



The Six Great Ends of the Church

Learning Mini-Series

DISCUSSION OUTLINE: GREAT END #6

The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World

Presented by The Reverend Dr. Raymond I. Hylton, Sr.

Series Information:

This learning mini-series is sponsored by The Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington. It consists of seven videos in the “Ted Talk” presentation style. A discussion outline accompanies each of the Six Great Ends presentations. The presentations and presenters are:

- **Series Introduction:** *Rev. Dr. Rob Erickson*
 - **The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind:** *Rev. Dr. Rob Erickson*
 - **The Shelter and Nurture and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God:**
Rev. Emilee Williams
 - **The Maintenance of Divine Worship:** *Rev. Dr. Jacob Bolton*
 - **The Preservation of the Truth:** *Rev. Becca Messman*
 - **The Promotion of Social Righteousness:** *Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey*
 - **The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World:** *Rev. Dr. Raymond I. Hylton, Sr.*
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Discussion Outline:

- I. Did this “Great End” mean something different to you before you watched the video?
- II. How do the first 5 “collapse into” this Sixth Great End? Is that a meaningful idea to you?
- III. Discuss the word “Exhibit” – evidence in the legal sense, per Dr. Hylton. What evidence do we have and show to the world that God does exist and is “really good”?

Discussion Outline: The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World

- IV. How do we bear witness to God being in the world? (To “bear witness” is another legal term.)
- V. What is the “Goal” of the Christian? Note Dr. Hylton mentions his childlike idea of “going to heaven” a far-off place as a goal. Note the words of the Lord’s Prayer – “on earth as it is in heaven.”
- VI. Jesus came to announce the “kingdom on earth.” How does this fit with Jesus as our savior and dying for our sins? Are these very different reasons/purposes for Jesus being here on earth or do they work together somehow?
- VII. The Kingdom of Heaven is not here on earth yet. We still see the pain of the world. So, we need to exhibit the kingdom in this world now – through action. What are we doing (not studying or thinking about, but DOING)? If we are exhibiting, others must be able to see it.
- VIII. Dr. Hylton quotes Jesus’ phrase “Let your light shine” so that others will see your good works and glorify God in Heaven. What about being humble and not “showy” as Jesus also taught? See Matthew 6:1-6. Is “let your light shine” similar to “setting a good example?”
- IX. Dr. Hylton says this Sixth Great End of the church is to help bring the goodness, works, and love of God to bear upon the pain and brokenness of the world around us. How is our church community exhibiting the Kingdom of Heaven in our part of the world? (Do we need to define “our part of the world?”)
- X. Dr. Hylton says we can influence the part of the world where we have been planted. Can we? Is our community accepting of our attempts? If not, how might we get better at this?