

It is written: "As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.' "

Romans 14:11 NIV

Life is full of uncertainties, and we all, at some point, ask ourselves: What is going to happen? The history of humanity has shown us that no earthly kingdom lasts forever. From the fall of great empires to the rise of new rulers, everything we know today is temporary. But for us believers, there is a hopeful message: the promise of the return of our Lord Jesus Christ and the establishment of his eternal Kingdom. This truth is found in the Scriptures, where we are assured that one day every knee will bow to Him. This knowledge is the foundation of our faith and hope.

Faith in the Future

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1 KJV

Believing in the coming Kingdom and the eternal reign of Jesus is not just wishing for it to happen, but having a firm certainty that, according to God's promise, it will come to pass. However, that faith is truly manifested when we develop a personal commitment to live as subjects of our King today.

The crucial moment will come when everyone recognizes Jesus as King. But an important question arises here: Will we be part of His eternal Kingdom? Not everyone will reign with Him—only those who, before His return, believe in His authority and submit to His will. True surrender to the King is manifested in our lifestyle and in the way we exercise dominion over what has been entrusted to us.

Dominion and Government: Understanding the Difference

The difference between *dominion* and *government* is crucial to understanding how we establish the Kingdom of God in our lives. Dominion is established by force; it is taken away, it is violent. It means displacing what is illegitimately or illegally occupying a territory—something does not belong, was not given permission, and has no right to be there. It is the act of invading that which belongs to the King. As a result, the Kingdom cannot manifest there with all its characteristics. We must expel, remove by force, and saturate—that is, take possession of what is recovered—so that the Kingdom can manifest.

On the other hand, to rule or reign is when a legitimate authority has been established and recognized. Then, the people voluntarily submit to that authority (the King). Therefore the territory is under his government and the Kingdom is established.

As children of God, we exist not only to expel everything that has dominated the mind and heart of humanity, but to also establish the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. That is, to let Jesus (the Word of God) govern us.

Dominion and government expand, starting with what was given to us in the first instance and reproducing it in the areas of influence to which we have access.

The First Territory: Our Heart

The first territory we must dominate is our own heart. In Galatians 5:17, we are reminded that the desires of the flesh are in opposition to the desires of the Spirit. Therefore, each of us must recognize what areas of our lives are already submitted and which areas still require submission to the King. Prayer, fasting, and giving are practices that help us conquer those areas of resistance.

Asking the King to come into our hearts involves surrendering our selfish desires and the strongholds of sin. This process is not easy, but it is essential. When we seek God and run to Him for help, we begin to identify what should not be present in us and gain the strength to push it out. By doing so, we make room for the kingdom of God to be evident in us.

Once our hearts have been conquered, we can extend that dominion to our homes, then to our places of work or study, and, together with the church, to the ends of the earth.

Application.

- 1. Identification of Territories: Take time this week to reflect on the areas of your life that need to be conquered. Ask yourself: Where am I struggling with temptation or the oppression of old habits? Are there areas where I have not fully allowed God to reign?
- <u>2. Prayer and Surrender:</u> Once you identify those areas, bring your struggles to God. Spend special time in prayer, asking for His help to remove everything that is not His. Consider writing a list of specific requests and praying over each one.
- <u>3. Commitment to Action:</u> Make a conscious commitment to seek the word of God and participate in activities that strengthen your faith. Whether it's joining a Bible study group, finding a spiritual mentor, or committing to serve in your community, allow yourself to be a reflection of God's Kingdom in action.

Reflection Question.

What areas of my life am I resisting, in submitting to the reign of Christ, and what steps can I take to surrender those areas under His authority?

As you reflect on this question, seek not only to identify areas of resistance, but create a plan to submit those struggles to the King. Let us remember that living in His Kingdom is not simply an idea—it is a daily practice that begins from the heart.