

Message Notes *Deployed into Chains...When Kingdoms Collide*

Paul on Trial Before Governor Festus and King Agrippa

*Acts 26*¹² “On one of these journeys I was going to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests.¹³ About noon, O king, as I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me and my companions.¹⁴ We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic,^[b] ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’

¹⁵ “Then I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’

“‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the Lord replied.¹⁶ ‘Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you.¹⁷ I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them¹⁸ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’

¹⁹ “So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.²⁰ First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.²¹ That is why the Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me.²² But I have had God’s help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—²³ that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles.”

²⁴ At this point Festus interrupted Paul’s defense. “You are out of your mind, Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning is driving — you insane.”

²⁵ “I am not insane, most excellent Festus,” Paul replied. “What I am saying is true and reasonable.²⁶ The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner.²⁷ King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do.”

²⁸ Then Agrippa said to Paul, “Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?”

²⁹ Paul replied, “Short time or long—I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains.”

The Collision of Kingdoms – “Of G_____ or of m_____!”

“Kingdom” designates who is “r_____” and “r_____”.

Whose “drumbeat” am I marching to?

Whose “cues” am I taking?

Whose “direction” am I following?

Who do I believe and act like is “in charge” of me, us, this world?

That’s whose “kingdom” I am “I_____” in.

It is natural to live in the kingdom of men (our default) which, by the way, is virtually unprotected from the influence and manipulation of the Kingdom of D_____.

The Kingdom of God is “lived in” by “faith” – “faith in” the King of the Kingdom. Life in the Kingdom of God always involves “faith” that takes steps.

Living by faith is a less a “t_____ real hard” and more being transformed by Him!

**The difference can be seen in day to day living –
How we handle life?**

What fuels us?

Whose call do we answer to?

What and who do we depend on for the “resources” of life?

What affect do we have on the context and people around us?

One of the ways that sometimes we can see the uniqueness of living by “faith” as we experience the collision of the kingdoms is p_____.

Take prayer, for instance! Prayer plays a vital role in the life of faith. Our trust is not really in “prayer”!

Prayer is a literal “a____ of t_____” God who hears prayers and responds as our heavenly Father.

Our human side (kingdom of men) can even use prayer to try to control God ! Persistence in prayer has a cleansing affect on our “act of prayer”.

If our praying is an act of self-will to try control God, we will give-up fairly quickly and move on to... whatever!

“P_____” shifts the experience of prayer to being an act of faith “God if you don’t come through.....I am toast!”

Dear Lord Jesus,

*I SURRENDER myself and my agenda for this day in my life to You!
I RECIEVE You and Your agenda for me! And now I will ACT like it
in faith-filled obedience! Amen*