

Signs to the Kingdom of God

Roger Kendall—May 20, 2016

It's a pleasure to be able to speak to you here at the conference. What a marvelous, wonderful conference this has been. It's been incredible for the fact that here in this room the love... We come and take in the information and teaching that Fred has, and that's wonderful, but this has been truly an opportunity to be together, and the fellowship has just been tremendous. We're focusing on God; God has brought us here for a purpose and we can be very thankful to Him and to Fred for making it all possible.

As God's people, and that includes everybody in this room, we are on an incredible journey to the Kingdom of God. That journey is preparing us for eternal life and to rule with Jesus Christ in the Family of God for all eternity.

Think on that, and the incredible opportunities that God has given each and every one of us. It's just absolutely very, very profound.

Every journey has its beginning and its ending. The journey that we have is all individual in some respects, but all focused on obtaining sonship in the Kingdom of God in God's Family. It started with our calling, whenever that happened in your life and my life. God called us! He got our attention! We focused on the fact that we needed God, that we needed His help and we needed forgiveness of our sins. From that point on God began to work with us through His Spirit and to lead us to understand the great mysteries of what God is doing.

It begins with our calling, and it's going to be ending as we enter through the first resurrection and on the Sea of Glass. It's very hard to comprehend exactly how that's going to take place, but I think it's important that we continue to focus on that. That's where we're headed. Brethren, it's going to be an awesome, awesome trip!

The primary focus of our journey is really expressed in one verse; Matthew 6:33: But *as for you, seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*"

Remember what Christ was saying, that people were worried and concerned about the physical things. He says, 'Don't worry about the physical things, ***be concerned about the spiritual riches of God!*** And beware of the fact that ***you need to be seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness!*** This really is a two-part aspect.

1. *it gives us the goal, the Kingdom of God*

2. *seek His righteousness, which shows us how we're going to get there*

We're not going to achieve the Kingdom of God if we are not putting on the righteousness of Christ. The destination and how we're to obtain the goal.

I'm going to digress a little bit back to the time when the children of Israel came out of Egypt, on their journey to the 'promised land.' God did many wonderful signs and miracles to help them to know that He was the true God, that He was all powerful, that He could be depended upon as long as the people agreed to the covenant. What happened?

- they saw His miracles in Egypt
- they saw the cloud in the daytime and the fire at night
- they saw the power of God when God divided the Red Sea and brought them through on dry shod and protected them and destroyed the Egyptians
- they saw the water coming out of the rocks
- they saw the manna coming down six days out of seven and the miracle of the manna

They saw all of this, and yet, through all of this the children of Israel did not revere and worship God! Instead, they were rebellious and were stiff-necked, and they refused to obey and worship God.

What does that teach us about our journey? *First of all, I think it tells us very clearly that **signs and miracles do not convert the heart and the mind!*** They saw it all! How come they didn't just worship God and bow down to Him and do His will?

It also tells us that it takes the Holy Spirit, it takes the indwelling of God as He writes His laws and commandments on our heart and loves us on an individual basis, and we in turn love God.

It teaches us that we must remain faithful to our calling, and that we must learn from the lessons that they experienced. I'm going to take time to look at 1-Cor. 10 because there's a lot to be learned in what Paul wrote about the Israelites coming out of Egypt and what they experienced on their journey to the 'promised land.'

1-Corinthians 10:4: "And *they* all drank of the same spiritual drink; for they drank from *the* spiritual Rock that followed *them*. And that Rock was Christ." Christ was there, the God of the Old Testament that led the children of Israel an spoke to

them and gave them the commandments and established the covenant with them.

Verse 5: “But with many of them God was not pleased, for their dead bodies were strewn in the wilderness. Now, **these things became examples for us...**” (vs 5-6). So, we need to look back and see what they experienced, and learn from their experiences so that we don't have pay the penalty that they did.

Verse 7: “Neither be idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, ‘The people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.’ Neither should we commit sexual immorality, as some of them committed, and twenty-three thousand were destroyed in one day. Neither should we tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted *Him*, and were killed by serpents. Neither *should we* complain against *God*, as some of them also complained, and were killed by the destroyer” (vs 7-10). God is Judge, and God was not pleased!

Verse 11: “Now all these things happened to them *as* examples, and were written for our admonition... [for our correction and our attention] ...on whom the ends of the ages are coming. Therefore, let the one who thinks he stands take heed, lest he fall” (vs 11-12).

