

Understanding the Times:

The United States (as well as much of the Western world) is being shaken and shifted because of God's plans – loving plans of judgment and correction (Heb 12:27), as well as plans to establish the Church in all aspects of culture (the “7-Mountainians”) as part of this truth: “the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of Christ” (Rev 11:15).

Babylonian models (read: worldly, earthly, demonic, and anti-Christ) largely predominate all aspects of culture today outside the “4-walls” of church. Sadly, many of these worldly structures, systems and strongholds have also infiltrated the Church itself (e.g., Mammon). As troubling as that is, we should not be surprised by it, as Jesus revealed that 5 out of the 7 Asian churches in the book of Revelation suffered from some type of mixture with evil.

In the United States, government, business, education, family, media, the arts and even much of religion can no longer be considered Christ-centered. This is in stark contrast with the Christ poured foundations laid by our forefathers: the Pilgrims, Puritans, as well the founding fathers of the United States who claimed our land for Jesus. Where the Spirit of Liberty is there is freedom (2 Cor 3:17), but by removing God from everything, we have lost true freedom.

So, are we transitioning into a new era? God's prophetic voices are speaking of a time of revolution, reformation, transformation and revival, yet simultaneously: judgment and difficulty. It doesn't take a prophet to understand that we have already set sail into very rough waters of geopolitical and economic difficulties. Perhaps the purpose of these difficulties is three-fold:

1. Believers are to “Come out from [Babylon] and touch no unclean thing, lest you share in their sins and their plagues” (Revelation 18:4; Isaiah 52:11; 2 Corinthians 6:17). Meaning, God wants his children to stop conforming to the world. A Holy remnant of God's people have been called and set aside for such a time as this;
2. The Church will rise up into its destiny of reigning with Christ on the earth, as it is in Heaven. Jesus is newly establishing divine government on the earth through God's people. This is very different looking than earthly governments and church/ministry as we know it. Pure and undefiled new wineskins and new Heavenly models are emerging. This is the Kingdom coming.
3. Unbelievers will be given great opportunity to turn to God during a time of shaking. This will bring great harvest.

### Impact on Non-Profit Ministries:

The issue for most non-profit ministries today is that they are largely dependent on income streams derived from benefactor's employment and investment income operating in the very economic systems coming under judgment (i.e., Wall Street and the U.S. economy). Thus, non-profit income streams are under downward pressure. This will continue and get worse.

Commerce and finance today clearly has the hallmarks of Harlot Babylon (read Revelation 18), and irrespective of your eschatology, God never intended His people to be enslaved by sin and demonic strongholds forever (examples abound in the bible: Exodus from Egypt, Departing Babylonian Captivity, etc.) Make no mistake: demonic structures and strongholds have been authorized and erected through the sin of man's: pride, selfish ambition, man pleasing, materialism, greed and fear. These systems, structures and strongholds (Mammon, Debt, Political Correctness, etc.) have enslaved God's people.

God prophetic plan is to "set the captives free" and thus set His children free from the balls and chains of our slavery (slavery to: debt, career, consumerism, self-centeredness, self-help, self-promotion, worldly mindsets, and income derived from same). As discussed above, God's plan revealed through His prophets is to do this through a period of storms, trials and difficulty - a type of reaping what we have sown as we have actively pushed God away (and therefore his protection) in many aspects of life and culture.

Dr. Roberto Miranda (senior pastor Congregation Lion of Judah Boston) recently put it well: "like a boxer 'softens up' his opponent with a series of body blows, God is softening his people/Church up from pride, arrogance and stubbornness before they are open and willing to receive and obey His will." (paraphrased from NE Seismic Shift September 2011).

### New Models

So, under such a scenario, what must God-fearing ministries do? In a word, trust God fully and keep an open mind and heart to new ways / new wineskins. Specifically, be prepared to embrace new models of finance and provision. God will always provide for his own, but not necessarily how it is done today, was done in the past, or even how we expect, or even how we demand.

