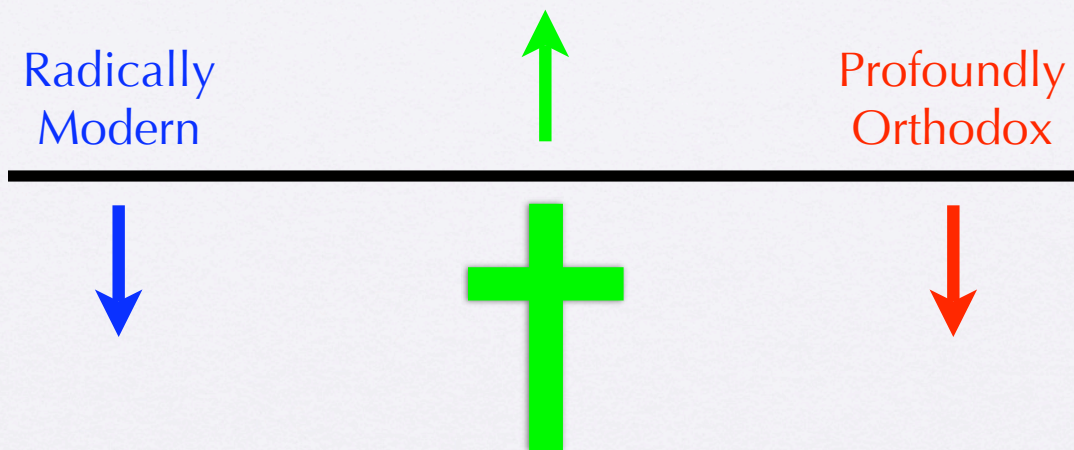
Colossians 1:12-13

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Our offense was thinking we were in control of ourselves
Adam as Owner, Jesus as Steward (Romans 5:17)
Requires violence against ourselves to give up control

3. Kingdom *Principle*



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The Kingdom is always **both** profoundly orthodox and radically modern.
Our traditional doctrine is always ***inadequate***. Not wrong, just inadequate.

We need to fully embrace both -- rooted in Christ -- to truly see God's Kingdom.

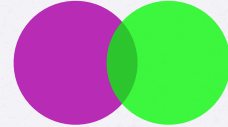
4. Kingdom *Presence*

Deism



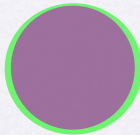
God \neq Nature

Theism



God \cap Nature

Pantheism



God = Nature

Panentheism



God \subset Nature

Colossians 1:17

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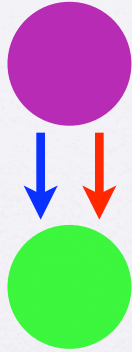
God is wholly other AND wholly present.

We need to move from a deistic or classically theist mindset of God “outside” creation towards a “panentheistic” mindset of God **permeating** creation -- without falling into the pantheistic trap of thinking God **is** creation.

In other words, we need to see God revealing Himself through all creation (from the largest to the smallest), but recognize that all creation is too small to reveal all of God.

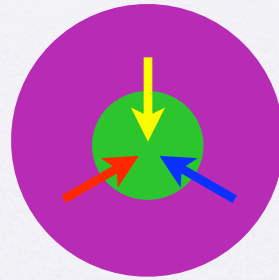
5. Kingdom *Providence*

Sovereign



Usage

Provident



Restoration

I Corinthians 15:24-28

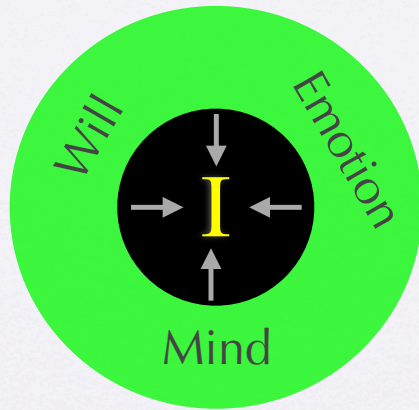
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As we embrace the Kingdom, we move from the “merely” Sovereign experience of God where we “use” things to the Fatherly/Motherly Providence of God, where we actively restore all things to God (and vice versa). We no longer need to live in fear and the need for control, but can rest in God’s abundant goodness.