Brethren, we know that we don't need signs and miracles to convict us of God's presence and to worship Him. We walk by faith, we live by faith and not by sight. In other words, God is dwelling in us and through the faith of Jesus Christ in us we can know God, we can love God and serve Him in all respects.

We must hold fast, brethren—that's the key on our journey—to our calling and with our covenant that we have with God. Again, in the ways of the world and all the pressures and distractions and all that's happening we need to continue to focus and live our physical lives heading for the Kingdom of God! We need to keep that in the very forefront of our mind!

We have been given the Holy Spirit and God reveals His power and His source to us, and we can call upon that power not only to stand before Satan—***we must stand and resist Satan the devil***—and that's part of our journey. We've got to fight the enemy. We cannot be neutral, we must stand and draw upon the power of God to overcome the enemy.

We must always keep our eyes focused on the kingdom and ***do not let the circumstances of the world around us to distract us, to deceive us or to discourage us*** from continuing the keeping on keeping on to the Kingdom of God.

I know that through daily prayer and study, through focusing on God on a daily basis that God will pour out His comfort and lift us up and carry us through as we go forward.

We see the things happening in world and we do not appreciate the depth of evil that is in this world, that being perpetrated by Satan the devil at this time. Yet, it's coming upon the world, and we need to be truly be aware and to grow and to be able to react and stand strong in the face of all that's happening.

With that in mind I want to give a physical/spiritual analogy in my message, and this is going to be a survey of highway signs and signals that basically teach us about the mission to the Kingdom of God, and what the things that we need to be doing and practicing in our lives as we continue on the journey to reach the Kingdom of God.

We do know, as we drive our vehicles around, the purpose of signs and signals. In other words, it keeps things in order. Obviously, signs will tell where we are, they tells us when to stop and go, and basically helps us to get around safely without having total havoc and chaos. The key purpose of road signs is that it allows everyone to get to their destination safely, and to be able to do that to avoid accidents.

In a spiritual sense we're going to see how road signs—and what these road signs are—help us and provide to us an understanding of the Biblical truths that we need to be living by and practicing so that we can indeed reach our final destination of the Kingdom of God.

Let's go through some of these signs and hopefully this will be helpful. It's a teach mode:

1. **The Stop Sign and God's Calling**

We all know what the purpose of the stop sign is, that you come to a complete halt.

Spiritually speaking I linked this to God's calling of you and me. What did God do? *He stopped us in our tracks!* Somehow we connected with God and He began to reveal Himself to us. We began to see and understand that we had to come out of this world. We had to recognize that our very sins killed Jesus Christ, and we needed to repent of our sins.

So, we had to *stop and realize* that we were incomplete, insufficient and inaccurate, and we needed help. Indeed, God showed us that through obedience and loving Him that we can truly draw close to Him and love Him.

Here we see what Paul wrote how God stopped us in our tracks; Colossians 3:1: “Therefore, if you have been raised together with Christ, seek the things that are above... [this goes along with our objective of seeking the kingdom] ...where Christ is sitting at *the* right hand of God. Set your affection on the things that are above, and not on the things that are on the earth” (vs 1-2).

Here is part of stopping and realizing that we are really not of the world. We're in the world, but we want to be of God. Paul goes on:

Verse 5: “Therefore, put to death your members which *are* on earth: sexual immorality, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil desires, and covetousness, which is idolatry.” This is where we were. This is the kind of things that we were living in and doing.

Verse 6: “Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, among whom you also once walked, when you were living in these things” (vs 6-7). God is talking us out of this mindset and actions in the way that we lived.

Verse 8: “But now, you should also put off... [this is part of the awakening] ...all *these* things: wrath, indignation, malice, blasphemy, and foul language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, *seeing that* you have put off the old man... [the carnal mind; thoughts and actions that drove us in the past] ...together with his deeds” (vs 8-9).

That is what happens. You have thoughts and attitudes and it leads to deeds. What do you do?

Verse 10: “And have put on the new man... [and putting on Jesus Christ] ...who *is* being renewed in knowledge according to *the* image of Him Who created him.”

Again, here is the first sign, the stop sign, where God pointed out that we needed to change and go on a different path to serve and love Him.

2. The U-Turn and Repentance

We all know that the U-Turn sign is when you drive on the highway you're able to go 180 degrees in the opposite direction.

