

Introduction

God is preparing us for the next great revival which will begin and flourish throughout the marketplace. He is now positioning Christians strategically throughout all areas of society: business, government, education, entertainment, services, communication, transportation, agriculture, social services, and the arts. The Lord is opening doors of creativity, productivity, and prosperity that will make our vocations meaningful and delightfully fulfilling. Instead of a remnant just holding on for a rapture, we are busy—aggressively expanding God’s Kingdom into the marketplace, which is the heart of our cities. Just as the New Testament believers before us, we are going to turn the world upside down (Acts 17:6).

This book is to inspire and propel Christians into this move of God—to find their places in marketplace ministry.

A New Breed of “Ministers”

When people first become Christians, they get excited about finding their gifts, entering their ministry callings, and operating in the power of God. It is the beginning of connecting to their destinies. There is nothing more exciting or rewarding than knowing that God is working through them to heal, encourage, or save someone for eternity.

Releasing Kings for Ministry in the Marketplace

Unfortunately, the path from salvation to ministry usually doesn't go smoothly. Though willing and excited to be used by God, most Christians are not called to full-time church staff positions, and the congregations could not support all of them, even if they were. In an effort to use their talents in local churches and develop ministry gifts, the idea of "lay ministry" was developed, allowing the laity to be involved in church ministry with the time they could spare from their secular vocations and family commitments. The intent was good, but several problems ensued. It made the church introverted (less evangelistic) and somewhat competitive. Only about 2% of Christians work on a church staff. The rest have to be part time in the ministry and full time in secular work. (If you have a secular job, you will recognize this as unpaid overtime.) It depletes the energy, drive, and zeal of sincere Christians willing to give themselves to ministry.

The answer lies in understanding the roles of "Kings" and "Priests" in the Body of Christ. In this book we will talk about Christians (men and women) working as Kings in the marketplace, taking dominion, walking as royalty, and establishing the Kingdom of God in the Earth. At the same time, there are men and women of God who serve in the Church as Priests, reconciling people to God and equipping them to walk in God's ways. Even though all Christians are Kings and Priests unto God, we each find our primary calling to either the marketplace or the Church. Great blessings come when we recognize these callings and allow people the freedom to serve

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where they are called and anointed by God.

Some who read these pages may conclude that we have gone too far in separating the kingly and priestly roles. Again, we acknowledge that all Christians are both Kings and Priests unto God. In separating these two roles our hearts are not to exclude anyone from their involvement in both the marketplace and the Church, but rather *to encourage Christians to excel in their primary calling.*

Kings possess the personality, calling, gifting, and ministry to reach the hearts of our cities and all of society. Priests, on the other hand, are gifted uniquely by God to function within the Church, attending to the duties of feeding, caring for, and equipping God's people. The two personality types, while compatible, are created by God for different functions; as such, each is most fruitful in his/her natural environment: Kings in the Kingdom; Priests in the Temple.

Pastors (under the category of Priests) tend to motivate their congregations to focus all of their ministry energies within the church. When Kings, who are competitive by nature, become committee leaders, deacons, board members, or elders, and start "helping" the pastor with decisions about running the church, they lose their effectiveness (and often their welcome). Kings may have pastoral hearts and prophetic anointings but their primary calling is not inside the church; it is out in the marketplace expanding the Kingdom of God.

Now is the time for Kings to be released and activated to take the power and message of the Gospel into the world.

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Imagine

Imagine the growth of Christianity and the city-wide impact that would occur if 98% of the Body of Christ stepped into kingly anointings, leaving the pastoral care to those who truly are called to it. Kings would be in church on Sunday receiving a rich equipping from the Priests (pastors, teachers, and other anointed church leaders) to be deployed the remaining six days to minister at work. Imagine a small business owner who perceived of him/herself as a minister called of God to care for and lead his/her employees. Imagine God's favor to multiply financial blessings to an advertising executive through an anointing for creativity. Imagine gifts of the Spirit operating in the marketplace to reach the lost one minute and to make financial decisions the next. Imagine the wall between "secular" and "spiritual" crumbling. Imagine Kings in the marketplace ministering in the Spirit as freely as Priests minister in the Church. Think about being employed by God in a workplace vocation that causes you to seek Him the same way that a pastor seeks God in preparing the message for Sunday.

Purpose

To understand God's design of Kings and Priests, it is necessary to have the biblical foundation that explains and supports it. To that end, we are going to acquaint you with a contemporary version of Kings (the modern equivalent of Abraham, Joseph, Moses,

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Joshua, Nehemiah, David, Solomon, Daniel...) and explore their godly motivations, the nature of their ministries, and their unique personality. We also are going to explore the biblical foundation for a King's ministry motivations, examining topics such as, "Who is God?" "Who are we?" and "What is our future?"

In the Bible, as in present day, Kings are the ones who get things done whenever God is moving, shaking, or expanding His Kingdom. It's an honor to have a calling to the marketplace—that is where the action is.

You, the reader, may sense such a calling on your life. The ramifications of having a kingly ministry in the marketplace will set your heart on fire. A compassionate Father has some new land with your name on it. You are being invited to talk to God and hear His voice. He is asking you to share your dreams, and then He is giving you the authority to implement them. You are going to find that your heart's desire matches God's heart more than you realized. When you see it, you will be surprised and delighted at the doors that open in every area of your life...you'll no longer be "just a servant."

"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you...."
(John 15:15)

This book is dedicated to the 98% of us who sit in

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the pews, admire the ministers in front, and wish God would use us in a dynamic way. Our prayer is that this book will be a tool of the Holy Spirit to release your heart for ministry into a realm that really does produce results—the workplace. Our lives will naturally bear the character, works, and fruit of Christ as we are rooted in a relationship with the Father, growing in the soil of sound doctrine and motivated by love to expand His Kingdom. The Lord is opening doors of creativity, productivity, prosperity, and ministry that make our vocations in the marketplace delightfully fulfilling.

An Overview

Part I defines the interaction between Kings and Priests. The groundwork is laid to understand the ministry, the Scriptural basis, and the potential for Kings to impact the mission of the Kingdom.

Part II examines the motivational foundation in our beliefs about the nature of God (Who is God?), the nature of humanity (Who am I?), and eschatology (Where are we going?). Our goal in presenting this theology is to anchor Kings in a doctrinal system which supports the risks and adventure of being one of God's Great Ones.

Part III explains the ministry of Kings and what makes them tick. We will see why Kings are bold, creative, competitive, etc. We will embrace a personal God who shares His business with Kings, and we'll understand a King's passion and drive.

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Part IV shows how Christians who relate to God personally are delightfully more relational than those who relate only to a cold, impersonal God. Kings are mentors and leaders who connect with people instead of just directing them. They never lose their childlike ability to dream as they pursue their hearts' desires. They have a prayerlife that consists of "asking and receiving." They love to mentor others and share the secrets of their successes. They have plans to impact generations by passing their financial and spiritual heritages on to others.

Let Us Encourage and Equip You

This book has two authors. John Garfield is bi-vocational, being a successful engineer and manager in a large corporation, while at the same time founding two churches. Harold R. Eberle is an author, minister, and popular motivational speaker who has founded several schools and orphanages in developing nations. Even though these two authors combined their thoughts and worked closely together, it is written in the first person singular from John's perspective. This is because John has taken the lead in writing most of this book (Parts I, III and IV) and most of the examples come from his life. From this point on when you read "I," realize that you are hearing the words of John, with Harold looking over his shoulder, shouting wholehearted agreement and wrestling for control of the keyboard.