

## I. What is a Paradigm?

**A PARADIGM IS:** A “LENS” through which we perceive and understand our world or reality. It provides definition and purpose to the things in our world, system or arena of life.

### **EXAMPLE: Microscope v. Telescope OR Glasses**

- You use one or the other depending upon your objective. If you are trying to see that which is **very small**, you use a lens in a **Microscope**, while if you are trying to see something far away, then you would use a telescopic lens.
- **Far sighted or Near Sighted - Depends on the purpose or need for them.**

### **HOW I DISCOVERED PARADIGMS**

Listening to teaching years ago concerning grace and law, and I discerned that there was something wrong, but could not put my finger on it, because what was being taught had a scriptural foundation, and was coming from the Bible, but its application required me to, at the same time, ignore other truths found in scripture, in both the Old and New Testaments.

**AN ANOMALY:** Anomalies are seemingly unexplainable interruption or deviation from an established standard, order, system or understanding that call into question the same. Anomalies, are often the precursors that initiate *paradigm shifts*.

- **Doctrinal anomalies** - where we see scripture, which is the inerrant word of God, appearing to contradict itself – even within the same Testament or Covenant

### **Examples of Anomalies:**

- **Romans 3:21-28, NKJV** - “But now the **righteousness** of God apart from the **law** is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, **22** even the **righteousness** of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; **23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** being **justified freely by His grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, **25** whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His **righteousness**, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, **26** to demonstrate at the present time His **righteousness**, that He might be just and the **justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus. **27** Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. **28** Therefore we conclude that a man is by faith apart from the deeds of the law.”
  - **The Law** is being interpreted as being for “**righteousness sake**”
- **James 2:24, NKJV** - “You see then that a man **is justified by works**, and **not by faith only**.”

### **Resolving the Apparent Contradiction - Paradigms**

- **Ephesians 2:8-10, NKJV** - “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, **9** not of works, lest anyone should boast (Salvation Paradigm). **10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them (Kingdom Paradigm).”

### **Two Different Paradigms – Salvation and Kingdom Paradigms**

- **Law** in the “**Kingdom Perspective**” has a different purpose and meaning, than it does in the “**Salvation Paradigm**”

## II. The 2 Doctrinal Dimensions in Understanding Paradigms

### The 2 DOCTRINAL DIMENSIONS: LEGAL v. LITERAL

- **LEGAL Dimension**- concern how one is legally established within the family of God, by grace and faith in Christ and His atoning work on our behalf. This was a legal work accomplished wholly and sufficiently by Christ. Nothing can be added to it.
  - Legally, we have been graced with every blessing, benefit, grace, gift and inheritance when we are saved. Nothing we can do can add to it.
- **LITERAL Dimension** - concern the manifestation of what we have legally become.
  - However, we are responsible for literally manifesting in outlives and this world, what we have legally received, so that we may not only experience life, but life more abundantly!

## III. Understanding The 2 Paradigms & The Gospel

- **God’s Original and Ultimate Purpose for Creating Mankind and the Earth is:** “*The manifestation of God’s Heavenly Kingdom on Earth in Partnership with His Sons*” (**Kingdom Paradigm**)

**SALVATION PARADIGM** - The Realm of the Unsaved or newly saved

- **Dimension - LEGAL**- focuses on what Christ has legally accomplished for us.
- **Position** - Unsaved in need of justification and salvation
- **Message & Purpose- “ABCs”**.
  - **Assurance** of our *Salvation*
  - **Basis & Basics** of our *Salvation*, &
  - **Christ** as the **S**ource of our *Salvation*
- **NOTE: Indicator of a Salvation Paradigm text or teaching:** The focus is *justification, righteousness* or *salvation*.

**KINGDOM PARADIGM** - The Realm of the Saved - original Paradigm and position in which God established man in the earth to fulfill His purposes in it.

- **Dimension - LITERAL** - The work of literally manifesting what we have become as a result of having accepted what Christ has done for us, and in us.
- **Position** - Already Saved and In Covenant with God.
- **Message & Purpose** – Manifestation. How a son of God manifest His covenant blessings, gotten by grace and faith in the *advancement of God’s Kingdom* in the Earth.
  - **NOTE: Indicator of a Kingdom Paradigm text or teaching:** Focus is how to live as a son of God and the advancement of His Kingdom in the earth.

Having an understanding of the Paradigm impacts how we perceive and understand the Gospel itself!

#### IV. What is the Gospel? Are there more than "1" Gospel?

**To answer** - It Depends on your Paradigm, or Position with God. Are you in need of Salvation, or are you already Saved and in Covenant with God?

- To prove this we must look at the 4 books called the gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- These books of the Gospels are divided between the Kingdom Paradigm, and Salvation Paradigm:
  - Comprised of approximately **90% Kingdom v.10% Salvation Paradigm.**

**SALVATION PARADIGM GOSPEL** - What Christ did, to Legally Redeem us and pay for our sins, so that we can be saved. **10%**

- The Gospels are primarily perceived and approached from a Salvation Paradigm perspective.
  - What do I do now that I am saved?
  - Law was being interpreted as works for righteousness sake, causing the perception that there is nothing for us to do, once we are saved. When in reality, our work begins once we are saved.

**KINGDOM PARADIGM GOSPEL:** What it looks like for a man, who is also a son of God, walking by faith, not by sight, subduing and having Dominion (Genesis 1:26).

- What Jesus did and taught, and how he taught the disciples to do the same. **90%**

#### **Warning about Paradigms by the Writer of Hebrews!**

- **Hebrews 5:12-13; 6:1-3 AMPC - 12** For even though by this time you ought to be teaching others, you actually need someone to teach you over again the very first principles of God's Word. You have come to need milk, not solid food. **13** For everyone who continues to feed on milk is obviously inexperienced *and* unskilled in the doctrine of righteousness (of conformity to the divine will in purpose, thought, and action), for he is a mere infant [not able to talk yet!] **14** But solid food is for full-grown men, for those whose senses *and* mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate *and* distinguish between what is morally good *and* noble and what is evil *and* contrary either to divine or human law.
- **Hebrews 6 (AMPC)** Therefore let us go on and get past the elementary stage in the teachings *and* doctrine of Christ (the Messiah), advancing steadily toward the completeness *and* perfection that belong to spiritual maturity. Let us not again be laying the foundation of repentance *and* abandonment of dead works (dead formalism) and of the faith [by which you turned] to God, **2** With teachings about purifying, the laying on of hands, the resurrection from the dead, and eternal judgment *and* punishment. [These are all matters of which you should have been fully aware long, long ago.] **3** If indeed God permits, we will [now] proceed [to advanced teaching].