What does this tell us about our travels to the Kingdom of God? This symbolically can remind us of *repentance*. What is repentance? *Changing and going in the opposite direction!*

From the way of the world, the way of Satan the devil *into going the way of God the Father and Jesus Christ!* Then we can begin our journey of

conversion. That is God can begin to work on us to convert our mind so that we can think, act and conduct ourselves like Jesus Christ.

On the Day of Pentecost people came and were cut to the heart: What shall we do? Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said to them, ‘**Repent** and be baptized each one of you in the name of Jesus Christ...’” Here is the conversion process taking place, the turn around and the repentance, and be baptized into the death of Jesus Christ:

“...for *the* remission of sins, and you yourselves shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (v 38).

Romans 6:4: “Therefore, we were buried with Him through the baptism into the death... [the death of Jesus Christ] ...so that, just as Christ was raised from *the* dead by the glory of the Father, in the same way, we also should **walk in newness of life.**” We are to do a turnaround. We can no longer walk in the ways of the world. Now we are to “...walk in newness of life”; *that is with Christ in us*, and He giving us the power to be able to do that!

Verse 5: “For if we have been conjoined together in the likeness of His death, so also shall we be *in the likeness* of *His* resurrection.” Here is the hope of our journey, that we shall—if we are loyal and faithful to the end—be in the resurrection.

Verse 6: “Knowing this, that our old man... [the carnal nature] ...was co-crucified with *Him* in order that the body of sin **might be destroyed, so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin.**”

Repentance then is the key aspect of the turnaround sign that is the U-Turn. And part of our journey, because we have to turn around and no longer go the way of the world, but the way of God, and to grow in the heart and mind like Jesus Christ!

These are short and you can expand these as you do your own Bible study.

3. The Yield Sign and Submission to God's Will

We know the triangular sign that says yield, and if you're in your automobile it means to give way, the right away, to the other lane. In other words, you submit and you yield to the other vehicle if there's one there.

Obviously, we can understand this very clearly for us. This sign means that we are to yield to God's will, for God's purpose for us. We submit in humility, recognizing that our thoughts and our ideas in the past have led to death, but now we submit to God so that we can live and grow and become more like our Savior Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:2: “Do not conform yourselves to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...” This is part of the yielding process. As we yield to God, He will put more of His Spirit in us; He will put more of the mind of Christ in us.

“...in order that you may prove what *is* well pleasing and good, and the perfect will of God” (v 2). That yield sign for us is that we should seek God through prayer and through study so that we can know what is on God's mind, so that we can be thinking more like God thinks and do those things. Submit to His laws, His statutes and His judgments, knowing that His intention of us is to bring us into the Family of God.

I want to point out that we need to follow Christ's example of submitting to the will of His Father and doing the very work that God the Father gave Christ to do.

Matthew 6:38—Christ told the apostles: “For I did not come down from heaven to do My own will, **but the will of Him Who sent Me.**” This should be our motto, this should be exactly what we should be doing: follow the example!

But notice what also Christ said, v 39: And this is the will of the Father Who sent Me: that *of* all whom He has given Me, I should not lose any, but should raise them up in the last day. And this is the will of Him Who sent Me: that everyone who sees the Son, and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day” (vs 39-40).

If we're in unity with God's will for us, then—if we prevail, if we stand strong—we shall be in the resurrection to life. When we submit to God, it means that we have to give up our submission to the old way. We no longer submit to our evil thoughts, we no longer submit to the will of the world.

Romans 6:13: “Likewise, do not yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin... [we no longer yield to sin] ...**rather, yield yourselves to God as those who are alive from the dead...** [through baptism] ...and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not rule over you because you are not under law, but under grace” (vs 13-14).

Brethren, the point here is that we are to humble ourselves and submit to God's will, because He has only the best intentions for our lives. Obviously, as we do that, we will grow and become more like He is.

Part of submission to God is self-control. That is one of the fruits of the Spirit. Self-control is very important here because you have to realize that we have choices to make, everyday we make choices. We have to have self-

control, which is really Christ's control. It is Christ in us that is giving us that kind of control. We need to choose the things that please God! We need to choose those things in everything that we do, how we live and how we conduct our lives.

To do that which is pleasing to God and to overcome the temptations of the world, the pull of Satan the devil and to stand firm in our spiritual warfare that we conduct on a daily basis.

Galatians 5:16: “Now *this* I say, **walk by the Spirit...**” This is basically what we're talking about of really being able to yield to God.

“...and you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these things are opposed to each other, so that you cannot do those things you wish to do. **But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under works of law**” (vs 16-18)—*but* under grace!

