

# Church of Christ at Red Hill

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KAOHSIUNG — 1 April 2025

## CHINA MISSION NEWSLETTER

### MISSIONARY

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### Questions:

Please email  
Chuck Taylor  
redhillchurch@benlomand.net

Dear brethren:

Over the five Sundays last month, we had improved attendance ranging in the low- to mid-teens. The increase in attendance was largely the result of visitors who do not belong to the Way. We feel blessed to have the opportunity to introduce Bible teaching to them in its purity and simplicity. Nevertheless, those who are outside the Faith carry religious baggage, whether pagan or denominational in origin. In the case of those who claim some man-made form of Christianity, they usually hold to a concept of a physical kingdom that is embodied in some variation of the false doctrine of premillennialism. With this misconception of the kingdom deeply seated in their minds, it is often difficult for them to appreciate the spiritual nature of the kingdom—that the kingdom has already come with power, that the kingdom is already in effect, operating in full force, and that it is provably one and the same with the entity of our Lord's church as it functions in the here and now.

Refuting premillennialism is only the first hurdle. Helping them to understand and appreciate the spiritual nature of the kingdom is yet another hurdle to be cleared. Whether physical or spiritual, all kingdoms are comprised of four essential elements: a king, a law, subjects, and a territory. Absent one, and you do not have a kingdom. Presenting the territory as spiritual, as opposed to physical, seems to be difficult for many to accept, but not because of difficulty in grasping it conceptually. A readily understood analogy can be made with the ongoing culture war. The public school system, from its inception, has been used as a tool for cultural change. The battleground—the territory to be conquered—is not a piece of turf; evil men seek to capture the minds and hearts of the youth to shape the next generation. It serves as one facet of a greater spiritual war between God and Satan, who are vying for the heart, mind, and soul of every man, woman, and child who has ever lived. Truly, “the kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:21, KJV). This description makes a *positive* declaration as to the location and, therefore, the non-physical, spiritual nature of the kingdom. In contrast, several other descriptions addressing the nature of the kingdom are *negative* expressions defining what the kingdom is not. Note the antithetical concepts: “The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or, ‘There it is!’ For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst” (Luke 17:20b-21 NASB). [Or *within you* KJV, ASV.] The antithetical construction contrasts the physical and non-physical realms; “*within you*” emphasizes this stark opposition in a way that “*in your midst*” simply cannot.

Another relevant passage is found in John 18:33-38. Here we see Jesus before Pilate. “Pilate asked, ‘Are You the King of the Jews?’” (v. 33). In the course of the inquiry, “Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.’” (v. 36). Note particularly the words: 1) “My kingdom is not of this world,” and 2) “My kingdom is not of this realm.” 3) Moreover, unlike Caesar's kingdom, Christ's servants would not bear the physical sword for His kingdom. The exchange then becomes very direct: “Therefore Pilate said to Him, ‘So You are a king?’” Jesus answered, “You say *correctly* that I am a king. . . .” (v. 37a). Pilate fully comprehended that the Christ, though a king, was no threat to Caesar; that the territory was not *terra firma*. Proof that Pilate understood that Christ's kingdom was not physical is manifested in his official pronouncement, “. . . I find no guilt in Him” (v. 38b).

The foregoing analysis examines only the context of these passages in relation to the kingdom's spiritual nature. The original Greek text awaits discussion in a future letter.

Your servant in Christ,

Eugene F. Brzozowski

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**FYI: Be assured that 100% of your contributions go to the Brzozowski Mission activity.** Red Hill is funding all costs of the administration and mailing fees associated with the Mission.

**REMEMBER----If you have extra funds available, Eugene and Natasha could certainly use them.**

Thank you for your continued support in spreading God's word to a lost world and helping Eugene and family spread the gospel effectively this year. Your support and prayers allow Eugene to continue his efforts to spread God's word in Taiwan. He always expresses his appreciation for you.

To help with our bookkeeping, **please be sure to mark your donations for Eugene or Natasha or both.** If they are not marked, then they will be logged as support for Eugene.

If you have a question, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Email: redhillchurch@benlomand.net

Phone: 931-728-7086

I would appreciate your input.

***Chuck Taylor***

(for the Red Hill elders)