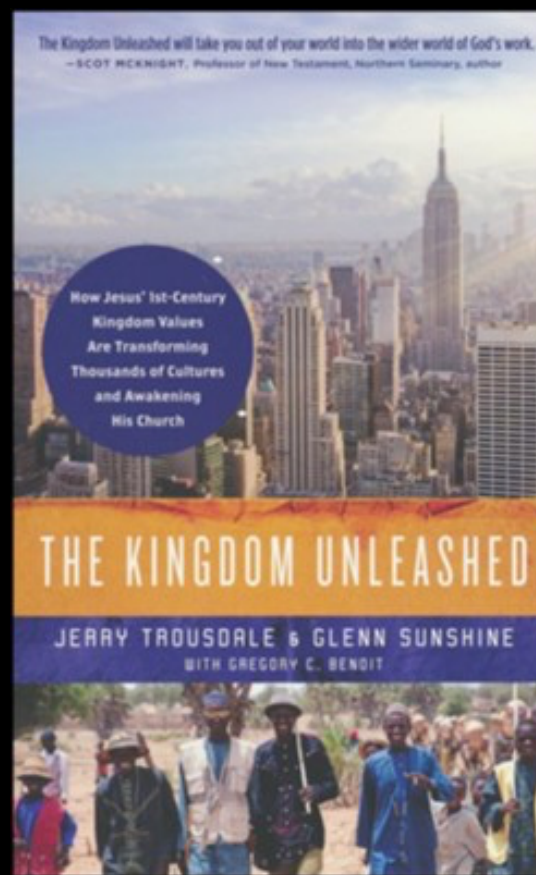
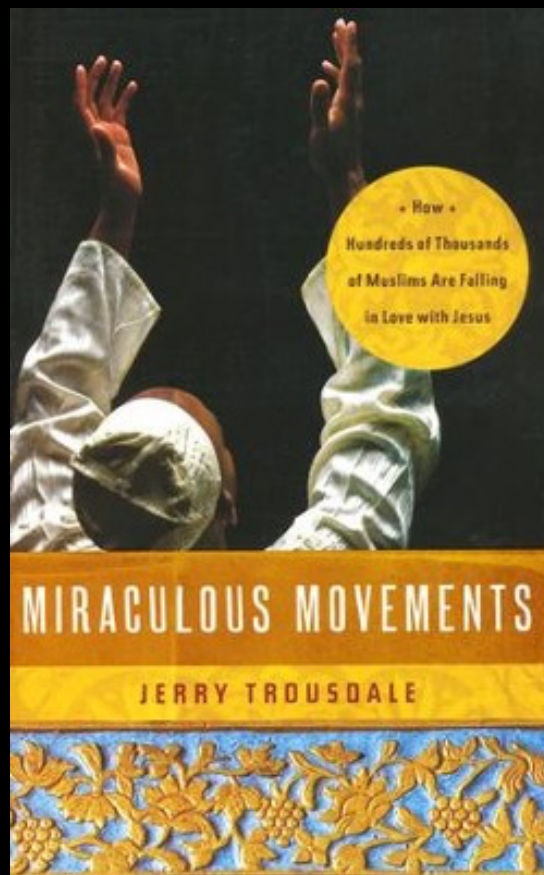




THE KINGDOM UNLEASHED

DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM MOVEMENTS



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MESSAGE 2: LOVING

*"But what about **you**?" he asked.*

*"Who do **you** say I am?"*

Simon (he who hears) Peter answered (spoke up),

*"You are the **Messiah** (Christ), the Son of the Living God."*

*Jesus replied, "**Blessed** are you, Simon, son of Jonah,
for this was not **revealed** to you by flesh and blood, but by
my **Father** in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter (**stone**),
and on this rock (**bedrock**) I will build my church (**ekklesia**),
and the gates of Hades (**power of death**)
will not overcome it (**stop it**)."*

Matthew 16:16-18 NIV

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BRAND-NEW MOVEMENT

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*“Jesus did not predict a **place** (i.e., church).
He predicted a **people**,
a new assembly (**ekklesia**) signaling a **new movement**.
As Luke documented later, Jesus’ **promise** eventually **materialized**.
Weeks after the resurrection, his **followers** took to the streets
of Jerusalem and the **movement** started **moving**.
Filled with the **Spirit** of the mobile God, they were **mobile**.
No **sacred facility** was required. No **facility** could **restrain** them.
The Jesus movement was **airborne** (unleashed).”*