Here we see and recognize that we follow and we need to let the Spirit lead and guide us and we will be in complete harmony and submitting to God and doing His will and purpose.

4. **A One Way Sign and Only One Way to the Kingdom of God**

One way we understand, as we're driving our vehicles, is that it's not two-way traffic; it's just *one way*. One way only and not an alternative.

The road sign reminds us of that there's only *one way to the Kingdom of God! That way is through Jesus Christ!* That way is through God the Father of receiving God's Spirit and growing, overcoming and doing God's will.

As Peter told those on the Day of Pentecost, when they came to him about what they should do and salvation, he said:

Acts 4:10: “Be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarean, Whom you crucified, *but* Whom God has raised from *the* dead, by Him this *man* stands before you whole. This is the Stone that was set at naught by you, the builders, which has become the Head of *the* corner. And **there is no salvation in any other...** [other than Jesus Christ] ...**for neither is there another name under heaven which has been given among men, by which we must be saved**” (vs 10-12).

John 14:6: “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life...’” He is *the Way!*

Acts 9: 2 refers to the new Christian *way of life*. It is referred to as *the way*. It was called “...the way...” Christ is what it referred to. And Paul makes reference to that on several occasions.

When we walk in the way of God, brethren, what this means is that it requires us to be in harmony with God's way of life and to do those things according to His will and purpose.

You can go through the Bible and find out those key statements—what I call the *to do* statements—of what we need to be *doing as we walk on our journey to the Kingdom of God!* It's all through the Scriptures, but the key one is to *love God with all of your heart, all of your soul, all of your being and all of your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself!*

God is love! As He imparts His love to us, we are to love God in return! But also to love neighbor and to love brethren as ourselves (Mark 12:30-31).

Obedience to God's laws is part of loving God. So, as we obey God's commandments and walk in the Truth, we truly are *walking in the Way, walking in the Truth!*

1-John 2:3—dealing with obeying God: “And by this *standard* we know that we know Him: if we keep His commandments.” That's a very profound statement!

How do we know God? *By obeying and walking in His way!* You know God and you know that He is love, and that He is doing a work in us.

Verse 4: “The one who says, ‘I know Him’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him. On the other hand, *if* anyone is keeping His Word, **truly in this one the love of God is being perfected.** By this *means* we know that we are in Him. Anyone who claims to dwell in Him is **obligating himself** also to walk even as He Himself walked” (vs 4-6). We just read that we are to walk as Jesus Christ walked (Rom. 6).

As we strive to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:4) we need to be overcoming sin in our lives. We need to be striving to overcome bad attitudes, wrong thoughts, which leads to wrong action and choices. It's a process; a difficult process because we have all the pressures, we have the flesh, the human carnal flesh in us, but we must fight and overcome the enemies of God, and the includes:

- the flesh
- the world
- Satan the devil

Becoming more like Christ, brethren, is something that we need to really understand. How do you become more like Jesus Christ? *Read the Gospels and see His life, but also be able to think, act and conduct your life in a righteous manner,*

according to the way of God! Also, last of all, we must endure and be faithful to the end.

There are many more that you can add to this, but this is part of the way of walking in the Truth and truly striving to attain the Kingdom of God by walking in the *one way of Jesus Christ.*

5. Service Areas and Being Called to a Life of Service

We see these on the interstates, a place you can pull in and get supplies, food and gasoline. In other words it's a service area, you're receiving service from people who are providing your needs.

What about us as we continue on in our journey to the Kingdom of God? This should remind us that we have been called to a life of service not just selfish endeavors. In other words, we have been called to serve the brethren, and we as elders and leading men in our congregations and fellowship groups, we understand that. That's why we are here!

We're not here to just grow in our importance and our own sense of well-being. We're here

- to learn how we can better serve the brethren
- how we can better take care of their needs
- how we can encourage them
- how we can teach them and help them to have a better and closer relationship with God the Father and Jesus Christ

We need to serve, reach out and help in any way we can. I'll just read one Scripture regarding service. This is something that is part and parcel to our journey:

Romans 12:1: “I exhort you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, Holy *and* well pleasing to God, which is your **spiritual service.**”

We are to give our lives to God so that He can use us to serve one another. That is part and parcel of what that service area should remind us of every time you go by a service area. Serve the brethren! Provide for them the things that they need. We do that

- through prayer
- through the messages that we bring
- through providing encouragement
- through helping the brethren to really come to know God in a very personal way

so that

- they can be encouraged
- they can be helped

- they can really recognize that God loves them and is taking care of them and they're never alone

That was brought out earlier in the conference that there are scattered brethren, and there are a lot of hurting brethren out there, because they can't get together with other brethren on a regular basis.

