We must know THE CHARACTERISTICS of THE KINGDOM OF GOD continued -

<u>Romans 14:16</u> **Do not allow** what you consider good, then, to be <u>spoken of as evil</u>. 17 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of **righteousness**, **peace**, and **joy** in the Holy Spirit. 18 For whoever serves Christ **in this way** is pleasing to God and approved by men.

- Standing for what we KNOW to be good, is not an opinion conviction
- 1. 1. We must determine WHO and WHAT gets our WORSHIP Romans 1:24-25
- 2. We must know THE characteristics of THE KINGDOM Rom 14:16-17, Jhn 18:36, 1Thes 2:12.
- 3. We must be born again HAVE ENTRY INTO THE KINGDOM Jhn 3:3-8, Jhn 14:16, Ac 4:12, Rom 10:9
- 4. We must be TRAINED how to LIVE ACCORDING TO KINGDOM Eph 3:14-16, 2 Tim 3:15-17
- 5. We must be WILLING OBEDIENT and COMMITTED to GROWING Deut 29:29

Luke 5:36-39 Then He spoke a parable to them: "No one puts a piece from a new garment on an old one; otherwise the new makes a tear, and also the piece that was taken out of the new does not match the old. 37 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the wineskins and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. 38 But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. 39 And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is better.'"

2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV Therefore if any man <u>be in Christ</u>, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Colossians 1:26-27 "Even the mystery which hath been hidden from ages and generations."

- The Jews didn't know about the church, (the ecclesia) their teaching was about Israel as a Nation. 1 Cor 10:32, "Give no offense neither to the Jews nor to the Greeks nor to the church of God."
- There three distinct groups? The **Jews**, the **Gentiles**, and the **church**, always separate.
- Amorites, Hittites, Jebusites, Moabites all gone Morphed into humanity. Israelites still exists

What is the mystery? verse 27, "The mystery which is Christ" – what mystery? – "in you."

- The church is unique, it is distinct. It is a new wineskin and new wine"
- The first place the new reveals itself is in our HEART Repentance

Romans 2:3-5 So when you, O man, pass judgment on others, yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? 4 Or do you disregard the riches of His kindness, tolerance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you to repentance? 5 But because of your hard and unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of wrath, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

- The second place is in our ONGOING THINKING Thought Action Habit Character
- Romans 12:1-2 "Present your bodies as a living sacrifice". Spirit Soul Body
- The spirit of this world does not tell you WHAT to THINK, but WHAT to THINK ABOUT.
- Dis-information, Weaponised language, ISD institute of strategic Dialogue.
- The third place is in our BEHAVIOUR (our priorities change as do our motives)

Matthew 3:8-10 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: ⁹ And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. ¹⁰ And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which brings not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

Our actions reveal where our heart is at

• There is NO way to preach the gospel with our life – We can affirm it, but must speak the Word of God – Its often used as an excuse to sharing The Word of God.

"My thoughts are not your thoughts. My ways are not your ways." Isaiah 55:8

- God's way is unique in relation to man's way. The gospel is God's direction. It's foolish
- It is not man-made. No man-made way that could have ever come up with it.

Paul stated, "I want you to know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ" (Gal1:11-12). Remember Paul WAS NOT one of Jesus Disciples.....

The gospel descended from heaven, exclusively by revelation, since man's reasoning never follows the path of salvation nor redemption.

I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me. To a nation that did not call on my name, I said, 'Here am I, here am I.' All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations — (Isaiah 65:2).

Our human reasoning often leads us away from Gods plans for us, as the path is narrow and easy to miss. The broad path has many people on it, but the narrow has few.

Matthew 7:13 "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the <u>narrow gate</u>. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. NLT

- Motorway driving is easy, but go down the back roads and it's easy to miss a turn.
- We know we are on the right path because it's NOT easy to walk, and FEW options.
- If the path we WALK has no resistance to it, we are likely going the wrong way

"For no **prophecy** was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)

"the one who **prophesies** speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation." (1 Cor 14:3)