



TWO WORLDS APART

KINGDOM LIVING IN AN AGE OF EMPIRE



Village Green
Community Church





Jeremiah 29:4-11 NLT

⁴ This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives he has exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem:

⁵ “Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce.

⁶ Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you may have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away!

⁷ And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare.”



Jeremiah 29:4-11 NLT

⁸ This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let your prophets and fortune-tellers who are with you in the land of Babylon trick you. Do not listen to their dreams, ⁹ because they are telling you lies in my name. I have not sent them," says the LORD.

¹⁰ This is what the LORD says: "You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again."

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Jeremiah 29:4-11 NLT

¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

¹² In those days when you pray, I will listen.

¹³ If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.

¹⁴ I will be found by you,” says the LORD. “I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land.”

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1 Peter 3:13-18 NLT

¹³ Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good?

¹⁴ But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats.

¹⁵ Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.

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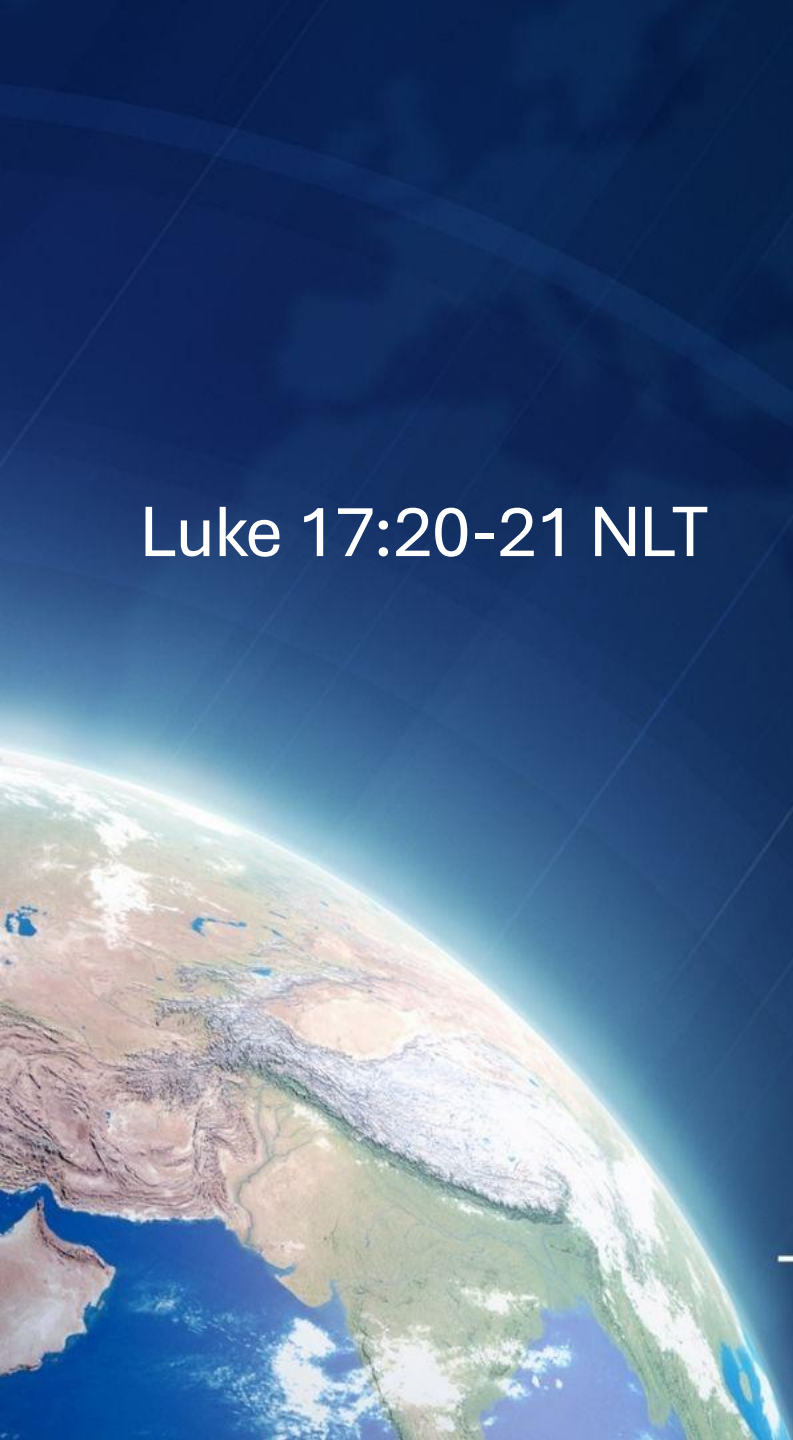
1 Peter 3:13-18 NLT

¹⁶ But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

¹⁷ Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!

¹⁸ Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.





Luke 17:20-21 NLT

²⁰ One day the Pharisees asked Jesus, “When will the Kingdom of God come?” Jesus replied, “The Kingdom of God can’t be detected by visible signs.

²¹ You won’t be able to say, ‘Here it is!’ or ‘It’s over there!’ For the Kingdom of God is already among you.”

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Kingdom of Empire

Kingdom of God

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**Kingdom Living in an
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Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship

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**Kingdom Living in an
Age of Empire**

Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love

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**Kingdom Living in an
Age of Empire**

Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear
- Creates idols

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love
- Reveals the living God

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Kingdom Living in an
Age of Empire

Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear
- Creates idols
- Demands conformity

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love
- Reveals the living God
- Forms disciples

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**Kingdom Living in an
Age of Empire**

Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear
- Creates idols
- Demands conformity
- Exalts power

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love
- Reveals the living God
- Forms disciples
- Exalts servanthood

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**Kingdom Living in an
Age of Empire**

Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear
- Creates idols
- Demands conformity
- Exalts power
- Limits freedoms

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love
- Reveals the living God
- Forms disciples
- Exalts servanthood
- Sets us truly free

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Kingdom Living in an
Age of Empire

Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear
- Creates idols
- Demands conformity
- Exalts power
- Limits freedoms
- Thrives on injustice

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love
- Reveals the living God
- Forms disciples
- Exalts servanthood
- Sets us truly free
- Justice for all

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Kingdom Living in an
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Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear
- Creates idols
- Demands conformity
- Exalts power
- Limits freedoms
- Thrives on injustice
- Temporary security

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love
- Reveals the living God
- Forms disciples
- Exalts servanthood
- Sets us truly free
- Justice for all
- Eternal hope & security

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Kingdom Living in an
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Kingdom of Empire

- Demands worship
- Rules by fear
- Creates idols
- Demands conformity
- Exalts power
- Limits freedoms
- Thrives on injustice
- Temporary security
- Produces beasts

Kingdom of God

- Invites Worship
- Rules by love
- Reveals the living God
- Forms disciples
- Exalts servanthood
- Sets us truly free
- Justice for all
- Eternal hope & security
- Restores God's image to all and transforms the world.