But what will that look like? While not yet fully revealed, here is a sense and understanding of some of its attributes:

1. Ministries will be partnered with, or become a part of, an emerging branch of the Church called to “transfer wealth”. Such true wealth (eternal treasures) ultimately being measured in people, but specifically including temporal resources. These transfer agents will be pure hearted and called like Joseph was to Israel in Goshen during a time of famine in Egypt (Gen 45). A “new breed” of business people, led by the Spirit and given new Kingdom models of commerce and finance to “transfer wealth” into the Kingdom, creating Storehouses for times of famine.
2. These emerging business models will also be a form of ministry. Establishing a Kingdom economy of giving and receiving for Kingdom advancement, rather than on an economy of “making money” driven by fear and greed. This new breed of business people will not be conformed to, nor enslaved by, the world's business practices and financial systems or constraints. Instead, they carry a mandate to "set the captives free" in the business realm itself, establishing marketplace churches and Christian community. These saints will also partner with other ministries to be a type of supply-line, providing resources. They will operate by the Spirit of God under their own free will rather than being allured, cajoled or guilt-tripped into donations. In fact, such tactics will get in the way of the new Holy thing God is doing. Look for divine connections and relationships in the time to come.
3. Some non-profits may become businesses as well, or have branches of their ministry adopting similar models of commerce. Paul modeled some of this by making tents so as not to be a stumbling block to the Corinthian’s idolatry of silver and gold (Acts 20:33) and also (maybe more importantly) because Paul knew that it was better to give than receive (Acts 20:35). Lines will start to blur (non-profits and businesses) as Kingdom businesses do good, help others and put God’s business before profit. Likewise, non-profit ministries will become freed from dependency on Mammon. Also, tax-exempt status for non-profits (i.e., tax deductibility of donations) may not continue in the days to come.
4. The key is being truly God-sufficient instead of donor dependant. Non-profits must be open to God bring provision in new and alternative ways. Historically, God has provided resources to His people without using money at all – manna in the desert is one example – we must remain open minded. A testimony to this was how George Müller established and ran his ministry (Scripture Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad - Orphanages) in Ashley Downs, Bristol, England in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Without asking man for a penny, he relied only on the power of God through prayer. Millions of pounds in value (19<sup>th</sup> century) were brought to the ministry without a single solicitation of man by man.

## Hypothesis: Worldly Fundraising Not God's Best

Worldly “fundraising” (e.g., gala balls, telethons, etc.) and “marketing” (e.g., manipulating people to give) will be less and less effective during times of famine/judgment as many of these techniques were not conceived in Heaven (you won't find these techniques in Jesus' ministry, for example).

In fact, it is well worth studying the scriptures for how God provided for Jesus, son of man, as well as the Patriarchs, Apostles and their ministries. There is no evidence of Jesus or any Apostle for that matter, who when they had a personal ministry need, solicited man for help. Instead, they modeled turning to God. How? In Prayer, by putting the Kingdom first, they believed in the promise that all these things (needs) will be added (Matthew 6:33) without worrying about them - and they were.

In scripture, when we do see the Apostles prompting the saints to give, it was to help others, not themselves (e.g., Paul raising funds for Judean Jewish believers from the Corinthian Gentiles – 2 Corinthians 8; Agabus' prophesied famine causing the disciples in Antioch to give to Judeans - Acts 11:27).

So, what's the difference between their behavior and the modern non-profit ministry today? At issue is: priorities and giving, receiving, asking.

### Priorities

The top priority of Jesus and the Apostles was always to do the Father's will. It would be safe to say this was the essence of their “ministry”. Based on putting the Kingdom first, Jesus was not at all consumed with his or his own ministries' material or financial needs. It was not a priority of their ministry or their lives. Instead, Jesus exclusively trusted the Father to provide for His and his disciples needs.

That didn't necessarily mean he owned buildings or had the best of living arrangements (“the son of man has no place to lay his head” – Matt 8:20), but it also didn't mean he didn't have nice things or good places to stay (soldiers cast lots for his garment – Matt 27:35; dinner at Zacchaeus' house – Luke 19:5).

The disciples had a money box, but notice that Judas was in charge of it (and was corrupt in managing it). Note too, that we never read about Jesus trusting in the money box for anything. In fact we see examples where Jesus specifically instructs the disciples not to use the money box (feeding of the 5000 – John 6:7) but to proceed by faith instead.

