

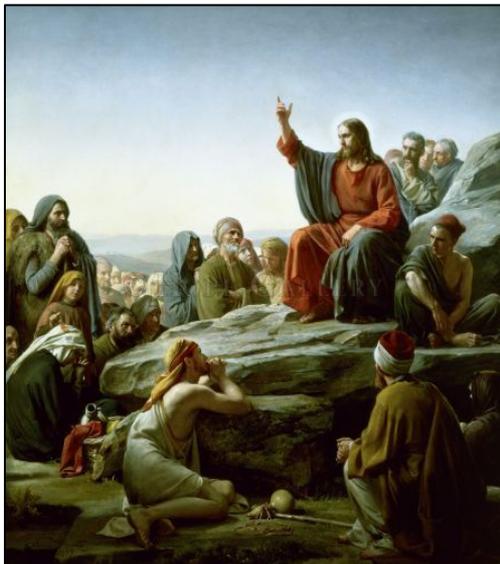


CHRISTIAN
UNION

Seven Keys to Kingdom Advancement

KEY SIX: IMPACTING THE THREE SPHERES

May God's Kingdom Come



Matthew 6:9-10 - Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Sermon on the Mount, 1877
Carl H. Bloch



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

We live in the church age, and it's our role to hasten the day of Christ's return by deepening and expanding the kingdom of God.

Having gained the power of the Holy Spirit by seeking God wholeheartedly, it's the Christian's duty and joy to take the message of God's love to every person on the planet, and call all persons and institutions worldwide to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Seven Keys to Kingdom Advancement

1. Aspiration and Desperation
2. Theological Foundations
3. Seeking God Wholeheartedly
4. Spiritual Practices
5. Supernatural Aspects
6. **Impacting the Three Spheres**
7. Leadership

Knowing How to Take Action in the Three Spheres



“The goal of the church is not to impact the church, but to impact the world.”

Dr. Tony Evans
Pastor and Author



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

When the Holy Spirit Comes in Power

When the Holy Spirit comes in power, what steps are to be taken to see multiplicative impact in the three spheres?

Jonathan Edwards: “When the Spirit of God is poured out on a people, sinners are awakened. The effect of awakenings, if they are to any considerable degree, is reformation.”



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Impacting the Three Spheres

1. Overview
2. Evangelism: Bold and Widespread Proclamation
3. Evangelism: Winsome and Difficult Presentations
4. Evangelism: Steeled Against Opposition
5. Progress in Additional Spheres



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Impacting the Three Spheres

1. **Overview**
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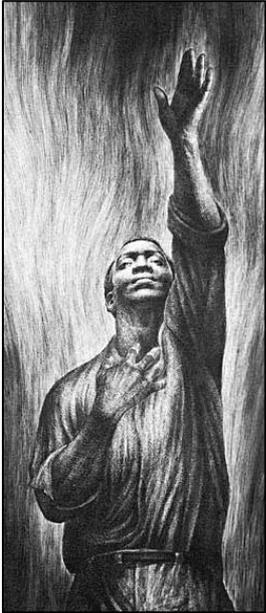
6. Impacting the Three Spheres

When the Holy Spirit Comes in Power

The Kingdom of Light expands both with God's power, and according to His ways.

The Kingdom of Light replaces the Kingdom of Darkness in the Three Spheres as we serve as His laborers and warriors. Like the angels, we are in relationship with the Father, but also advance His Kingdom as His servants.

A Definition of Revival



Revival comes by God's grace through Christians' faithful efforts of pleasing Him by seeking Him wholeheartedly, resulting in multiplicative advances of the kingdom of light over the kingdom of darkness in the personal, territorial, and cultural spheres, accompanied by periodic outpourings of the Holy Spirit in group settings.

Man, 1959 by Charles White



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Revival is an Increase of the Presence of God Himself:

1. **Invasion into the Three Spheres** - It is the multiplicative (not just incremental) increase of the kingdom of God in all three spheres: Personal Sphere, Territorial Sphere, and Cultural Sphere.
2. **Visitations** - There are periodic visitations of the Spirit in group settings, where attendees look at each other, knowing that God has come, including manifestations of God in the room.