So, we need to continually reach out and help wherever we can in those areas.

6. A Blinking Orange Light and Staying Alert to our Spiritual Enemies

It's a caution light. If we travel down the road we know what that caution light means. It's blinking and it means to wake up, be alert. There's a potential danger and you have to slow down and be aware of your environment, what's going on around you and take possible corrective action.

Spiritually speaking, what I relate this blinking caution light is that it should remind us that we need to be alert for our spiritual enemies.

Our spiritual enemies are around us at all times, and we need to be alert, awake and aware of the force of evil that is around us. We need to be able to catch and understand what it is that we must do.

1-Peter 5:8: "Be sober!.... [that means you are totally focused, alert and awake] ...Be vigilant! For your adversary *the* devil is **prowl**ing about as a **roaring lion**, seeking anyone he may devour."

He is concerned right now, not so much with the world, because he pretty much has the world at his hands, and he's molding and shaping them into the things that he's doing. But for us, *he after us!* What does a lion do?

- it goes after the weak
- it goes after the old and the aged
- it goes after one that's been separated from the herd

That kind of tells us that we need to be close to God and close to one another, realizing totally that Satan is out there and we need to be aware. Satan is stealthy, he keeps himself under the radar as much as possible. We need to see the signs in how he tries to beguile us and deceive us.

So, one of the elements on our journey is that we have to be able to *stand firm* and to be able to *fight* against the enemy: Satan the devil!

Eph. 6—*the armor of God!* Paul tells us how we defeat Satan the devil, and how we can stand before the enemy.

Ephesians 6:10: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in *the* Lord, and in the might of His strength." Here Paul is reminding us that it's not by our strength. It's not by our very means that we can oppose the enemy Satan the devil and his demons.

Verse 11: "Put on the whole armor of God so that you may be able to ^[#1]**stand** against the wiles of the devil." We're going to talk a little bit about the armor of God. We're going to see that the very attributes or the various accretions of the armor.

Just a military metaphor so you can get the picture: *this is war!* When you're at war you want to have the best tools, the best weapons at your disposal. God has given us the best tools and weapons to fight against the enemy.

These attributes are the attributes of Jesus Christ. So, we can say that this is the armor of Christ. Christ is in us, God the Father is in us, as well, but truly we can see that these are the attributes of Jesus Christ, which indeed, if they're in us, we will be able to withstand and resist the devil.

The "...wiles of the devil..."; we know how he operates: deception, discouragement, leads us into temptation, goes before God and complains against us. He does all of that:

Verse 12: "Because **we are not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against principalities and against powers, against the world rulers of the darkness of this age...**"

This is talking about the hierarchy in the evil domain. In other words, you have different powerful demonic entities who are under Satan. Then you have lesser demonic entities as you go down through the evil hierarchy that is in the kingdom of darkness.

"...against the spiritual *power* of wickedness in high *places*" (v 12). Indeed, this tells us that Satan the devil is part and parcel with most of the leaders that are going on in the world today: the entertainment industry, the sports industry, the politicians. Satan has his hand in all of that. We can see it! Look at the results of what's happening out there and be aware; *don't be taken unawares!*

Elements of the Armor

Verse 13: "Therefore, take up the whole armor of God so that you may be able **to resist** in the evil day, and having worked out all things, **to** ^[#2]**stand**. ^[#3]**Stand...**" (vs 13-14). When you see something three times in a row it's really being emphasized. God has given us the means to do so.

"...therefore, having your loins girded about with Truth..." (v 14). Jesus Christ is the Truth, and if you have the Truth you're going to be standing

strong against the enemy. *He can't deceive you if you have the Truth!*

"...and wearing the breastplate of righteousness" (v 14). Did we not read that we are to seek righteousness, God's righteousness? If we are *walking in the Truth* in the Spirit of Holiness, then that gives us power against Satan the devil. Satan cannot stand where Godly righteousness is.

Verse 15: "And having your feet shod with *the preparation of the Gospel of Peace.*" Was it not Jesus Christ who basically brought peace between us and God the Father by laying down His life and paying the penalty for our sins, and bringing us into harmony with God the Father? He brought peace!