Here is a great statement of priority in Jesus' life – John 4:32 – when the disciples were concerned that Jesus hadn't eaten anything, he replies: "I have food to eat which you do not know". His priority was spiritual sustenance, not natural sustenance. Do we feel the same way? This does not deny that natural sustenance was an important theme of Jesus' ministry, especially to non-believers. God provided for this as well. The proper priority of natural needs is itself found in Matthew 6:33 – "seek first The Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." Trusting God to meet every need follows the priority of putting the Kingdom first by doing the Father's will as top priority. This includes trusting Him by faith and not living in financial fear or worry.

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" – Jesus. How ironic that we refer to money today as "bread" or "dough".

### Does God Need Help?

We live in a culture of self-reliance and self-promotion. We often hear the phrase bantered about: "God helps those who help themselves". Yet, is it in the bible? Do we need to "help God out" by fundraising, fundraising, fundraising? What is our motivation in doing so? Fear of money running out? Fear of failure? Why do we believe the lie that if we don't work hard enough in the area of fundraising, God won't take care of our ministry or help us? Why don't we simply trust God at his word instead?

The statement: "Therefore do not worry, saying 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' for after these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows you need all these things" in Matthew 6:31-32 is very important for ministry leaders to meditate on.

### Taking or Receiving?

Jesus taught "It is more blessed to give than receive" (Acts 20:35). Note that Jesus gave all the time. It was his priority. He gave healing, food, water, deliverance, good news, etc. Jesus also was happy to receive help and gifts from people.

Luke 8:1-3 demonstrates that women in particular supported Jesus' needs "with their substance". Yet, there is no evidence that Jesus asked these women or any man for that matter for such help. Instead, the Father provided it to him by stirring up a desire in these women's hearts. The scripture is clear that Jesus first ministered to these women (Luke 8:2 "healed them of demons and infirmities"), then in the women's compassion and appreciation for Jesus, they had a heart to help Jesus however they could. Thus, we must understand that they did this on their own volition, not because Jesus was marketing or soliciting their "substance" in any way. Jesus did not tell the people that he was in need of man's tithes and offerings to accomplish the work the Father sent him to do. Rather, these women gave out of a God given desire welling up from the seed of Jesus first giving onto them, not expecting anything in return.

So, to recap: money itself is not the issue. Money is an inert instrument. Nor is the issue people giving of their money to those in ministry or those in need (in fact it is encouraged throughout scripture to give to God by giving unto others). The issue is “taking” versus “receiving”. Are we really receiving from the Father when we prompt, cajole, market and manipulate people for their money in the “name of God” or for a “worthy cause”?

### Money and Man Not the Only Way

Also keep in mind that money from men is not God’s only answer to meeting our needs. God sometimes uses men (e.g., King Cyrus – Ezra 1), but sometimes He uses His creation (fruit in the Promised Land), and sometimes He does it supernaturally (gold coin in fish’s mouth – Matt 17:27).

Jesus said “**Seek and you shall find. Ask and it shall be given.**” (Matt 7:7). Was Jesus speaking of asking man, or asking God? It is clear that Jesus is speaking about asking the Father, not asking man, for he also said “**Ask my Father for anything in my name and you shall have it**” (John 16:23).

God, as He sees fit, does not just provide through money or natural means, but also supernaturally (e.g., feeding of the 5000 & 4000, Elijah’s ravens, manna, quail, water from the rock, 153 fish – John 21:11, etc.). Note: such supernatural provision was not through the benevolence of man. We have lost much of this inheritance in the Church.

Finally, we know with certainty that money will fail, but God never will (Matt 24:35). In fact, many times throughout history, money has failed (Rome 270AD, Egypt during Joseph’s famine, Germany 1923, etc.). This will happen again, possibly during our lifetime. With that in mind, in whom do we want to place our trust? Mammon or God?

The key is this: ask God for help and let Him answer in His best way. Don’t put restrictions or limitations on God. Don’t think that the only way to achieve something for God is with money. “No money, no ministry” is a lie. If we believe this lie, we are serving Mammon.

### God’s Conviction vs. Man’s Manipulation

The disciples responded to the Apostles and the people’s needs by the conviction of God (women supporting Jesus – Luke 8:3; disciples laying their possessions and proceeds at the Apostles feet – Acts 4:35). No biblical evidence exists that early church leaders solicited people to give to their own ministry’s needs.