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Kingdoms of Light and Darkness

Personal Sphere

Mark 1:14, 15

- Salvations
- Holiness, Fillings of the Holy Spirit
- Sanctification
- Fruits of the Spirit
- Deliverance, Healings, Miracles
- Widespread Fervent Prayer
- Love for others and God
- Involvement in Christian Discipleship

Territorial Sphere

Genesis 28:10-22

- Fruitfulness in the Surrounding Land
- No Hauntings, or Spiritual Power for Psychics
- Atmosphere of Godliness, Life and Joy
- Non-Christians spontaneously experience the things of God

Cultural Sphere

Isaiah 61:1-7

- Religious
- Family
- Business
- Education
- Government
- Media
- Medical
- Arts
- Entertainment



6. Impacting the Three Spheres



Which Represents the Christian Life?

Self-Centered Believer



God exists to make me happy and give me an “abundant life.”

Christ-Centered Laborer



I exist to please God and fulfill His purposes.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Knowing How to Take Action in the Three Spheres

In taking action to promote the Kingdom of Light over the Kingdom of Darkness in the three spheres, the following are sources:

1. Get the Power from on High (Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:8)
2. Take Action
 - The Scriptures
 - Hearing from the Lord



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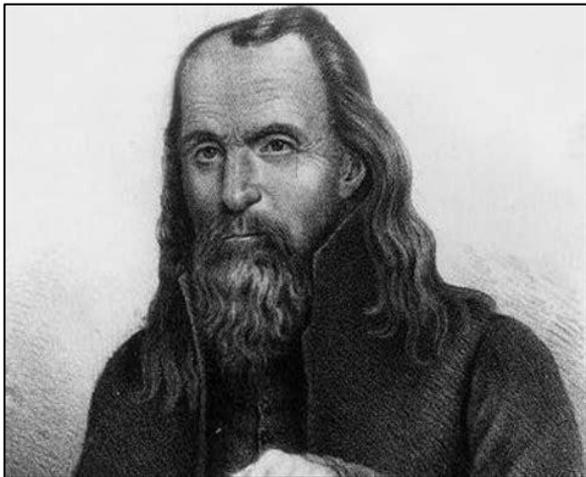


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Evangelism

This is not intended to be a thorough teaching on evangelism, but rather an explanation that filling of the Holy Spirit is the first step, then it's needed to take action as the Lord directs through the Scriptures and other leading.

Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel



He preached to more people than anyone during Second Great awakening. He was controversial and eccentric, and yet his autobiography became the most popular book in America after the Bible and more newborn boys were named after him than any other person.

Lorenzo Dow (1777-1834)

Itinerant Evangelist, Second Great Awakening



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Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

In the Book of Acts, the most consistent outcome of filling of the Holy Spirit is boldness in gospel proclamation.

Acts 4:13 - Now when they saw the **boldness** of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:29 - And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all **boldness**,



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

Acts 4:31 - And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with **boldness**.

Acts 9:27 - But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached **boldly** in the name of Jesus.

Acts 9:28 - So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching **boldly** in the name of the Lord.



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Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

Acts 13:46 - And Paul and Barnabas spoke out **boldly**, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.

Acts 14:3 - So they remained for a long time, speaking **boldly** for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Acts 18:26 - He began to speak **boldly** in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

Acts 19:8 - And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke **boldly**, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God.

Acts 26:26 - For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak **boldly**. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner.

Acts 28:31 - proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all **boldness** and without hindrance.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

Matthew 5:14-16 - “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Ephesians 6:19, 20 - and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth **boldly** to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it **boldly**, as I ought to speak.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

Acts 5:30-34 - The times of ignorance God overlooked, but **now he commands all people everywhere to repent**,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”³² Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.”³³ So Paul went out from their midst.³⁴ But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

Acts 5:42 - And every day, in the temple and from **house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.**

Acts 13:48, 49 - And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. ⁴⁹ **And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.**

1 Thessalonians 2:2 - But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had **boldness** in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

Acts 19:8-10 - And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹ But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰ This continued for two years, so that **all the residents of Asia** heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.



