

465 The New Normal Series# 4, His Rule Of Love

With D. Karl Thomas & Zach Sloane

JOKE.- A man jumps out of an airplane with a parachute on his back. As he's falling, he realizes his chute is broken. He doesn't know anything about parachutes, but as the earth rapidly approaches, he realizes his options are limited; he takes off the parachute and tries to fix it himself on the way down. The wind is ripping past his face, he's dropping like a rock, and at 5000 feet, another man goes shooting up past him. In desperation, the man with the chute looks up and yells, "Hey do you know anything about parachutes?!" **The guy flying up looks down and yells, "No, do you know anything about gas stoves?!"**

A kingdom is the governing influence of a king over his territory, impacting it with his will, his purpose and his intent, producing a citizenry of people who reflect his culture and manifest his nature and glory.
His ways welcomed and experienced

Mark 1:15 *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*

Romans 14:17 *"for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."*

Luke 12:32 *"Do not be seized with alarm and struck with fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom!"*

A Kingdom must have 3 things: Ruler – Realm – Rules

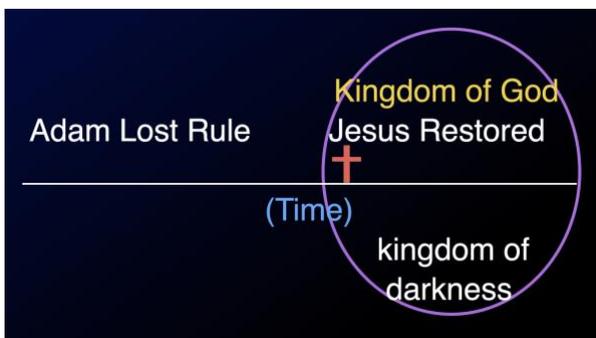
Acts 2:36 *"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, **both Lord and Christ.**"*

Jesus Is A King Maker — King of Kings and Lord of Lords

Ephesians 2:6 *"and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,"*

Revelation 5:10 *"And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." Authority and power to act **KINGS** with a responsibility to bring the heaven to earth **PRIESTS** (Pontiff - Bridge!)*

Romans 5:17 *"For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, **much more** those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ."*



We have a responsibility now to partner with God in bringing His Kingdom into full expression in the earth! ... Disciple the nations! Reformers! IMPACT PEOPLE!!!

Revelation 3:11 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown." **Stand firm Royal Priesthood**

His Rule Of Love

2 Corinthians 3:17 "Now, the 'Lord' I'm referring to is the Holy Spirit, **and wherever he is Lord, there is freedom.**"

John 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

Love :-- **Sacrificially ascribing infinite worth to another.**

The Old Covenant did not work!

My finite ability to love God and others was hopeless.

The New Covenant works!

God's infinite love for me flows through me to others - GRACE.

I John 3:23 "And this is **His commandment**: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment."

Two Core Aspects to His Commandment:

1. Believe on the Name of Jesus Christ. 2. Love one another as I have loved you.

Galatians 5:6 "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision carries any weight—the only thing that matters is faith working through love."

Orthodoxy:-- (orthos) right (doxeia) belief.

Orthopraxy:-- (orthos) right (praxis) action or practice.

We have been more concerned with right belief than right action. Love doesn't demand it's own way. Love serves. **People who get stuck in the right belief usually are not FREE in some area!!!**

1 John 4:7-21 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because **God is love.**

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 **In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

13 **By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.** 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 **By this is love perfected with us,** so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love, **but perfect love casts out fear.** For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 ***And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.***

"This is not a prescription for Christian living, this is a description of what happens when you get placed in Christ." Not stuff you do to prove you are a believer ... stuff you do because it is the fruit of you belief!!!

Four Things About God's Love

- 1. Personal Love** - "We know..."
- 2. Proven Love** - "...the propitiation for our sins."
- 3. Perfecting Love** - "His perfect love perfecting us"
- 4. Preserving Love** - "God is love."

Four Results Of God's Love

- 1. Born In Love** "...loves is born of God."
- 2. Baptized In Love** "...we abide in Him, He in us,"
- 3. Bold In Love** - "...that we may have boldness..."
- 4. Bent In Love** - "...loves God must love brother."

God's Eternal Purpose is to manifest his greatness (GLORY) through a covenant community. The culture of that community is the Love of God.

Charles R. Swindoll (The Quest for Character)

"Marbles or grapes, which will it be? Every congregation has a choice. You can choose to be a bag of marbles...independent, hard, loud, unmarked and unaffected by others. Or you can be a bag of grapes...fragrant, soft, blending, mingling, flowing into one another's lives. Marbles are made to be counted and kept. Grapes are made to be bruised and used. Marbles scar and clank. Grapes yield and cling."

Join Us For Our Covenant Meal