In fact, Paul explained this issue at length with regard to the Corinthians, who, while they were generally wealthy, had issues with coveting/worshipping money (not unlike we do today in the U.S.). Paul bent over backward so as not to ask for, nor even receive a gift from the Corinthians for himself or his ministry team. He specifically discusses denying his God given right of an Apostle/Teacher (1 Cor. 9:12) to receive such gifts. Instead, he relied on help from God through others (Macedonians voluntarily gave in their poverty without solicitation) and tent making for both he and those in his ministry. When he did work with the Corinthians in their giving (2 Cor. 8&9), it was for other's sake not his own. He also made clear giving was to be done out of a cheerful, willing heart, not one of "grudging obligation" (2 Cor. 9:5).

What can we learn from this study?

1. It is better to give than receive
2. Ask God for help, not man
3. Ministries should be giving despite their poverty/needs (like the Macedonians)
4. Ministering to people is always God's priority, not soliciting their money
5. If you fundraise, do so for the interest of others, not your own interests (see 1)
6. God can provide in ways with or without money (supernaturally or naturally)

### Serious Issues in Ministry Fundraising Today

Today, the definition of a ministry is to do something or give something to help people in Jesus' name. For example: to feed the poor in a 3<sup>rd</sup> world country. Or evangelize the lost. Or, to train and equip the saints. These are all good and noble.

The issue comes when we turn to worldly non-profit wisdom and put in place sophisticated systems and processes to knock-up people of means to fund the ministry through donor dollars and donation drives. We rationalize that this is God's method for today (since almost every major ministries does it), but how could it be God if it relies so heavily on our own strength?

Objectively and frankly, many ministries view donors primarily as a means to an end. Why? Because of the corrupting influence of money. The importance of money is so elevated it has become like water, air, or life blood – necessary for survival. As such, money becomes Deified - whether we admit it or not - because it is widely understood to be absolutely essential (mission critical) in large modern ministries. Aggressively soliciting funds is therefore justified, because doing good grants a license to ask man for money "in God's name" instead of asking God alone. Part of the twisted truth is that simply asking God alone (prayer) is viewed as not putting in enough effort - since we have an obligation under God to work hard to get that money for Him. God understands. No! That's part of the lie.

We solicit, utilize mass marketing techniques, throw splashy fund raisers to woo donors into giving. We play on their heart strings and generosity in front of others. But, what about their souls? Isn't it a concern for us that even unbelievers can smell the stench of Mammon when observing many Christian ministries and their fundraising techniques and focus?

Instead, ministries should be ministering and giving to all people. That is to say we should be ministering as much to the donor as to the poor and leaving all solicitation to the Holy Spirit (who is a gentleman and won't force anyone anyway). We should truly be spiritually serving those who supply resources, just as we do with anyone else who is served in the ministry. We must resist the temptation to see wealthy people as sugar-daddies and instead view them as souls in need of redemption and partners in the Kingdom work. Even the terminology "ministry partner" is abused today. It has become code for "money man" - the very substance that makes everything go. Without money of course, our good ministries will be forced to "shut our doors". We have to ask ourselves: Who are we serving?

### Stumbling Block

Why also is this such a problem in God's sight? It is a potential problem not only of corruption in the heart of the minister or ministry, but also a trap for the donor. If a donor's value is chiefly reinforced as "money man", it quickly justifies whatever worldliness is required in making that money. Ministries "look the other way" and are little concerned with how this money is being made. As long as things are funded, "God's work" continues. However, the donor's primary identity in money instead of in Christ is reinforced, which is wrong.

The implied message of "we do the ministry" and "your ministry is to make money" is problematic for two reasons. First, we are all called by God to ministry. There is no sacred - secular divide in the Kingdom. Second, there is no such ministry as "money making". Money is an inert tool. In Christ, business and wealth is about people and eternal riches, not about making money as the priority. Business people should be as concerned with changing people's lives in Christ as any other ministry - in their own business dealings - not just through a donation. But today, this dysfunctional relationship distorts these truths and leads to trouble.



