

Still in the wilderness? Cross over into The New!

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We are living in a new era, the era of the kingdom of God.

Symbolically we have come out of the wilderness, crossed the Jordan and entered the Promised Land. For the nation of Israel many things were suddenly totally new, very different from what they were used to in the wilderness.

For us it is the same, we are now living according to a new order

and God wants us to leave all the old ways behind and live according to the new. So, what is the new? Let us look at a few examples.



New ways of getting saved.

The old way was just saying a prayer. New ways of salvation are experiential. Now we introduce new believers to the living God in a personal experience and encounter so that they will never doubt again. Just saying a prayer, where did that idea come from? Jesus never did it. He said: come and follow me, come and walk with me, come and know me, come and be my disciple.

Instead of just letting them say a prayer we now do activations with people. We help them to use their imagination, the eyes of their heart, to see Jesus personally standing before them, taking them into his arms and welcoming them, speaking words of love and welcome.

Some time ago we had a 92-year old lady come to our church. During the service someone did an activation in which Jesus welcomed for the first time those who had never accepted him. He took their heavy burdens from them and spoke very personal words to each of them.

Afterwards that lady gave a testimony, saying she had been to many churches, even in different nations, but she had never experienced anything like she did that day. She actually saw Jesus in front of her and handed him her heavy burdens, she heard him speak to her and for the first time in her life felt very light.

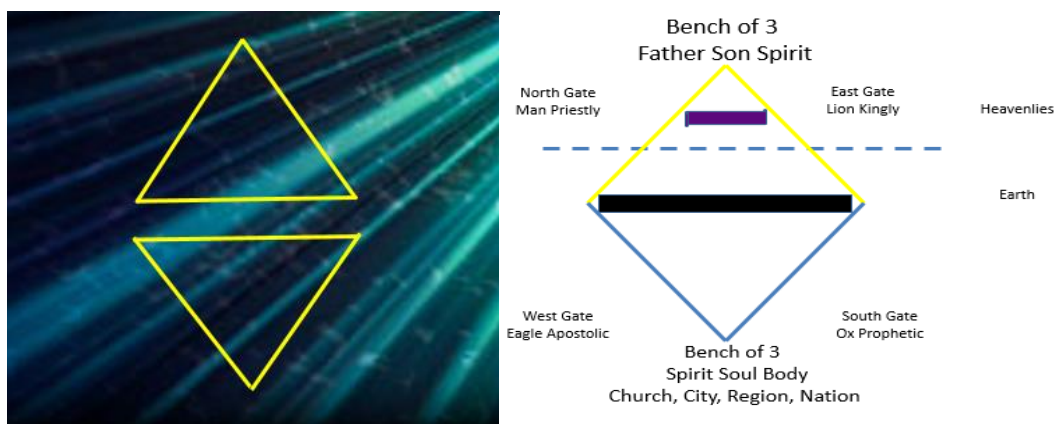
New governmental structures.

The old governmental structure (leadership structure) was pastoral. It was the pastors and/or five-fold-ministry that was set in place to equip the people of God. Unfortunately they took that as a governmental/leadership role of being over the people instead of being under them and equipping them.

The new governmental structure is patterned after heaven and it is to reflect heaven on earth.

In heaven we have Father, Son and Holy Spirit as a bench of 3, we have the presence of the seven Spirits of God, and twice 12 elders.

For that to be reflected on earth looks like this:



The new governmental order has a bench of 3, a bench of 7, and a governmental council of 12.

Even individually we are made according to the pattern of a bench of 3: spirit, soul and body.

God wants every ekklesia (church established according to God's plans) to look like that, as well as every city, region, nation etc.

In the new we don't choose where we want to be and what we want to do. We are at God's disposal: Here I am Lord, send me. We will receive the scroll, blueprint and mandates from God that are part of our specific destiny. That could be serving in a church, a city, an area, a whole region, a nation etc. A bench of 3 does not sit on top and rule, but is the foundation that releases others to fulfil their blueprint and destiny.

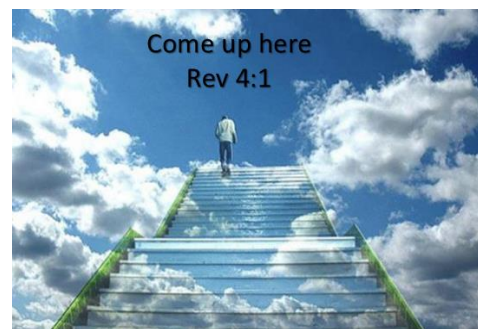
Whatever kind of bench we are to serve in (3, 7, or 12), we are to be that kind of servant-leadership that Jesus modelled. We are to help those we are responsible for to grow farther and higher than we are ourselves. We are to be willing to let our ceiling be their floor. We will rejoice when they are doing all the stuff we do and greater – like Jesus.

Accessing the things of God.

The old way of accessing the things of God was that it was limited to only a few people who were the mediators.

