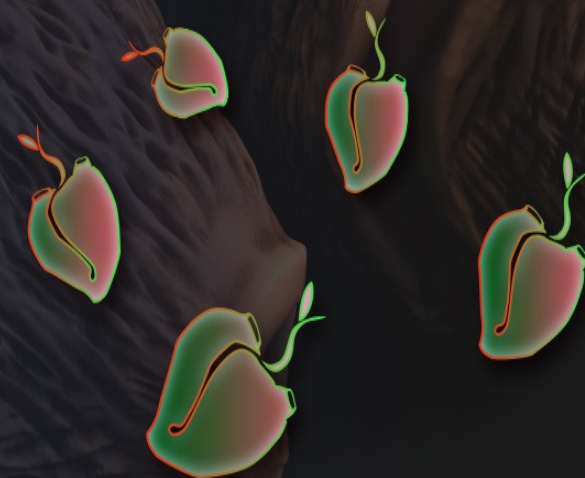


# The Kingdom Effect

A decorative vine with green leaves and small red flowers frames the text. The vine starts at the top left, goes around the 'The' and 'Kingdom', then loops around the 'Effect' and ends with a root-like flourish at the bottom left.

# **The Kingdom Effect:**

*How Christ & the Kingdom Changes Everything*

## **The Kingdom Effect...**

1. On the Individual
2. On Human Sexuality
3. On Marriage
4. On the Family
5. On the Church, pt I
6. On the Church, pt II
7. On Society & Culture
8. On Worldly Powers
9. On the Future  
*of Heaven & Earth*

# The Individual (Person)

“Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being [soul].” Gen 2:7

- Human beings are a *union* of body and spirit/soul.
- God created humans to be male or female (Gen 1:27).

# Creation, Fall & Redemption

- We are made in God's image...
- but are broken and not as we should be.
- Christ & the Kingdom is God's plan to redeem and reconcile the world to himself.

# Identity Crisis

A self-identity of “flesh” began in Eden and the “pattern of this world” maintains it... seeking to shape and conform us to a false identity.

- **Lie 1:** Being made “in his image” isn't best.
- **Lie 2:** You are self-sufficient and know better.
- **Lie 3:** You can obtain life by *doing* something.

# Flesh or Sinful Nature?

“The flesh is not a nature that is essential to someone's identity. It is rather a deceptive way of seeing and experiencing oneself and one's world and thus a deceptive way of living in the world... It is a way of existence that comes naturally to fallen creatures, but it is not itself a “nature.” Indeed, it is sinful and destructive, and believers are exhorted to live free of it, precisely because it is against the nature God created in us and the new identity God gave us in Christ. In other words, the flesh is a worldview that is based upon a lie and that therefore opposes truth.”

Greg Boyd, *Seeing is Believing* (p.35)

## Paul, Romans 12:1-2 NLT

**1** And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

**2** Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

## Jesus, John 14:15-20 NIV

**15** “If you love me, keep my commands. **16** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— **17** the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. **18** I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. **19** Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. **20** On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

The Holy Spirit is given at Pentecost (Acts 2).



## **Paul, 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 NLT**

**17** This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! **18** And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

## **Paul, Galatians 2:20 NIV**

**20** I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in [of] the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

## **Romans 8:11 NLT**

**11** The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you"

## **Paul, Ephesians 2:1-3 NIV**

**1** As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **2** in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

**3** All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

## Paul, Ephesians 2:4-7 NIV

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

## Paul, Colossians 3:1-4 NIV

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

## **Paul, Colossians 3:5-10 NIV**

**5** Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. **6** Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

**7** You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. **8** But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

**9** Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices **10** and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

## Paul, Philippians 4:6-8 NIV

**6** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

**7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**8** Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

# Growing Up Into Christ

- **Conversion**—the initial filling of the Spirit.  
(confession, repentance, baptism, etc.)
- **Sanctification**—the process of being made  
“holy” and transformed into Christ by the Spirit.  
(i.e. the journey of discipleship)
- **Glorification**—completion and perfection of the  
sanctifying work of the Spirit (Phil 1:6)!




## **Paul, Colossians 2:6-7 NLT**

**6** And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him.

**7** Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

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