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Bold and Widespread Proclamation of the Gospel

1 Thessalonians 1:4-9 - ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸**For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere**, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

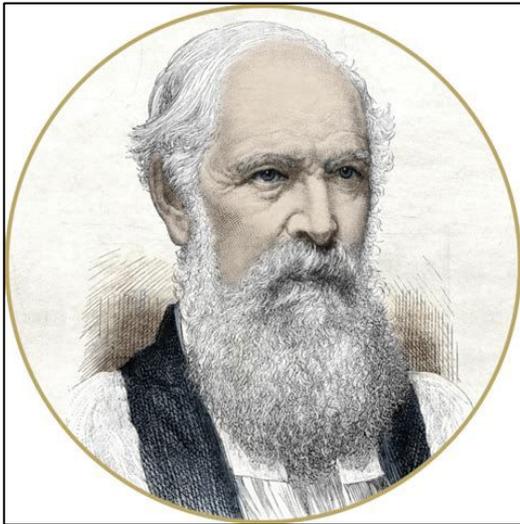


6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Stated by the Former Archbishop of Canterbury:

*“Wherever the Apostle Paul went there was either riots or revival.
Wherever I go, they serve tea.”*

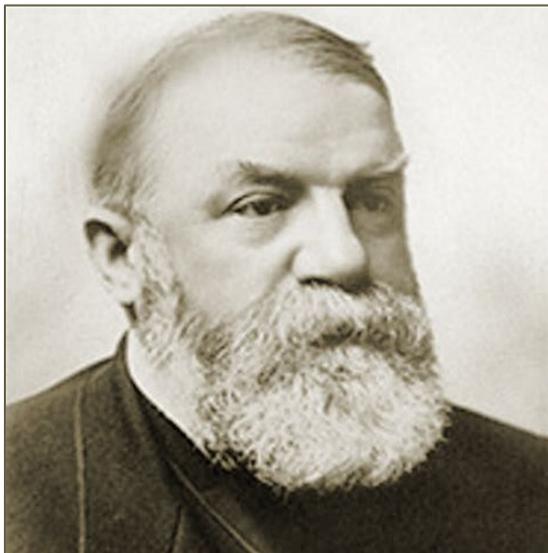
Opposition to Evangelism



“The world will let a man go to hell quietly and never try to stop him. The world will never let a man go heaven quietly; they will do all they can to turn him back.”

J. C. Ryle (1816-1900)
Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, England

Things That Make Men Angry



“Men don’t like to have Christ preached faithfully; but it is just what they don’t like to have that we must give them. I learned that long ago. The very truths that men object to, and that make them angry, are the truths that bring them to the cross of Christ.”

Dwight Lyman Moody (1837-1899)
American Evangelist

Bold Proclamation - “Taking To The Fields”



“Do you think he will have mercy on others, and not on you? But are you not sinners? And did not Jesus Christ come into the world to save sinners?”

George Whitefield (1714-1770)
Evangelist of the Great Awakening



Impacting the Three Spheres

1. Overview
2. Evangelism: Bold and Widespread Proclamation
- 3. Evangelism: Winsome and Difficult Presentations**
4. Evangelism: Steeled Against Opposition
5. Progress in Additional Spheres



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Gospel Presentations: Both “Winsome” and Difficult

In these episodes it can be seen that the Gospel is presented as contextual/connecting as well as challenging. Some gospel presentations may be almost all contextual, some almost all challenging, and some a mixture of both.

- Jesus and the Rich Young Man - Mark 10:17-22
- Peter with the Pentecost Crowd - Acts 2:14-41
- Paul at the Areopagus - Acts 17:22-34
- Paul in Ephesus - Acts 19:23-41
- Paul in Jerusalem, Speaking to the Jews - Acts 21:37-22:29
- There's the temptation to remove challenging parts of the gospel, lessening its impact.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Gospel Presentations: Both “Winsome” and Difficult

We can err in two ways:

- Only preaching the contextual/affirming/connecting aspects of the gospel.
- Only preaching the challenging/controversial/confronting aspects of the gospel.

In your view, what are the “winsome” aspects of the gospel today?

In your view, what are the “difficult” parts of the gospel today?



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Steeled Against Opposition



Matthew 5:10-12 - “Blessed are those who are **persecuted** for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when others revile you and **persecute** you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they **persecuted** the prophets who were before you.”

St. Matthew, 1614
El Greco



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

Matthew 5:44 - “But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who **persecute** you”

Matthew 10:22, 23 - “and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they **persecute** you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

Mark 4:17 - “And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or **persecution** arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.”



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

Mark 10:27-31 - Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.”²⁸ Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.”²⁹ Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel,³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, **with persecutions**, and in the age to come eternal life.³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

Luke 21:12-19 - “But before all this **they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake.** ¹³ This will be your opportunity to bear witness. ¹⁴ Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all for my name’s sake. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your lives.”



