

First, Christ the King

- 1) Mark 1:15—"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."
- 2) Gospel == Good News That God's Kingdom Had Come → In Person of the King == Jesus Christ
 - a) Kingdom No Longer Conceived of In Terms of Geography == Now Centers On Person—King
 - b) Can't Enter Kingdom By Traveling → Crossing Borders → No That Kind of Kingdom
 - c) Jesus Says To Enter Kingdom of God—of His Beloved Son == Repent—Turn & Believe
- 3) No Longer Matter of Future Prophecy → But Present Reality of Gospel Preaching → Turn & Enter
 - a) Rom. 14:17-18—"The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men"
 - b) Essence of Kingdom == Serving Christ the King == In Rtness—Joy & Peace
- 4) Paul Sees Present Reality of Kingdom == Cause For Worship → Calls Church To Thanksgiving
- 5) Bec/ == God Has Qualified Us For Kingdom → Delivered Us Into Kingdom of His Son Jesus

Second, Qualified (12 & 14)

- 1) **(12)** Qualify For Something == To Meet Standard == To Be Sufficient—Adequate
 - a) Problem == Not Meet Standard → All Sinned Fallen Short of Glory of King & His Kingdom
 - b) If Ask People How Plan To Get Into Kingdom—Heaven == Most Think Meet Standard
- 2) Only God Can Qualify Us == How? → Tells Us In **(14)** == In Xp Can Be Redeemed & Forgiven
- 3) **(14)** In Whom == That Is In Christ == Have What Need To Be Qualified == Redemption & Forgiveness
 - a) IOW == Jesus Himself Does Work Necessary To Qualify Us For Entrance Into His Kingdom
 - b) Nothing Can Do To Qualify Selves → Hardest Thing For People To Understand
 - c) Need Jesus To Do For Us What == Not Do For Selves → Redemption & Forgiveness
- 4) Redemption == Paid Debt == Buy Freedom From Slavery → Pay Price To Release Us == Make Free
 - a) These Days Difficult Thing → To Convince People == Debt of Sin & Guilt == Makes Us Unqualified

- b) Our **Sin** == Made Us Debtors To God's Justice == Jesus **Redeems Us** By Paying Debt We Owe
- c) **Pawned** Item → **Stuck In Shop** → **Until Redeemed** → **Price Paid To Release It**
- d) Eph. 1:7—"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace" → Redemption Thru His Blood → Life In Blood → Gave His Life For Us
- e) Died For Us → To Deliver Us From Dominion of Darkness → To Set Us Free == Thru Forgiveness
- 5) Forgiveness of Sins == **Debt Paid** → Canceled—Forgiven == **Set Free From Guilt—Demands of Justice**
- a) Rom. 8:1—"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
- b) Bec/ Debt Paid == **You Never** Have To Pay It → **Injustice** == To Demand 2nd Payment
- c) All Our Sin == Laid On Him → Never Be Charged To Your Acct → Acct Closed == Forgiven
- 6) You == **Qualified To Share In Inheritance** == Lot—Portion of Saints in Light → **Light of His Kingdom**
- a) God is Light == Eternal Destiny W/ God == In Light → **Separation From God** == **Darkness**
- b) Matt. 25:30—"Cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." → Inheritance—Lot—Portion Apart From God == **Darkness**
- c) Qualified Us → **Delivered Out of Domain & Destiny of Darkness** → Into Inheritance in Kingdom of Light
- 7) **By Redeeming & Forgiving Us** → Changed Citizenship In Time & Eternity → **Change of Kingdoms**

Third, the Domain of Darkness (13)

