

The Promise: An Unshakable Kingdom

Hebrews 12:28-29
Sunday, April 8, 2012

INTRODUCTION

A. Receiving an Unshakable Kingdom

1. The Unshakable Kingdom
 - a) **John 14:2-4**
 - b) **Acts 1:1-11**
 - (1) We have this kingdom through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead
 - (2) Death is no longer a threat
 - (3) Truest freedom
 - c) **Hebrews 12:18-24**
2. With gratitude
 - a) Full of "graciousness"
 - b) Already acquired for you (*receiving* - "intimately associated with")
 - (1) Unshakable / uncreated
 - (2) Unmovable
 - c) Without performance, only proofs...
 - (1) No earning or paying back
 - (2) Only proof of obedience in worship lifestyle...
 - (3) Treasure (**vv.25-27**)
3. For Worship
 - a) Acceptable

- (1) Pleasure of God
 - (2) Understanding acceptability (owing? yes & no)
- b) Lifestyle of God exaltation
 - (1) Our Sunday gatherings is what comes to mind first
 - (2) Inclusive of that, but not exclusive to that
 - (3) In all of our thinking, doing, being...
 - (4) **Jim Elliot**, "*He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.*"
 - c) Understanding God's character
 - (1) Reverence & awe
 - (2) Consuming fire

B. Pursuing a Shakable Kingdom

1. Assuming God's character
 - a) You may see God as terrifying and unapproachable
 - b) You may see God as so entirely acceptable and benevolent than he would allow none to suffer
2. Presuming what satisfies God
 - a) Depending on your view of God, works is the answer
 - b) Either you work extremely hard, believing your comparative goodness (to others) will get you "in"
 - c) Or, you believe that God's tolerance trumps His perfection (holiness) and unless you become a serial killer, you should be fine
3. Acquiring a shakable kingdom

- a) In both cases, the kingdom you acquire is one where you set yourself up as god, having satisfied yourself in your goodness
- b) Or you feel that God can never be satisfied with your performance and you give up, embracing any manner of sin
- c) The kingdom you then acquire is whatever you establish here on earth, but **Hebrews 12:25-27** speaks against that

c) The resurrection is the enemy of works salvation

- (1) **Luke 16:19-31**
- (2) **Romans 10:8-10**
- (3) **Hebrews 9:24-28**

C. The Key Question: Which Kingdom is Yours?

1. Unshakable?

- a) Living with Gratitude
 - (1) Guard your life with the gospel
 - (2) Stop listening to yourself, and start preaching to yourself
- b) Lifestyle of Worship
 - (1) In preaching to yourself, start doing
 - (2) Serve out of gratitude, never guilt (different from conviction)
 - (3) Throw off the weights (**Hebrews 12:1-2**)
 - (4) Running is worship
- c) The resurrection is the enemy of performance
 - (1) Conquered Satan's threats
 - (2) Destroyed our self-righteousness
 - (3) **Hebrews 4:14-16**

2. Shakable?

- a) Satisfaction in things
- b) Worship of self