

INSIGHTS

THE CLASH OF KINGDOMS

BY
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BURKE

The Holy Spirit gives every believer supernatural abilities to empower us to live beyond limits.

HISTORY IS FILLED WITH NATIONS WARRING AGAINST NATIONS TO CONQUER A NEIGHBOR AND POSSESS ITS LAND AND WEALTH.

The history of war typically centers in expansion of a nation to impose its influence and increase its treasuries.

As believers, we are in the war of kingdoms, of which there are only two: the kingdom of darkness led by Satan and the Kingdom of God our Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Satan's kingdom pays little attention to many churches, since much of Christianity's teaching today has little real power. It is only when believers step up into their true role in God's Kingdom that the power of the Gospel brings sustained change. Only when believers rise up in their authority in Christ



IN HEAVEN, THERE IS CONTINUAL AND UNOBSTRUCTED CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE FATHER AND HIS FAMILY.”

to dismantle darkness is there the clashing of spiritual kingdoms in the ongoing war of the ages.

Jesus taught us to pray in a way that will lift us into this place of dominion. We find a portion of this prayer in Matthew 6:9–10 (*GWT*):

This is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, let your name be kept holy. Let your kingdom come. Let your will be done on earth as it is done in heaven.

The way things are done in Heaven is exactly the way the Father wants it done on earth. We are praying that His ways become our ways. The more we can emulate Heaven now, the more we will walk in His peace and power.

Today we live with a thin veil between Heaven and Earth — the veil of between the natural and the spirit worlds. As believers, we actually live in both dimensions. Although we remain here in our natural life, we are also alive

spiritually and have access to the resources of the Kingdom of God.

The spirit realm is very real. Heaven is real. People live there and are actively engaged in the business of the Kingdom. The moment a believer steps out of this life, they are in the presence of the Lord.

This became much more real to me when my mother left this life in 2012, just eight days short of her 95th birthday. I was in Australia ministering at the time. When I was told about her moving to Heaven, I was alone in my hotel. Immediately a sense of grief, sorrow, sadness, and loss began pulling on me, weighing on my mind.

Vikki was at home in Texas, praying for me, and the Holy Spirit led her to a powerful passage of Scripture just for me at that moment. Second Peter 1:11 says, “Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” A GRAND ENTRANCE! There it was — I could see the glory of the entrance my mother had made into Heaven! I began to laugh

out loud because my mother had always liked the idea of making a grand entrance into any event she attended.

With Vikki’s word, given by the Spirit as a divine reminder, all of the pain

and pressure that had tried to come on me was gone. I started to rejoice at the reality of my mother in the greatest place of all — the presence of our Heavenly Father.

We also know from Scripture that entering the Father’s presence is not limited to Heaven. We have the ability to enter His presence *now*. Hebrews 4:16 tells us to come boldly before the throne of grace. We can fellowship with Him, hear from Him, and enjoy His presence anytime we choose.

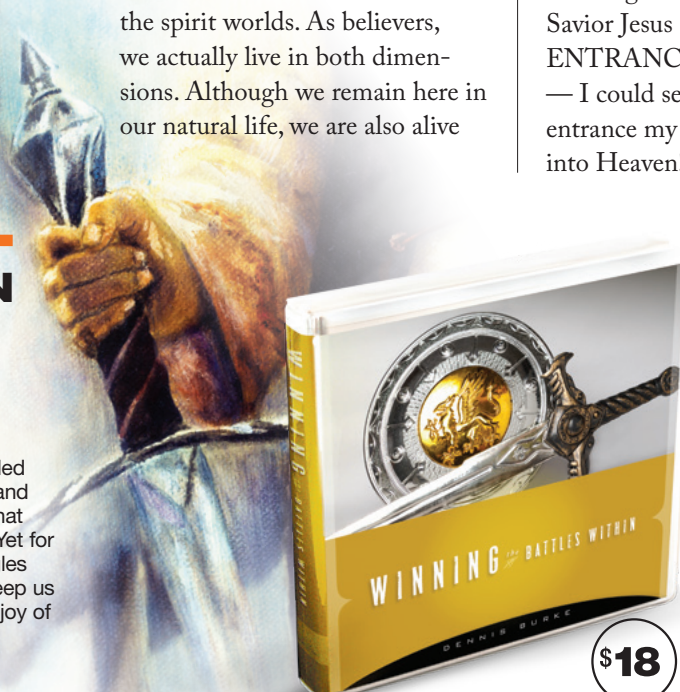
In Heaven, there is continual and unobstructed conversation between the Father and His family. Here we deal with the clutter and clamor of life that vies for our attention and drowns out His voice. Yet we can turn our attention on Him at any moment and tune into Him. As we do, He is always ready to lift us into a greater place by His unconditional love.