## Money Raising Techniques

The idea of non-profits soliciting man for “their share” of the shrinking benevolence pie by utilizing competitive marketing techniques, even appealing to people’s: pride, shame, ego, guilt and vanity (to be “seen” in front of others as generous, guilt-trip people into giving, mass phone calling for donations, mass mailings for donations, plaques of recognition, society functions, ply them with liquor, pleasure them with activities, etc.) will ultimately fail as it all appeals man’s flesh rather than trusting the heart of God. These worldly techniques have worked to some extent in times of “bull markets” and material prosperity; but how well will they work in times of our own troubles, “bear markets”, and unemployment? The history of man demonstrates that worldly generosity dries up quickly.

In contrast, true Kingdom builders will always have a heart for supply-lining God’s ordained work. They do not need to be begged. They do not need to be manipulated into giving. They do not need to be entertained. They will not give based on the “squeaky wheel gets the oil” technique. They give as the Spirit of God leads.

Warning to those soliciting funds: Do not cause men to sin by tempting them to please man “in the name of God” instead of being led by the Spirit.

## Pagan Sacrifice Masquerading as Faith

One particular trap is when ministries confuse faith in God’s will with faith in our own plans, desires or wants. The bible has outstanding truths, such as: “God loves a generous giver” and “May you prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers” and “Give and it will be given unto you”. However, the idea behind these promises from God is that He gives them to us out of His graciousness. It is not because we have earned something through a conjured-up sacrifice to get what we want.

Meaning this: if a ministry or church tells their donor audience: “God wants you to give into this good soil and if you do, God will bless you.” This can become a set-up and a trap. If a giver thinks, “hey this is my lottery ticket – if I just give to this ministry, I will then get money somehow that solves all my problems”. This is “give to get” and is not God. God is not an ATM. Deposit \$10 here and take out \$100 there. “All you need is faith!” No, that’s not faith in what God wants, that’s witchcraft to get what I want.

Or, how about this situation: “God commands you to give, so, if you aren’t tithing right now, this is your opportunity to get right with God”. So, a donor feels guilt-tripped that they are not serving God unless they give to that particular ministry right now. Says who? This too can become a trap and manipulation of the devil through GUILT. God is a gentleman, and he gives us free will. The bible says that the Holy Spirit has written the law on our heart. Also, that the Holy Spirit is the one who convicts us of our sin, not from man’s manipulative techniques.

Whenever we mix teaching “in Gods name” with meeting our own needs or objectives, there is a conflict of interest. How often do teachings on tithing and giving ramp up in ministries or churches when the coffers are low?

However, sometimes in ministries’ desperation (and feeling their own “guilt-trip” of not working hard enough), scripture is interpreted to suit man’s desires (Satan’s), not God’s. So, in these and other examples - at best we are cutting corners, at worst we grieve the Holy Spirit - acting as the money changers did in the temple court, raising the ire of Jesus, who overturned their tables.

What does the bible and history teach us of pagan sacrifice? How is pagan sacrifice different from Godly sacrifice? The difference is simple - the former helps take care of ourselves (we maintain control by making the sacrifice), the latter is obedience unto God (He is in control, we obey His command). When a Molech worshipper wanted something, they sacrificed children to appease “the gods”. When a Baal woshipper sacrificed something, they did so in order to get the rain, the crops, the sex they desired for their survival and pleasure. So the pagan method is simplified to this: when I want something, I sacrifice something. Paganism cuts out relationship. The gods can only be appeased.

This is in stark contract with our friendship with God. God says, if you love me, obey me and trust me. I will take care of you. Don’t worry. Do what I ask you to do for me. Don’t try to save yourself, mollify your own fears, or fan your own lusts. Trust in God and God alone. He is a good God and a gracious God and a longsuffering God. God does not respond to appeasement, but rather Blood-washed holiness, justice, clean hands and a pure heart. “I desire mercy above sacrifice”.

#### Ministering to Donors vs. Exploiting Them

On of the great exchanges of the Kingdom is through giving being better than receiving. Ministries that model this are focused on visiting donors and churches by giving testimony of what God is doing, providing spiritual food, and ministering to people’s needs. This is inspiring and also a bringing of good news. Instead of looking at donors as “lamb chops” lying in wait to deliver the punch line of “please give”, ministries should rather see people of means as “sheep without a shepherd” – for that is what they often are – people in desperate need of spiritual sustenance.

