

# **THE ATMOSPHERE FOR KINGDOM MANIFESTATION Prt 1**

I have been through seasons in my life in which things are dull, life is monotonous, in which I just lack the energy to pursue God, energy to pursue those things that really matter.

It is not as if these seasons just fell on me like lightening, they tend to gradually grow on me. Maybe it is just me, but if you are in the same state or you have been through those seasons, then you are in the right place.

In these coming weeks, I want to address you on a brand-new series titled **THE ATMOSPHERE FOR KINGDOM MANIFESTATIONS**.

- A farmer plants a crop during the planting season and when the harvest season comes, he goes back to the field expecting a harvest. Where he planted rice, he expects a harvest of rice. Frustration kicks in the moment he goes to the fields expecting a harvest, only to find rice stocks without the rice. That farmer would be foolish if he continues as usual after finding no harvest in the field.
- This farmer is expected to ask some questions – “what happened, did I plant the wrong seed, did I apply the correct nutrients into the soil or was there an enemy that came at night and harvested where he did not plant.”
- What is the point; certain manifestations are expected in the life of a kingdom person, in the life of a kingdom family, in the affairs of a kingdom business.
- From the day you and I believed in Jesus Christ, we became part and parcel of the Kingdom of God.

*Colossians 1:13 For He has delivered us from the power of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son; 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the remission of sins.*

- Every kingdom has benefits related with it – think about the benefits that accrue to being part and parcel of the British Royal Family?
- One of the frustrations you will find among believers is the absence of kingdom results in their lives. Many believers are frustrated by the absence of kingdom results in their lives.
- I don't know about you, but I am frustrated when people close to me get sick and there is no healing, when my business is struggling along side any other business, when my marriage is stuck in the same place for years without end
- An ambassador of South Africa to Belgium knows that he has the full support of South Africa whilst he is in Belgium. When he is stranded, he expects assistance from the sending country.

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- There has to be a difference between someone who is in the Kingdom and someone who is not – shouldn't there be?
- Right now, I am in need of the manifestation of the Kingdom of God in my life. I need something new; I need to have access to the realities of heaven.

Just as the title of this series is alluding to, there are environments or atmospheres that make it possible for the kingdom of God to manifest in your life. There are things that you do that enables this manifestation to take place. The issue has never been about the capacity of the Kingdom of God, the issue has always been your ability to facilitate its power in and around you.

- Don't miss the point – the manifestation I am talking about can only start with the individual before it flows out into the church.
- A church that is experiencing the kingdom has church folk that are connected with the kingdom – a dead church is made up of dead church folk.
- Personal kingdom manifestation is a by-product of the prevailing atmosphere in ones life.
- This principle is true for many situations in your life
  - A tree flourishes when it is planted in a nutritious place.
  - A blissful marriage is not by chance but it is a result of the effort and atmosphere created by the couple.
  - Your training regime in the gym determines your results on the race day.
  - The company you keep, will determine your future.

## **1. What is the kingdom of God?**

- When you don't understand something, you will not realize its value – the reason why most people will not fight for the manifestation of God's kingdom, is that they don't understand what it is. People don't appreciate the implications of God's kingdom in their lives.
- The kingdom was a massive issue in the heart of Jesus and that was at the center of His incarnation. He left His glory in order to introduce the Kingdom to humanity.
- In the ESV translation, "kingdom" is mentioned 126 times in the Gospels. But then "kingdom" is mentioned only 34 times in the rest of the New Testament
- The word kingdom in the Bible means God's kingly rule — his reign, his action, his lordship, his sovereign governance.
- Just like in any other kingdom, God is the king over His kingdom, He has statutes that He wants to implement and He has subjects that are submitted to Him.

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*Psalms 103:19: "The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all."*

- Since the fall of man, God has been on a quest to save man, to redeem man back to himself – and that is the essence of His reign.
- This is why the proclamation of the Kingdom of God is a proclamation of good news – the saving of sinners.
- It is important that you understand the concept of the Kingdom of God –
  - When Jesus was about to start His ministry, John the Baptist used it often as he called for repentance *"repent, for the kingdom of God is near"* (Matthew 3:2)
  - Jesus Christ himself said *"the kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe"* (Matthew 4:17)
  - Jesus also used it when teaching his disciples how to pray *"your kingdom come"* (Matthew 6:10).
- The earth is a place of great contestation, with two kingdoms looking for dominance
- Every inch of the earth is either under the influence of the kingdom of light or is under the influence of the kingdom of darkness. There is nothing like a demilitarized zone or no man's land or unoccupied territory.
- Let me show you a couple of scriptures in this regard:
  - God created Adam and Eve – He gave them His image; He gave them control over the earth.

*Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the heavens, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over all the creepers creeping on the earth.*

- The devil, the adversary came by and contested for the control of that which God had created.

*Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which Jehovah God had made. And he said to the woman, Is it so that God has said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?... 7 And the eyes of both of them were opened. And they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made girdles for themselves.*

- This resulted in the fall of man and a direct transfer of the control of the earth and its kingdoms

*Matthew 4:8 Again, the Devil took Him up into a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.*

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*2 Corinthians 4:4 ESV In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

- Every believer, every kingdom person has a mandate to facilitate the establishment and the expansion of the kingdom of God.

*Matthew 5:13 You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its savor, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. 14 You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they set it on a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house....*

- At every stage and moment of your life, you have a choice to either allow the Kingdom of God to be manifested or to be subject to the kingdom of darkness.
- Every believer holds the keys for the establishment and expansion of the kingdom of God.
- If you don't see the kingdom of God at work, don't look too far – look at yourself and take responsibility.

*Psalm 115:15 You are blessed of Jehovah who made the heavens and the earth. 16 The heavens, even the heavens, are Jehovah's; but the earth He has given to the sons of men.*

- The activities of believers turn the passive presence of God into an active presence of God

*2 Corinthians (TPT) 5:20 We are ambassadors of the Anointed One who carry the message of Christ to the world, as though God were tenderly pleading with them directly through our lips. So we tenderly plead with you on Christ's behalf, "Turn back to God and be reconciled to him."*