So often, we can feel distant and unclear regarding spiritual matters. But at any time, we can dial into God’s Word and His Spirit and regain our place in Him. The dimness and darkness of the times we live in never has to determine the boundaries of our walk with God. Heaven’s will is meant to become more evident in our lives every day that we live on this earth.

A friend of mine told me of an experience his wife shared with him. She had an experience in Heaven and described what she had witnessed there. One of the things he told me about his wife’s

YOU CAN WIN ALL BATTLES WITHIN!

God has designed our Christian walk to be filled with peace, inner joy, and the deep knowledge that we are loved by Him. Yet for many of us, the struggles within our own lives keep us from experiencing the joy of true victory.



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spiritual experience that stood out pertained to the sense of love and honor people have for one another there. His wife said that four things were always a part of every communication: *Respect, kindness, compassion, and excellence.*

The Code of Heaven

This heavenly code of conduct in communication lays out a powerful path for us here and now. Consider each of these:

- **Respect** — to highly esteem; to have a high opinion; to give proper acceptance or courtesy to another.
- **Kindness** — a part of the fruit of the Spirit; to speak or show heartfelt benevolence; considerate and graceful
- **Compassion** — deep sense of interest and empathy with others; to stand united with others facing a difficult situation
- **Excellence** — choosing to take the high road, thinking the best and highest

Imagine adopting Heaven's way of communicating with one another and making sure our conversations with loved ones and coworkers always reflect that divine standard. It is obvious that this would solve many of the heartaches we deal with.

Naturally speaking, it is unrealistic for many to think that they could be very successful at keeping up with Heaven's code of communication. Many people are angry, dealing with their own issues, harsh and unbending. They seem to beg others to jump into their strife and wallow in the mud with them.

But we have an edge over the average person.

The Believer's Edge — Holy Spirit Power

The Holy Spirit dwells within us and has given us the ability to live by a completely different source of strength. We are no longer limited to our childhood experiences, influences, or abuses. We have a new source in the core of our being — and the fruit of the Holy Spirit born into our spirit gives us the capacity to live with Heaven's power.

Galatians 5:22–23 is a detailed list of all of the possibilities within us all:

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

All of these divine qualities reside within our born-again spirits. And the Holy Spirit is guiding each of us into the habit of allowing these qualities to become a way of life — Heaven's manner of conduct revealed *now* in this life.

There is more to this believer's edge. The Holy Spirit has also given us divine abilities for every believer to experience. First Corinthians 12:8–10 gives us nine gifts of grace that the Holy Spirit will manifest through us as we serve Him.

For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of



“**BUT WE HAVE AN EDGE OVER THE AVERAGE PERSON.”**



UPCOMING MEETINGS

STILLWATER, OK April 14–15

Solid Rock Church
2917 E. Sixth Street
Stillwater, OK 74076
405-743-4128

LLOYDMINSTER, SK, CANADA APRIL 27–29

The Word Church
1802 49 Avenue
Lloydminster, SK S9V 1T2
306-825-9673

PALM BAY, FL JUNE 3

The House at Palm Bay Church
1520 Bottlebrush Drive
Palm Bay, FL 32905
321-952-5725

WINKLER, MB, CANADA JUNE 9–10

Heritage of Faith Christian Center
736 Main Street
Winkler, MB R6W 4A8
204-331-4182

QUINCY, MI JUNE 24

Word of Life Outreach Center
450 Clarendon Road
Quincy, MI 49082
517-639-8501

VISALIA, CA JULY 8–10

Praise Center Church
503 N. Floral Street
Visalia, CA 93291
559-733-2744



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spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

These supernatural abilities of the Holy Spirit are given to take the limits off our own ability and *empower* us to

live beyond limits.

This is the clashing of two kingdoms. This age-old war is first conquered in our personal lives. When we diligently lay hold on His abilities, we will discover the powers of the age to come available through the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Then all that's left is to rest in God's ability within to do amazing things through us!

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture references are taken from the *New King James Version* of the Bible.

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