We do know that the curtain in the temple was torn in two, but that has not stopped us creating the same Old Testament structure in our churches and our church government today, that is why the pastors are there. The 'old' was mediatorial, doing something for, or on behalf of someone else. The pastors studied the Bible and passed it on to the congregation during a Bible study or a sermon on Sunday morning. The prophets went into heaven and came back with prophecies they gave to the people. The apostles went into heaven and brought blueprints back for others.

The new way is: All of us have access to heaven, everybody, because the veil is torn and heaven is open to all! We can come right in to heaven, before the very presence of God. We can ask God and hear his answer personally for ourselves, we don't need anyone to do it for us.



We now don't usually give prophecies to others, we help and encourage them to get them personally from the Lord. We step into heaven with them and teach them to hear God themselves. We don't go to heaven to get blueprints and mandates for others, we teach them to go and get them directly from God.

Ministering to others.

The new ways of doing ministry are experiential, like Liebusters for example. It is all about the person hearing directly from God. Each step God is telling and showing them what he is doing or wants to do to set them free. That is the kind of ministry we do in the new.

The old way was that the counsellor told the people what to do. Now God does it directly. All we do is facilitate, we don't want people to become dependent on us or anyone else.

A lot of counsellor-client relationships have become co-dependent. The counsellors got their identity from being a counsellor, so they needed people to counsel. If people kept coming they thought they were a good counsellor.

In the new we show them how to get help, healing, freedom etc. from Jesus himself. We do it with them in the very beginning until they can do it themselves. We show them how to step into heaven and do court cases to cut off the right of the enemy to hinder and block them, to torpedo their freedom in Christ etc.

New ways of prayer.

Like everything else in the new, the way we pray is also experiential. In the old our prayer was like a shopping list. Either alone or in prayer meetings we implored the Lord to come down and help us, to give us more money, to heal the sick, to comfort the broken-hearted, to give us a revival, to prevent the hurricane hitting us, to transform our nation etc. etc. We stayed down here on earth and prayed to God in heaven hoping he would hear us, hoping he would answer.

We did not really engage with God, it was almost a religious exercise.

In the new it is totally different and it is exciting: we actually step into heaven and meet him face to face! He has told us to come boldly to the Throne of Grace. Well, we found out that he meant that literally. So we go there and talk to him, have a personal relationship with him. Instead of just doing some kind of exercise we now talk to God face to face, engage with him, share our heart with him and he shares his heart! It is an intimate, constant, direct relationship.

Or we meet God in the Garden of Eden, or in the garden of our own heart. We can also step into the Holy of Holies, look into his presence and see what he is doing and saying. We can then go to our mountain to administer what we just received.

Prayer is not something to do in the morning and again at night, but a constant relationship. And it is not about petitions and asking for stuff. In the Lord's Prayer that Jesus taught us we see that it is all about honouring the Father, seeing his kingdom come. Yes, there is 'give us this day our daily bread', but other than that it is all about focusing on heaven, on God. So it is about relationship.

New ways of interceding.

All those intercessory ministries who are engaging all that negative stuff in the heavens from down here are going to find that it will not work anymore, even if it does for now. The reason is that God wants us to move into the new and he will stop giving his authority to those who are staying in the old.

Many intercessors have been getting beaten up, worn out and burned out because they have been doing it all from down here, binding, loosing, shouting. But they did it while being *under* all those powers instead of being *over* them.

You cannot administer authority when you are *under* something – from earth towards the atmosphere – you have to be *above* it. You have to do it from the heavenly mountains of authority that you have been given over spheres and/or situations.

Intercession is standing in the place of someone or something else so that we can use the authority we have to administer into that situation with kingdom authority.

When we come together corporately, we step into the realm of heaven together, we step into God and see things from his perspective; and then we can release that and find a strategy to bring the kingdom and administrate it in authority.

Something else we can do in the new is use the courts in heaven to get the authorizations that enable us to decree and declare to remove the legal rights the enemy has. And then we can send angels to do whatever needs to be done.

Maturity.

God wants us to leave childhood behind and enter into maturity. When Israel was still in the wilderness Moses did the miracles, parted the Red Sea, food just appeared supernaturally, clothes never wore out, they had the pillar of cloud and fire. God did it all, either directly or through Moses, they didn't have to do anything, they just followed the cloud.

They were just children wandering around. When they crossed over into the Promised Land, when Joshua took them in, things changed. Did Joshua part the Jordan? No, they all stepped into the Jordan with God's presence in the Arc with them. Who brought Jericho down? All of them walked around, the whole nation, 13 times! Before, Moses did it, but now they all participated.

The old Moses order is: someone does it for you. The old is: I am the prophet, I prophecy. You come to me for a prophecy. I am the pastor, you come to me. I hear God for you and give you my sermon for the week and you listen to it and do it rather than going to God yourself. I am the counsellor, I pray for you, I tell you what to do and you come back next week.

