

How To Live Like a King's Kid (Romans, Part 10)

Many of God's children live below their privileges as King's Kids.

That's why we're studying the book of Romans – it tells us how to access the royalty that is already within us through the power of God's Spirit.

Paul never got to go to Rome until near the end of his life. That "delay" is why we have the book of Romans, written in advance to a group of believers he had never met ... and that is why Romans is Paul's masterpiece of theology, explaining the great gospel of Jesus Christ.

As he closes the book of Romans, Paul gives this group of believers some crucial teaching about their relationships WITHIN the church. If WE as God's people are not living the principles of God's Word, we can't expect Christianity to be ATTRACTIVE to anyone outside the church!

Once again, Paul directs his comments to MATURE believers because they should be the ones to ADAPT!

Romans 15:1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Our spiritual maturity is revealed by our willingness to give up our RIGHTS so others can be helped. Like loving parents make sacrifices for their children, mature believers sacrifice to help younger Christians grow in the faith. Real Christians are willing to even CARRY younger believers, in order to help them in their spiritual development.

We do not consider this a BURDEN, but a BLESSING.

We do not ENDURE young believers – we ENCOURAGE them!

Romans 15:6-7 That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.

ONE MIND (how we think) – unity should be REAL

ONE MOUTH (what we say) – unity should be APPARENT

RECEIVE ONE ANOTHER! If God was willing to bring SINNERS into His family, how much more should we ACCEPT each other!

Genesis 13:8 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

Jesus' final prayer request – the only prayer the church can answer!

The church's greatest power lies in UNITY. What about prayer? Not as powerful as UNIFIED prayer! What about worship? Not as powerful as UNIFIED worship! At the tower of Babel, absolute unity made nothing impossible to humanity. How much more is this true with God's favor?

Genesis 11:6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

The world will believe in HIM when they can believe in US!

- No one has ever left the church because of God!
- God's reputation can be ruined because of His children!

Romans 2:24 For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

Mahatma Gandhi: "I would have become a Christian, were it not for observing Christians."

ROMANS 16 – When the roll is called DOWN HERE, I'll be there!

Romans 16:4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

People were BEHEADED in Paul's day for being Christians! These people "risked their necks" and "stuck their necks out" for Paul and for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Do we have the same "RISK MENTALITY"?

Romans 16:17-18 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

Paul says to do two things with those that damage the church's unity:

- **MARK THEM** – take note of who they are
- **AVOID THEM** – turn away from them ("lean away" from their spirit)

WHY? Because they lead people away from DOCTRINE, because they serve their own DESIRES ("belly"), and because their LOGIC ("good words") and ELOQUENCE ("fair speeches") mask a deceptive spirit!

Romans 16:19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you **wise** unto that which is good, and **simple** concerning evil.

WISE – “clear”
SIMPLE – “innocent”

It isn't necessary to sift through garbage to recognize it for what it is, and the more we are around it the more we pick up its stench. The more willingly we associate with evil, the more it will drag us down to its level.

To be INNOCENT of evil is not to be IGNORANT of evil. The only way to recognize the counterfeit is to be completely familiar with the genuine!

Romans 16:20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet **shortly**. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

SHORTLY (“en tachei”) – not “soon” in the sense of time; primary meaning is “speedily, quickly” and secondary meaning is “unexpectedly”

Acts 12:7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up **quickly**. And his chains fell off from his hands.

This word is used three times in the last chapter of the Bible ...

Revelation 22:7 Behold, I come **quickly**: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation 22:12 And, behold, I come **quickly**; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Revelation 22:20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come **quickly**. Amen. **Even so, come, Lord Jesus.**

The ULTIMATE benefit of being a KING'S KID is that we get to live for all eternity in Heaven with our Father, the KING OF KINGS.