

## **For His Kingdom** by Ps Larry Elliott

### Part 1

While mentoring His disciples, Jesus, on many occasions, told them that His Purpose was to Honour the Father and fulfill the plan of God.

He spoke about the express plan to redeem mankind, but in doing that He was to set up and establish The Kingdom of God.

As we celebrate the Death, Burial and Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, the fact we are doing it in isolation doesn't limit or contain who Christ is or what God is doing.

I want to talk this Easter about a MINDSET (thought pattern) "For the Kingdom"

### **Everything we do is "For the Kingdom"**

**When we live from this premise it motivates us to Glorify Christ and Pursue Him rather than what we get or what we are encountering.**

**Romans 14:17-18 NLT** "For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness (righteousness) and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. If you serve Christ with this attitude, you will please God, and others will approve of you, too."

**If you will allow these three (righteousness, peace and joy) to guide, guard and govern your life you will be well on your way to living a satisfying life and serving In His Kingdom.**

**Romans 14:17-18 MSG** "God's kingdom isn't a matter of what you put in your stomach, for goodness' sake. It's what God does with your life as he sets it right, puts it together, and completes it with joy. Your task is to single-mindedly serve Christ. Do that and you'll kill two birds with one stone: pleasing the God above you and proving your worth to the people around you."

God wants to do something with your life and it's for His Kingdom.

That's why Jesus came to earth, endured the cross, was raised by the Spirit and is seated at the right hand of the Father

So, let's talk about this Kingdom

The Jews were looking for a natural, powerful Kingdom run by this all powerful "messiah" who would overthrow the Roman Empire and conquer the world for them.

But God has bigger fish to fry...!

He's a BIG THINKER YOU KNOW!

He had a way bigger plan: destroy the principalities and powers that control mankind and PLACE a King in OUR hearts who would rule FROM THERE FOREVER in a SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.

**Matthew 16:16-19 NKJV** "Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter,



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and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

What really counts in **the Kingdom of God** is not dietary regulations but spiritual realities. **The kingdom of God** is the sphere where God is acknowledged as Supreme Ruler. It's an inward reality that only includes those who are born-again.

Myself and Mandy love "Masterchef", we love travelling and trying out cafes (not for the next few weeks)

The subjects of His kingdom are not intended to be foodies and wine connoisseurs

- Our lives are characterized by a daily practical **Righteousness**
- By the Fruit of **Peace** and harmony
- And a deep, honest mind-set of **Joy in the Holy Spirit**.

Our heart and passion isn't in eats or drinks or our possessions and positions.

**1 Peter 2:12 NKJV** "having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation."

You see it's living a life that honours God's and causes others to acknowledge that He is real even if they don't know Him or understand His ways.

**Matthew 3:2 NKJV** "and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

**Matthew 3:2 AMPC** "And saying, Repent (think differently; change your mind, regretting your sins and changing your conduct), for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

In other word the Kingdom is available and accessible right now and is moving towards its culmination and ultimate fulfillment and we get to play a role, **HOW?**

### 1. Be ESTABLISHED IN God's Righteousness

**Isaiah 54:14 NKJV** "In righteousness you shall be established; you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you."

Have you ever asked yourself why sometimes we are overwhelmed with challenges, sicknesses and defeat when God's promise, "No weapon formed against you shall prosper" (Isaiah 54:17) is true?

Well, this promise comes with a condition - "In righteousness you shall be established". When you are established in righteousness, these things cannot prevail over your life.

This condition is not hard to meet.

For a start, you already have righteousness!

When you received Jesus as your Saviour, you received the gift of righteousness that enables you to reign in life. (Romans 5:17)



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So righteousness does not come from you but the Lord (Isaiah 54:17)  
And when you are established in His righteousness, no weapon formed against you will prosper.

But what does being established in righteousness mean?

To be established in something means you have it engrained into foundation for security.

God wants you to know, be sure of and grow in the revelation that you are righteous by the blood of Jesus, by His perfect sacrifice at the cross.

When you feel as if you are in a storm, tossed here and there, and you begin to experience worry and fear, remind yourself of who you are in Christ.

You are the righteousness of God in Christ and you have His righteousness!

So when the pressure is on, hold fast to the belief that you are the righteousness of God in Christ.

Righteousness sets you RIGHT, it places you in PEACE.

**How do we play a role in His Kingdom:**

## **2. By WALKING IN Peace**

**Peace is a prosperity word which speaks about an inward WHOLENESS, a sense that God has put me back together; I'm not perfect outwardly yet (I'm growing towards that) but I am perfect inwardly because of my relationship with Christ.**

Deciding to have an attitude of peace and calm is priceless.

It's STANDING in Faith, SAYING: "I'm trusting God, no matter what"

It takes GRACE FROM GOD and FOCUS to be consistently peaceful.

BUT IT'S POWERFUL WHEN YOU DO!

Stop thinking about what's past or worrying about what will hope tomorrow

MAXIMIZE TODAY BY WALKING IN PEACE.

**Romans 14:19 NKJV** "Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another."

**Psalms 29:11 NKJV** "The LORD will give strength to His people; the LORD will bless His people with peace."

**PEACE keeps you together, and it puts you on God's Highway of JOY.**

**How do we play a role in His Kingdom:**

## **3. By LIVING IN Joy**

**Isaiah 35:8-10 NKJV** "A highway shall be there, and a road, and it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, but it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, shall not go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it; it shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there, and the ransomed of the LORD shall



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return, and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.”

**Despite what may happen in the details of our lives, God’s priority is to produce Joy in US.**

**Jesus came into this world to bring us Joy; therefore without Him you cannot experience true JOY.**

**John 15:11 NKJV** ““These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”

**Joy is hidden within our fellowship with God and His Word,  
It’s the ability to stay cheerful and consistent and Faithful despite the pressures around you.**

**Galatians 5:22-25 NKJV** “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

**The Holy Spirit is working in you to produce Joy, because it is the FUEL that motivates you from the inside out to be STRONG**

**Nehemiah 8:10 NKJV** “Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

**JOY completes us**



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