Everything is different in this new order. It is about maturity. We can't be children any more. Jesus did the same with his disciples: first they saw what he did and then he sent them out to do it. Who multiplied the food when he fed the 5000? The disciples did, Jesus just gave it to them and showed them what to do. He got them to do miracles. They went out and came back and reported and said 'whoopee!!' The Hebrew word says Jesus twirled around in the air with joy because they were doing the stuff. He did not think: 'Oh, they are doing it; I will be out of a job'. That is exactly what he wanted to be: out of a job, because he was going back to heaven. He equipped them to do it his way.

The new way is that God has given us responsibilities as co-heirs, partners in heaven operating as lords, kings and sons on our mountains (spheres of authority). He says: 'Now you do it! You have the authority to do it. You are my children, I trust you and I empower you to go and do it'.

What I mentioned above in the paragraph about prayer, applies here. In the new we no longer say, 'Please, Lord, you do it'. He will not do it anymore. We are to grow up

(through getting cleansed, transformed and sanctified), come to the point where he can entrust us with the necessary authority and do it ourselves. And by the way, we don't just do what we think is best. It will only work:

- within the authority-sphere that has been given to us
- when God has given us a specific mandate to do it.

Administering the kingdom of God.

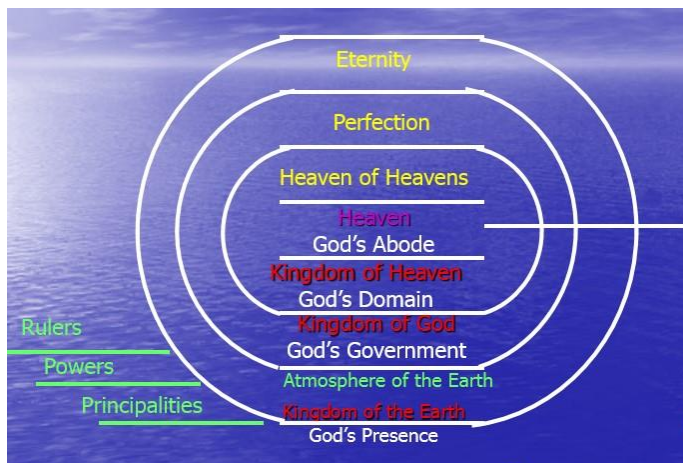
'Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. The old way of thinking was: God does everything from above, he administers from his throne; we just obey. The new way of thinking and of doing it is that we are given thrones to administer everything from heaven, a totally different perspective.

In the old we were like children who cry, 'Please help!' God did many things for us like parents do many things for the child and on behalf of the child. There comes a time when God wants his children to become responsible adults. We should not be a Christian of 50 years and still be sucking our thumb, saying, 'God, please help'.

God is going to withdraw his support from the old system so that we have to embrace the new or we will be stuck. The old will stop being effective. Now it is time for us to become adult sons, rather than stay babies. God wants us to grow up. He is starting to withdraw from doing everything for us to enable us to become adults and do it ourselves in his strength and authority.

God wants to manifest his mature sons on the earth. He wants to show us off. He wants to say, 'Hey, look at my children!' just like he did with his own son. There was an open heaven and God said, 'This is my beloved son in whom I am really pleased. This is my beloved son, listen to him'. God wants to do the same for us, to show us off to the rest of the created order. They are all looking to us, we are the answer to creation's problems. He wants us to fulfil our destinies!

There are many mountains in the kingdom of heaven, personal mountains and lots of larger mountains for benches of 3 that release government into ekklesias, ministries, areas, regions; these mountains are over larger governmental spheres. We need to be on them in different levels.



If we are only operating on the earth we cannot have any government. We need to access heaven. Once we are there we are functioning as a gate to bring heaven back through the atmosphere of the earth. When we administrate downwards we displace the rulers and powers. We are in government having authority over them from a higher realm.

'Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven'. We have to establish all things in heaven first, so they can be manifested on the earth. We not only are to do the "on earth", we also are responsible to establish the "as it is in heaven".

To be able to do that we will have new, more effective ways of administrating the kingdom because we are going to step into heaven to get scrolls, mandates and strategies from heaven. In outworking those on earth we will be partnering with the angelic realm, those ministering servants who have been assigned to do what we ask them to do, as well as with the cloud of witnesses.

That is going to be a mark of what we do: we are going to engage with the whole spiritual realm, so that we operate together with them.

Those are just a few of the many examples I could give of how different the new ways are from the old. We are truly living in a new era and under a new order. Everyone reading this article has the destiny to rule! You are blessed (empowered to succeed and prosper to the highest level) to be fruitful, fill the earth, subdue, conquer and rule! (Genesis 1:28).

You cannot stay in the old, keeping the old ways, if you want to fulfil your destiny.

You need to make a decision: will you stay in the wilderness and miss your destiny or will you leave the old ways and cross over into the new?