- 1) **(13) Delivered** From **Domain of Darkness** == Rescued—Snatched == **Fast Bus—Window of Burning Bldg**
- a) Snatching—Deliverance == **Past Action** → **Definitive Act of God** → Already Done!!
- b) Turn & Believe In Finished Work of Xp → **Completely Redeemed—Completely Forgiven—Justified**
- 2) **Dominion of Darkness** == **Out From Under Its Power** == **Darkness** == Moral & Spiritual
- a) 1 John 5:19—"We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one."
- 3) This Again == **Hard Thing** For Some To Understand → **Idea World Stuck In Moral & Spiritual Darkness**
- a) But **After 1000s of Yrs Of Human History** == Not Hard To See Brokenness In Human Condition

- 4) This Was Jesus' Opinion → Sheds Light On Darkness **By** Naming & Exposing
- a) John 3:19—*"This is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and **people loved the darkness** rather than the light because their works were evil."* → **Darkness** == Love Selves—Opinions—Practices
- b) **Darkness** == Ignorance—Rebellion—Disobedience → Ignoring God → **Doing What We Want**
- c) Eph. 2:3—*"We all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind."* → **Shutting God Out**
- 5) Under This Darkness We All Live == Until Bow the Knee To King Jesus → Transferred Out Of It
- 6) Eph 5:8—*"For at one time you were **darkness**, but now you are **light in the Lord**. Walk as children of light"*

Fourth, the Kingdom of the Christ (13)

- 1) **Transferred** == Removal of Conquered People To Another Land → Live In New Realm Under New Power
- 2) **Transferred** From Under Dominion & Power of Darkness → Into Kingdom of Beloved Son
- a) Father Gave **Kingdom To Son He Loves** → Now Gives To Everyone Who Loves The Son
- b) To Everyone Who Bows Knee Comes Under His Power & Lordship → To Live In Light of Truth
- 3) Real—Present—Spiritual Kingdom == Gradually Being Manifest → **Progressively Coming**
- a) John 12:31-32—*"Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."* == Now Jesus Drawing People
- b) Matt. 12:28-29—*"But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house."* → Satan Bound == Dominion Plundered
- 4) **Everyone Comes Under Lordship of Jesus Xp** → Satan's Rule Destroyed → Jesus' Kingdom Comes
- a) Vos—*"The Kingdom comes when the gospel is spread, hearts are changed, sin and error overcome, righteousness cultivated, a living communion with God established."* → **Lives Redeemed & Forgiven**

Finally, Life Under the King

- 1) Have Bowed Knee To King Jesus → Turned From Darkness → Come Under Kingship of Jesus?
 - a) Have You Turned & Put Faith In Jesus == Asked Him To Redeem You & Pay Debt → **Forgive Your Sins**
- 2) If You Have == are You Living As **Delivered One** → One Who No Longer Under Power of Darkness
 - a) Change of Dominion Has Occurred → Absolute & Determinative For Your Life
 - b) 1 Th 5:5—“*You are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.*”
 - c) Remember Sermon From Few Weeks Ago == **(1) To Saints** → **Now Saints In Light**
 - d) Rom. 6:11-14—“*Consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you*” → Know & Believe == Sin & Darkness == No Dominion == Remains—But Not Reign
 - e) Daily **Reckon Self** → Dead To Sin == Alive In Kingdom of Xp → Offering Self **Instruments of Rtness**
- 3) Remember == **Kingdom Already & Not Yet** → **Has Come & Is Coming** → **Begun But Not Complete**
 - a) Heb. 2:8-9—“*Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we **do not yet see everything in subjection to him**. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor” → **Not Way Supposed to Be***
 - b) But We See Jesus → Crowned—Reigning As King → Building Church → Advancing Kingdom
- 4) Seek First Kingdom == Personally & As Church == Fullness of Its Presence & Power
- 5) Ambassadors Representing Kingdom → **Why Prays** → **(10)** Walk In Manner Worthy of Our King
 - a) Making His Appeal Thru Us → **Good News of Present Kingdom Entrusted** To Us
- 6) Pray the Lord’s Prayer → Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done → Long For & Desire & Pray For Kingship
- 7) Finally → Do What Text Calls Us To Do == Give Thanks To Father → **Return Worship & Gratitude**