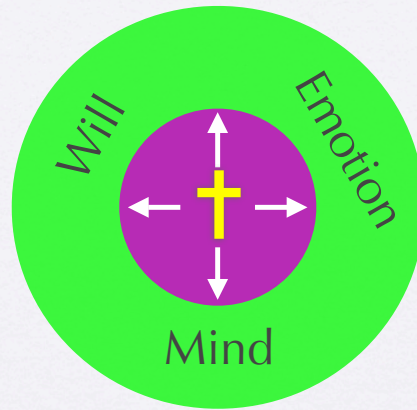
6. Kingdom *Product*

Soulish



Ungoverned Desire

Spiritual



Replicating Christ

Galatians 4:19

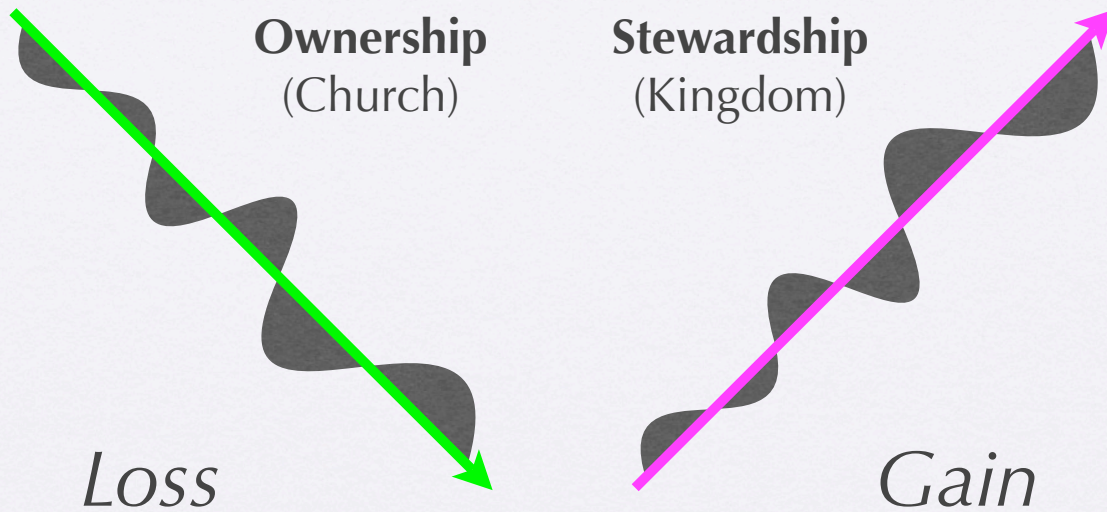
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God is more concerned about what we **are** than what we **do** (Hebrews 4:12).

We need to live in our Spirits, not just our Souls; this requires Sensitivity to God's desires, rather than merely Introspection about our own.

7. Kingdom *Promise*



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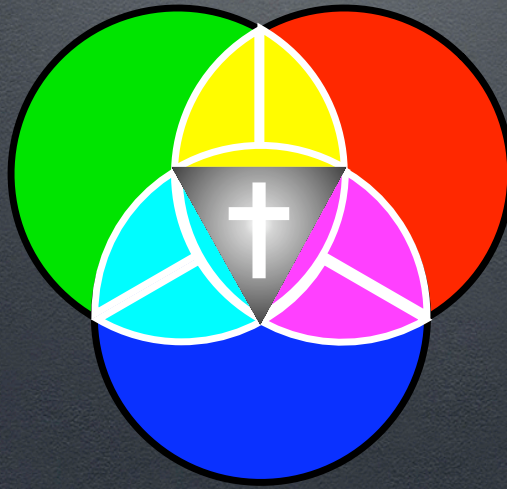
When we live as Owners of the Church, we will feel resentment and rebellion at how God is destroying what we value most, particularly as we see the decay of society. This ultimately leads us to losing (and missing out on) God's Kingdom.

Conversely, when we see ourselves as Stewards of the Kingdom, we rest in His sovereignty and providence, and freely let Him give and take away from what we had. This liberates us to enter into the fulness of His Kingdom. Even as Christ submitted to the cup at Gethsemene, and thus purchased God's pearl of great price.

The Kingdom of God

1. Purpose: *Glory as Love's Completion*
2. Process: *Becoming Stewards, not Owners*
3. Principle: *Orthodox **and** Modern*
4. Presence: *Wholly Present yet Wholly Other*
5. Providence: *Restoring God as all-in-all*
6. Product: *Christ-like Spirit vs. Selfish Soul*
7. Promise: *Lose Ownership, Gain Kingdom*

The End



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