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Is there a difference and if so, what are they?

**Growing the Kingdom:**

1. **By scripture, what is the definition of “Kingdom”?**

Kingdom is defined as the following:

**“Mamlakah”** (H): Kingdom, dominion, reign, sovereignty (royalty), realm. The root word is “Malak” which means to become a ruler (king or queen) or to be put in a place of authority.

**“Basileia”** (G): Royal power, Kingship, dominion, rule. The term also means having the “power” (ability) to lead (i.e. people or in spiritual matters).

**Quote: “One must first obtain, possess and understand the “seeds” of the Kingdom in order to “grow” the Kingdom!” Apostle T.L. Elliott**

1. **Scripturally, what is the “Kingdom” associated with (what encompasses the Kingdom and its seeds)?**

The totality of the Kingdom is associated with 3 identities or “seeds”:

- **Kingdom of GOD** (G: Theos) (Matt. 6:33; 19:24; 21:43; Mar. 1:14-15; 4:11, 30-32; Rev. 12:10) associated with GOD, divinity, magistrate, or godliness

- **Kingdom of Heaven** (G: Ouranos) (Matt. 7:21; 8:11; 10:7; **11:11-12**; **13:11**) associated with the sky, universe, abode of God, eternity. Example of being in operation is Joshua regarding the sun and moon (Josh. 10:12)

- **Kingdom of Priest** (H: Kohen) (G: Hiereus) (Ex. 19:6; Rev 1:6) associated with being a principal officer or chief ruler for GOD (also associated with Melchizedek/Malchi-Zadok).

 **3.** **What is our primary assignment to the Kingdom?**

- Our assignment is to be a “Kingdom” of priests (Ex. 19:6; Rev. 1:6). This can only be established by first being in relationship with GOD known as adoption (Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5). Adoption comes from the Greek word “**Huiothesia**,” which means the relationship or discipleship GOD offers to become HIS children. This puts us in a place of legitimacy to be heirs to this identity and authority. Example is one being adopted vs. fostered.

- We become effective making others part of the Kingdom of Priest by causing them to have a desire to seek the Kingdom of GOD for themselves first (Matt. 6:33).

1. **What is a prerequisite to walking in the identity of being part of the “Kingdom” (as kings and priests)?**

We are called to be a holy priesthood. To clarify, causing individuals to make a sacrifice of separating (consecrate) themselves to living according to this spiritual identity (Matt. 19:12). Separation/Consecration is referenced in the following locations: Ex. 28:3, 41; 29:9, 29, 35; 30:30; 32:29; Lev. 8:33; 16:32; 21:10; Num. 3:3; 6:12. It is a process (normally 7 days per Lev. 8:33) needed to elevate one’s self to the service of GOD just like an individual taking training to perform a certain job. The result is the individual being filled or satisfied with God and having spiritual empowerment imparted to them. The individual also learns the true meaning of sacrifice (Romans 12:1).

1. **Are the revelations of the Kingdom meant for all to receive openly?**

The revelations of the “Kingdom” are not meant for everyone to receive openly (Matt. 13:10-13, 44, 47-48; 18:3; 19:23; 23:13, Mar. 4:11). Note that even the book of “Revelation” was written cryptic.