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

John 15:18 - 16:4 - “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before **it hated you**.¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you: **‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.** If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.²¹ But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.²² If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.²³ Whoever hates me hates my Father also.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

John 15:18 - 16:4 (cont'd) - ²⁴ “If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵ But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: **‘They hated me without a cause.’** ²⁶ “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

John 15:18 - 16:4 (cont'd) - ^{16:1} “I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³ And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴ **But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.**”

Acts 5:41 - “Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to **suffer** dishonor for the name.”

Steeled Against Opposition



The Stoning of Stephen, 1625
Rembrandt

Acts 8:1-3 - And Saul approved of his execution. And there arose on that day a great **persecution** against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ² Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. ³ But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

Acts 11:19 - Now those who were scattered because of the **persecution** that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews.

Acts 13:50-52 - But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up **persecution** against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. ⁵¹ But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. ⁵² And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:14 - Bless those who **persecute** you; bless and do not curse them.



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Steeled Against Opposition

2 Corinthians 12:10 - For the sake of Christ, then, **I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities.** For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Galatians 5:11 - But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being **persecuted**? In that case ^othe offense of the cross has been removed.

1 Thessalonians 3:3, 4 - that no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this. ⁴ For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to **suffer affliction**, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know.



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Steeled Against Opposition

Hebrews 11:36-38 - Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they **were killed with the sword**. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

Revelation 2:10 - “Do not fear what you are about to **suffer**. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have **tribulation**. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”



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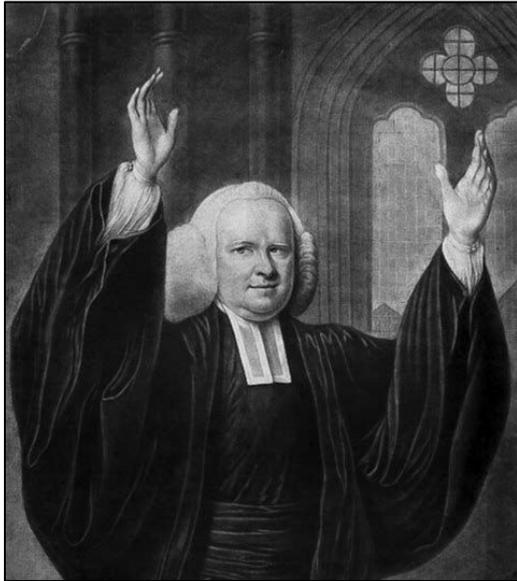
Steeled Against Opposition

John 5:16 - And this was why the Jews were **persecuting** Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath.

Romans 8:35 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or **persecution**, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

2 Timothy 3:12, 13 - **Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,** ¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

Steeled Against Opposition



“Perhaps there is so little persecution of Christians because there is so little godliness.”

George Whitefield (1714-1770)
Revivalist of the Great Awakening



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Personal Sphere: Healings

- Laying on of Hands (Luke 13:13)
- Anointing with Oil (James 5:14)
- Deliverances (Matthew 12:22)
- Commanding of the Body (Luke 18:40-43)
- High Level of Faith (Mark 6:5, 6)
- God's Name as the Basis (Malachi 1:11, 12)



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Territorial Sphere

- Fiji villages land changing, as well as NYC in 1857, and Princeton
- Holy people - no longer defiling the land with sin (Lev 18:25)
 - Removal of mediums, psychics (Lev 20:22-27)
 - Spiritual mapping and repentance (2 Sam 21:1-14)
- Anointing with oil (Genesis 31:13)
- Removal of idolatrous objects (2 Chron 31:3)
- Playing praise music (2 Kings 3:15, 16)



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Cultural Sphere: Government

- Righteous Laws (Proverbs 8:15)
- Justice when Laws are Broken (Proverbs 21:15)
- Removal of Corruption (Exodus 23:2, 3)
- Limits on Authority (Isaiah 33:22)



6. Impacting the Three Spheres

Cultural Sphere: Education

- Loving the Truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12)
- Repenting of Wealth and Power (1 Kings 3:3-15)
- Cultivating Fear of God Since It's Beginning of Wisdom (Proverbs 1:1-7)



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All of this requires leadership which is Seven Keys Number 7



We live in the church age, and it's our role to hasten the day of Christ's return by deepening and expanding the kingdom of God.

As Christians seek God wholeheartedly, He gives grace, power and direction to be used as His instruments in our families, communities and nation.

**Help America Return to God by Becoming a Cornerstone Partner
with Christian Union: christianunion.org/cornerstone**

**Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!**

Psalm 33:12



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