

“Assignment” from Joel in Recording 323B, “The Way of Prayer”
Quoted from *Living by the Word*, Chapter 10,
“Let the Tares and the Wheat Grow Together”

“As an experiment, take the passage, ‘*My kingdom is not of this world*’ (John 18:36). These are the words of the Master. ‘My kingdom’ must mean the kingdom of the Son of God, the spiritual kingdom that is within you, which is not of this world. At first it might seem that Jesus is saying that attaining this kingdom of God would have no effect upon your diseases, your lack, or your sins. But you have only to examine the Master’s ministry to know that that would be a false assumption, as his ministry proved.

“Whatever the name or nature of the problem that is disturbing you most, whether it is one of your health or the health of a member of your family; whether it is a problem of supply or a problem of human relationships; for the next week or two, agree within yourself that every time this problem comes to your thought you will respond to it with ‘My kingdom is not of this world,’ and then refuse to treat that problem or that condition; refuse to take it to God or try to bring God to it.

“Do this every time the problem intrudes itself into your thought, and you may be assured that during the next week or two it is going to push at you much more than it ever has in the past. The very moment you try to ignore a thing, it hits you right over the head and tries to make you aware of it. So do not be surprised that your problem, whatever it is, lifts up its head when you are trying to ignore it, especially if you follow this procedure.

“You are not going to take this problem to God, and you are not going to bring God to this problem. Your attitude is that My kingdom, the spiritual kingdom, the Christ kingdom, is not of this world, and therefore you are not going to take the problems of this world into heaven, nor are you going to try to bring the kingdom of heaven down to this problem.

“You are going to rest confidently and securely in My kingdom and let the tares and the wheat grow side by side. That will be the second passage you will use to address to your problem: ‘*Let the tares and the wheat grow side by side*’ (Matthew 13:30). Be sure that you make no attempt to heal yourself. Make no attempt to overcome the erroneous condition. Make no attempt at all to meet it, but on the contrary, refuse to take it into consideration, because My kingdom has nothing to do with that problem, and that problem can never find entrance into the kingdom of God. So let the tares and the wheat grow side by side and see what happens.

“This is not an easy assignment, and there will be times when you will wish you had never heard of this but had let sleeping dogs lie. If you are faithful, however, you will witness something you never dreamed of before, and that is that God is really ‘*of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity*’ (Habakkuk 1:13).”