1. **What is the Kingdom associated with?**

**Note: the following examples given can also be referenced in the Gospels of Mark, Luke and John**

* A man that sowed good seed in “his field” (those that belong/connected to him) (Matt. 13:24).
* A grain of mustard seed a man takes and sows in “his field” (Matt. 13:33).
* A treasure hidden in the field (Matt. 13:44)
* A merchant man seeking goodly pearls (Matt. 13:45)
* A net cast in the sea that gathers every kind that sifts them to accept the best (Matt. 13:47-48)
* A man that is a householder that goes through his treasures and identifies new and old (Matt. 13:52)
* A “certain king” that takes account of his servants (Matt. 18:23)
* Little children. This implies that it is meant for those that are teachable and have a desire to be taught (Matt. 19:14)
* A man that is a householder who goes out early to hire laborers for the vineyard (Matt 20:1).
* A king that made a marriage for his son (Matt. 22:2)
* 10 virgins with their lamps to meet the bridegroom (Matt. 25:1)
* A man traveling in a far country (Matt. 25:14)
1. **What do we receive for being in relationship with the Kingdom?**
* The keys of heaven to bind and loose spiritual things (Matt. 16:19)
1. **In summarization, what does growing the “Kingdom” imply?**
* Understanding that the Kingdom is GOD’s church that we are called to make individuals connected as members.
* The function of believers in relationship with GOD is to execute the Kingdom orders given to the church in the local community to assist non-believers with obtain a relationship with GOD.
* Recruit individuals to have membership with the Kingdom vs. primarily church. Understand that the benefit of growing the Kingdom will result in true ministries growing due to the consistency of truth and no hidden agendas dominating the process.
* Assist believers with embracing their identity and hearing the voice of GOD (regardless of where they are spiritually connected).
* Identify the godly leaders within those that are in the body of Christ
* Imparting the gifts of GOD.
* Establish legitimate relationships in GOD.

**Growing the Church:**

1. **By scripture, what is the definition of a “church”?**

Church is defined as the following:

* **Church or “Ekklesia”** (G): an assembly, the called out ones or to be called away from somewhere or something, a gathering (by invitation), called out ones with a purpose

**Note: the word “church” does not appear or exist in the Old Testament however; “assembly and congregation” do to exemplify the same concept.**

* **Assembly or “Qahal”** (H): assembly, company, congregation or organized body (Ex. 12:6; 16:3; Lev. 4:13; 8:4; Num. 8:9; 10:3; 14:5; 16:2; 20:8; 29:35)
* **Congregation or “Edah”** (H): congregation, gathering, crowd or family (Ex. 12:6; Lev. 4:13; Num. 8:9; 10:3; 14:5; 16:2)
1. **What are the scriptural functions of the church (assembly or congregation) for GOD?**
* Deliver GOD’s law to the people (Deut. 5:22; 9:10; 10:4; 16:8)
* Give people knowledge (understanding) that the LORD saves or grants salvation (1 Sam. 17:47)
* Teach people how to become dedicated serving the LORD (2 Chronicles 7: 7-9)
* Provide people divine counsel (purpose or a plan) for their life (2 Chronicles 30:23)
* Teach people how to reverence GOD (Psalms 89:7)
* Teach people how to exalt (lift up or elevate) and praise (boast about or give glory to) GOD (Psalms 107:32; 111:1)
* A place for people to learn about, desire and obtain sanctification (Qadash (H): separation/consecration) (Joel 1:14)
* A place for people to enquire and obtain godly understanding ( Acts 19:39)
1. **In summarization, what are some of the key over-arching functions of properly “growing” a church?**
* Organizing others in order to give orders (instructions) as well as any additional guidance (FRAGOs).
* Church is not called to continue to re-save the saved! The church has 4 purpose-driven functions when it comes to people:
1. Provide non-believers separate service or opportunity to learn the benefits of having a relationship with GOD and how to obtain salvation.
2. Provide believers (those in a real relationship with GOD) a separate opportunity to receive the strategic revelations and secrets of GOD to enhance their relationship with HIM.
3. Impart the church’s Kingdom purpose to believers in order to help the believer be a living example of the Kingdom/Church among society in order to recruit them to the Kingdom.
4. Impart ministry business to ministry members (need to know basis).
* Identify their kingdom purpose as well as “Body of Christ” purpose to impart and validate organizational order.
* Teach believers about spiritual family structure to embrace the element of connection and relationship.
* Understanding the church is a vehicle used by believers to stay on course to the Kingdom.
* Teach believers godly principals:
	+ Praising GOD
	+ Worshiping GOD
	+ Meditating with GOD
	+ Obedience to GOD
	+ Sacrifices for GOD
	+ Commands of GOD
	+ Cost of relationship with GOD
	+ Individual identity in GOD
	+ Honorable protocol (conduct) in and out of the house of GOD
	+ Teach/train leadership and make leaders

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