

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

Matthew 5:14



THE KINGDOM

- The church is Israel fulfilled (Rom. 9:6; Gal. 3:28-29).
- To become part of the church is to become a citizen of that kingdom (Eph. 2:19; 1 Pet. 2:9).
- Local churches are embassies of that kingdom (1 Cor. 1:2).
- This is something that is already here (Rev. 1:6, 9)
- A kingdom has a king, a people, a law, and a territory.



LIFE IN THE KINGDOM

- The work of the church is focused on the church (1 Cor. 12:26-28).
- We are not trying to create a kingdom; we are striving to proclaim and be the kingdom (1 Tim. 3:15).
- One of the most compelling proclamations of the kingdom is the love we share (Jn. 13:34-35).
- This is meant to be a compelling vision to those outside of the kingdom (Matt. 5:14).

WHAT ABOUT THE WORLD?

- We aren't trying to regulate the world (1 Cor. 5:9-13).
- We live with honor and respect toward the kingdoms of this world (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:17).
- But we are not trying to reform the kingdoms of this world (Dan. 2:44).
- Our conduct toward the world should be full of honor, wisdom, and courtesy (Col. 4:5-6; Gal. 6:10; Tit. 3:2).
- But we are not the same (Jas. 4:4; 2 Cor. 6:15-17).
- Is our purpose too small (Isa. 49:6)?