Verse 16: "Besides all *these*, take up the **shield of the faith**..." It says that we actually have the faith of Jesus Christ (Gal. 2:20). Again, Christ is part and parcel with all of these elements of the armor that we're looking at here.

Verse 17: "And put on the **helmet of salvation**..."—protects the head, the mind. So, if we grow in the mind of Jesus Christ and take on His mind, attitude, actions, and be able to live that way, that's a resistance and *we're able to stand* before the devil, just as Christ did in the wilderness as Satan came to tempt Him.

"...and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the Word of God" (v 17). Christ is the Word of God. *He's the Word, the Truth, the Life.* He is the Spokesman, the Word of God the Father.

Verse 18: "Praying at all times with all prayer and supplication in *the Spirit*, and in this very thing being watchful with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints." Brethren, we need to be praying, be close to God, and recognize that as we stay close to God in prayer and put on/wearing the armor of God, we are able to stand because Christ is us in a mighty powerful way.

We can stand and we need not fear Satan and his demons, because *with Christ in us we can do all things!*

7. **The Rest Area and the Sabbath**

These are areas where you can pull in, stop your car and rest yourself and be refreshed. For us as we carry on the journey to the Kingdom of God, this is symbolic of our rest, the Sabbath, the very ordained times that God has set aside that we might be refreshed and renewed in the Spirit, to be able to fellowship with God the Father and Jesus Christ. To be taught and led into the greater understanding of His Truth and the things that we need to be doing.

Many say that the New Testament does not say that we are to keep the Holy Sabbath Day. Of course, that's false! That's not true! We do know that keeping the Sabbath Day is a tremendous blessing. It's something that Paul writes about:

Hebrews 4:9: "There remains, therefore, Sabbath-keeping for the people of God. For the one who has entered into His rest, he also has ceased from his works, just as God *did* from His own works. We should be diligent, therefore, to enter into that rest..." (vs 9-11).

That can refer to the Sabbath, which also represents the Kingdom of God. That rest, the Kingdom of God, when we make it to the Sea of Glass it's going to be a glorious rest, a glorious ceasing of battle and conflicts that we are now fighting, because we are striving to reach the Kingdom of God.

8. **The Green Light and GO!**

It means *go! Go on!* For us it's symbolic that:

- we've done the course
- we've been faithful
- we can now go into the Kingdom of God

As God raises up at the last day and brings us to the Sea of Glass.

Luke 12:31: "But **seek the Kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you**.... [this is along what we read in Matt. 6] ...Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father delights in giving you the kingdom" (vs 31-32).

Brethren, let us rejoice; let us truly be content and absolutely understand that God the Father is *for you*.

I spoke to a member recently who was discouraged and was struggling with things, and he said, 'I don't know if I'm going to make it or not.' I said, 'Are you doing this and this? Keeping the commandments and staying close to God?' *Yes, yes!*

What does God tell you back? to comfort you? to give you hope? This is a very inspiring and encouraging statement, and we can 'take this to the bank':

Philippians 1:6: "Being confident of this very thing, that He... [God the Father and Jesus Christ] ...Who began a good work in you will complete *it* until *the* day of Jesus Christ." This is what God the Father, through Paul, is telling us: ***have confidence in God!***

- He will bring you into salvation!
- He will bring you into His kingdom!

Brethren, we've gone through these signs/road lights, to tell us a little bit more about our journey to the Kingdom of God, and hopefully this has been helpful to you and perhaps using a physical and spiritually analogy that ***we are to truly seek the Kingdom of God with our heart, soul and being!***

As we look at these signs, as we travel around, let them be a reminder to you that we are on our way, we are going to Kingdom of God. Let us rejoice and be thankful, and always keep the vision of the Kingdom of God burning brightly in the forefront of your mind! ***God loves you, and He's going to bring you home!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Matthew 6:33
- 2) 1 Corinthians 10:4-12
- 3) Colossians 3:1-2, 5-10
- 4) Acts 2:38
- 5) Romans 6:4-6
- 6) Romans 12:2
- 7) Matthew 6:38-40
- 8) Romans 6:13-14
- 9) Galatians 5:16-18
- 10) Acts 4:10-12
- 11) John 14:6
- 12) 1 John 2:3-6
- 13) Romans 12:1
- 14) 1 Peter 5:8
- 15) Ephesians 6:10-18
- 16) Hebrews 4:9-11
- 17) Luke 12:31-32
- 18) Philippians 1:6

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Acts 9:2
- Mark 12:30-31
- Galatians 2:20

RK:bo
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