Andy Stanley: Irresistible (2018)

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BRAND-NEW MOVEMENT

BRAND-NEW AGREEMENT

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*“The days are coming,” declares the Lord,
“when I will make a **new covenant** (agreement)
with the people of Israel and the people of Judah.
It will not be like the **covenant** (agreement)
I made with their **ancestors** when I took them by the hand to lead
them out of Egypt, because they **broke** my **covenant**, ...
“I will put my **law** in their **minds** and **write it** on their **hearts**.
I will be their God and they will be **my people**. ...”
“For I will **forgive** their **wickedness**
and **remember** their **sin** no more (**remove**).”*

Jeremiah 31:31-34 NIV

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BRAND-NEW MOVEMENT

BRAND-NEW AGREEMENT

BRAND-NEW COMMANDMENT

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*A **new command** (law) I give you:*

Love one another.

As I have loved you,

so you must love one another.

By this everyone (all people) will know (be convinced)

that you are my disciples (followers),

if you have love for one another.

John 13:34-35 NIV

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THE LOVE LAW

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*For in Christ Jesus neither **circumcision**
nor **uncircumcision** has any value.
The **only thing** that counts
is **faith** expressing itself **through love**,
as a fragrant **offering** and **sacrifice** to God.*

Galatians 5:6

*You my brothers and sisters were called to be **free**.
But do not use your **freedom** to **indulge** the flesh;
rather, **serve** one another **humbly** in love.
For the **entire law** is fulfilled in keeping this **one command**:
“**Love your neighbor** as yourself.”*

Galatians 5:13-14

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Get rid of all *bitterness, rage, and anger,*
brawling and slander, along with every form of *malice.*
Be *kind and compassionate* to one another,
forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31-32

Follow God's *example,* therefore, as dearly *beloved children*
and *walk in love* just as Christ *loved us and gave himself* for us
as a fragrant *offering and sacrifice* to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2

For you were *once darkness,* but *now* you are *light in the Lord.*
Live as children of light (love).

Ephesians 5:1-2

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DOING GOOD!

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*Live such **good lives** among the pagans (**lost**) that though they accuse you of **doing wrong** (**hated**), they may see your **good works** and **glorify God**. ... For it is God's will that by **doing good** you should **silence** the foolish talk of ignorant men (**the lost**).*

1 Peter 2:12,15

*Let us not become weary of **doing good**, for at the **proper time** we will **reap** a **harvest** if we do not **give up**. Therefore, as we have **opportunity**, let us **do good** to all people.*

Galatians 6:9-10

*Command them to **do good**, to be rich in **good deeds**, and to be **generous** and **willing to share**.*

1 Timothy 6:18

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*"Jesus **new command** signaled a shift from **vertical** to **horizontal**.
The eye-to-the-sky (**vertical**) days were coming to an end.
The **litmus test** for being a bona fide **Jesus follower** was not the
ritualistic, day-of-the-week, festival-driven, don't-forget-
your-goat **worship** of an **invisible** and somewhat **distant** God.
Following Jesus would not be about looking for ways to get
closer to God who dwelled **out there, up there, somewhere**.
Jesus followers would **demonstrate** their **devotion** to God
by putting the person **next** to them in **front** of them.
Jesus **followers** weren't expected to **look up** (vertical).
They **authenticated** their devotion by **looking around** (horizontal)."*

Andy Stanley: Irresistible (2018)

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3 QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. Jesus' **new commandment** defines the governing ethic for his **new movement** (church) as we live under a **new agreement** (covenant). His "**Love Law**" shifted our focus from vertical to horizontal. Is your current relationship with God better defined as **vertical** or **horizontal**? How?
2. Are you taking God's **goodness** to the streets by "**going**" out among the "**lost**" and **doing good** deeds? How?
3. Read **Philippians 2:3-5**: How does this "**mindset**" of Jesus that Paul refers to in verse 5 apply the new covenant commandment? Do you have the "**mindset**" of Jesus?

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