Ministries must get their hearts in order when dealing with rich people. It is better to give the rich man spiritual sustenance: healing, discipleship and teaching vs. just taking their donations to help others. Yes, it is good for them to give as well, but from the ministry’s perspective, it is better to give donors something spiritual as a priority of their ministry rather than just taking money from them. In our heart of hearts, is this true? It cannot be lip service only, but a heart condition.

In essence our heart must be something like this: God will provide for me, my family and this ministry – it might be through you, someone else, or something else. My job is to give you the good news of Jesus. To encourage you, build your faith, share the miracles God is doing, etc. If you want to give, that's between you and God. I am not here to solicit your donation, but rather deliver spiritual sustenance to you.

Rev. Harold Bredesen (a founding father of the Charismatic movement) had a wonderful testimony on this very issue. From his book Yes Lord! (p45.) Harold reports a heart searing question from his mentor: Dr. Samuel Shoemaker, Calvary Episcopal New York. Harold was explaining how much money he had raised for the World Council of Christian Education from many wealthy and famous businessmen, royalty and dignitaries. Dr. Shoemaker looked him in the eye and with an awesome authority asked: "What exactly are you doing for these men spiritually?" Harold knew in that moment that while he had raised incredible sums of money for a "Christian" cause, he had failed God.

### Burnout

The notion of non-profits having to work harder to raise less money in a difficult economic environment will also ultimately fail. Leaders will burn out, believing the lie of the enemy that they "aren't doing enough" to help their God given ministry (i.e., fundraise, fundraise, fundraise).

- Is it God's intention that ministry leaders spend a large portion of their time "fundraising"?
- Is it God's intention that the priority of any ministry is "fundraising"?
- In your ministry, has God ever provided for natural needs supernaturally (like with the fish and the loaves or Peter's gold coin?)

If the answer to any of these questions is "no", where have we gone astray? Why are we acting "like the Gentiles do"? Where are the supernatural miracles of provision we see in the Bible?

### Conclusions

Ultimately, prayer, even fasting - asking for God's help - will see provision in the times to come. Instead of first, last, and always "asking people for a donation" we will instead "ask Jehovah Jireh" and he will meet our needs as outlined in Matthew 6. Yes, God will indeed use people, but He can and will also provide through other miraculous and unusual means. The people God sends to us should gladly give without being prompted. Ultimately this will be far more satisfying and bountiful, as we truly will be living a life of "the blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow to it." -Proverbs 10:22

Sometimes our ministries' "needs" and "wants" get confused. For example: "We have to meet the budget" or "We need that building to accomplish the work of Jesus", but maybe not – maybe we "want" that building for our own reasons such as prestige, perceived success, and/or comfort. Maybe our budget is just that – ours - not simply trusting in God's provision.

If, for example, it is God's will for use to receive a new building, let's work with God in seeking His will and trust that God can and will provide, in his timing. We don't need to "help God" by pressing men for money. We must not call something "God's will" when it is mixed with the desire of our flesh. We must all go through "reprogramming" (renewing our minds in Christ) to take out all worldly notions during the coming times of shaking and economic difficulties.

Challenge question: how many ministries tithe and give offerings to God's work outside of their own domain/control/interests? Remember the principal of giving and seed sowing. We are not to be cesspools of our own needs being met, but to instead be streams of living water. We should give in all ways, not just by giving through the narrow definition of our official ministry capacity. Putting the Kingdom first often means putting other's needs first (the Macedonians giving in their poverty and the widow's mite are but two examples).

Many ministries built with temporal materials, and/or on the pride and pleasing of man will fail. But ministries built with eternal materials bearing God's true heart will prevail. They will prevail only by the divine hand of God; not by the strength of the economy, nor by the strength of our right hand, nor by wealthy benefactors who want to be doted upon, etc.

It is time for non-profit ministries and for-profit businesses alike to awaken to this truth and pray. Repent. Plan accordingly. The key is Holy Spirit alignment and partnership between the "front-lines" and the new God given "supply-lines" during a time of famine and difficulty. New streams of supply are coming forth. God will give wisdom and prosperity to those who ask for it. He will give divine relationships and provision to those who seek His face. Now is a time to appeal to God, not to man, for wisdom and provision for the decades to come.

Ultimately, our willingness to change will help usher in the coming Kingdom of God, seeing "the kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdom of our Lord and our of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever" (Rev 11:15).

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