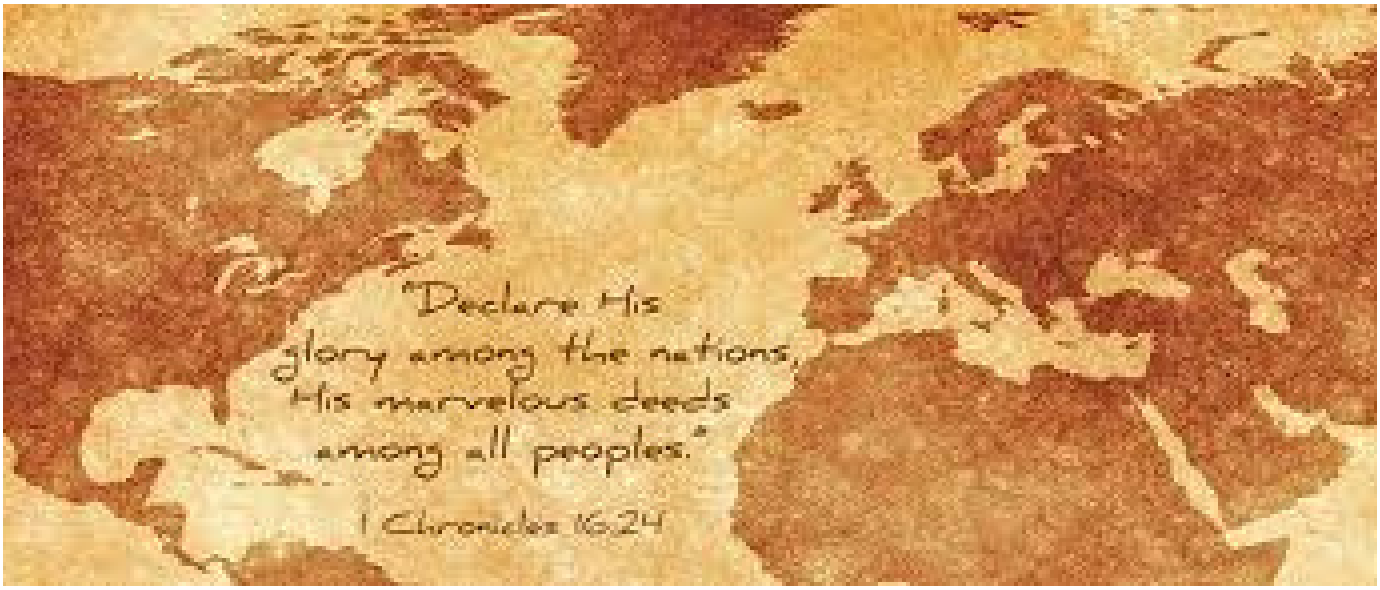
SBC BULLETIN



May Mission Month

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Our website:
https://scarboroughbaptist.com

Details for your offering:

(Our bank - BFS - uses the Post Office for transactions - you will need to use a special deposit slip - Ask Anne/Willy)

Branch number 704- 922
Account number 1000 19866

SERMONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

BOOK REVIEW: SCOT MCKNIGHT KINGDOM CONSPIRACY. September 22, 2014 by Trevin Wax

[In this book] Scot challenges the evangelical consensus that “the kingdom of God” refers to God’s redemptive rule and not His people. “The kingdom of which Jesus speaks is a people governed by a king,” he writes (74).

Why does this matter? Because, whenever we reduce “kingdom” to God’s rule as either justice in the world or God’s rule as personal salvation for the human heart, we ignore the close connection between the kingdom of the King’s people. “You can’t be kingdom people without being church people,” he says (79).

Scot is not denying distinctions between the church and the kingdom, but he believes evangelicals have overstated the distinctions and missed their close connection. He writes:
“It is reasonable to say that the kingdom is the church, and the church is the kingdom – that they are the same even if they are not identical. They are the same in that it is the same people under the same King Jesus even if each term – kingdom, church – gives off slightly different suggestions” (206).

Kingdom Mission as Church Mission

If we fail to understand the kingdom's connection to the church, we will get lost when we go looking for the primary place redemption is found. The Skinny Jeans activists are all about redemption in society. The Pleated Pants folks are all about redemption for the individual. Scot says both are looking in the wrong place. The primary locus of redemption is in the local church. (85). "There is no kingdom now outside the church," he writes (87).

But, wait! The church is so messed up. How can this possibly be the place of God's redemptive rule? It's here that Scot takes the "kingdom is now and not yet" consensus of evangelicalism and applies the same insight to the church. Just as we say the kingdom is already here, but not yet fully, so we should we also consider the church as already sanctified but not yet perfected (92).

So, what is kingdom mission?

"Kingdom work is what kingdom citizens do under King Jesus." So, if "the kingdom is the people who are redeemed and ruled by King Jesus in such a way that they live as a fellowship under King Jesus," then "kingdom mission is about creating and sustaining that kingdom community, the church" (99).

The church's mission is to "mediate the presence of God in this world" primarily through its embracing of its identity as an alternative kingdom politic. Local churches must embody the vision of Jesus in a way that tells His kingdom story. "Kingdom mission forms a kingdom people and that kingdom people in the present world is the church" (123).

On both the left and the right, evangelicals are missing the essence of kingdom mission due to their conflation of political involvement with kingdom work. The big problem is that Christians are seeking for the nation what should first be a witnessed reality in the local church (102).

Political involvement is a major distraction from kingdom mission in that it seeks to enshrine a "Judaeo-Christian ethic," an ethic that, by definition, either "strips the Christian elements" or "turns the 'Judaeo' part into a Christian ethic" (220).

3 We always thank God,
the Father of our Lord *Jesus Christ*,
when we pray for you, 4
because we have **heard [1]**
of your **faith** in *Christ Jesus*
and of the **love** you have
for all God's people
— 5 the **faith and love** that spring from
the **hope**
stored up for you in heaven
and about which you have already **heard [1]**
in the **true message** of the **gospel [2]**
that **has come to you [1].**
In the same way, the gospel [2] is bearing fruit
and growing throughout the whole world
—just as **it** has been doing among you
since the day you **heard [1] it [2]**
and truly understood **God's grace.[2]**
in all its truth 7
You **learned [1] it [2]** from Epaphras,
our dear fellow servant,[c] who is a **faithful** minister of *Christ* on our[d]
behalf, 8 and who also
told us [1] of your **love** in the Spirit.

ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY
S@6 on Sunday evening
MONDAY
BIBLE STUDIES
1 pm @ church
TUESDAY
CRAFT: 9-11.30
THURSDAY
MAINLY MUSIC: 10.30

PRAYER

- Praise God Iris Sales is feeling better.
- Hillary Holland is back home
- Anik is still not feeling very well.
- Thank God for free will donations to the church
- Pray that we will be able to meet all our expenses