

# An Inside--Out Kingdom

## Right In Their Eyes, Part 2

Pastor Ken Ritz \* November 1, 2015 \* New Life Vineyard Church

Question: Do you really want to be like  
"everybody else?"

- If you take your cue from everybody else, you will end up like everybody else.
- We take our cues from their highlight reels.
- If we could see how their outside behavior makes them feel on the inside, we wouldn't be so quick to copy.

*In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.*

Judges 21:25

*Joshua, by then a very old man, summoned all Israel—their elders, leaders, judges and officials—and said to them: "I am very old. You yourselves have seen everything the Lord your God has done to all these nations for your sake; it was the Lord your God who fought for you..."*

*6 "Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. But you are to hold fast to the Lord your God, as you have until now.*

*12 "But if you turn away and ally yourselves with the survivors of these nations that remain among you...*

*they will become snares and traps for you, whips on your backs and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land, which the Lord your God has given you.*

Josh 23:1-13

God wasn't trying to keep the nation \_\_\_\_\_  
something good, He was trying to \_\_\_\_\_  
them something good.

- He was trying to make them special—not like everybody else.
- The tension we all struggle with: Is God for me, or is God keeping something good from me?

*"Now then, throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the Lord..."*

Joshua 24:23

The battle: Who will be king?

- Will I yield my life to what everybody around me is doing, or will I yield my life to the will of the Holy Spirit in me?

The Kingdom of God is an \_\_\_\_\_  
Kingdom.

- I'm ruled by the Holy Spirit in me.

The kingdoms of this world are \_\_\_\_\_  
kingdoms.

- I'm ruled by what I see outside me.

Prayer to pray this week.

*Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word.*

Psalms 119:35-37