



HEAVEN EARTH

Heaven on Earth: The Creative Minority

October 24th & 25th

Speaker: Dr. Mark Batterson

Scripture: Ephesians 4:4-27

Series Overview

Our identity, our authority is anchored in a dimension of reality called heaven. It is the domain of God's dominion — perfect harmony, true identity, full authority. Every blessing is ours in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1:3). Heaven is invading earth right here, right now. How? With a supernatural demonstration of God's love and power and wisdom. As citizens of heaven, we represent the heavenly realm. The goal? On earth, as it is in heaven.

Series Discussion Questions

How did you witness heaven invading earth this week?

Message Overview

*The disintegration of civilization is caused by the deterioration of what British historian Arnold Toynbee called the **CREATIVE MINORITY**. The church is the creative minority, as well as a moral minority. It must swim upstream and go against the grain. Then—and only then—can it catalyze revivals, reformations, and renaissances. The key to this creative minority? Unity in diversity. That is what results in spiritual maturity. That is what nets this **BELOVED COMMUNITY** we call the church. In the words of NCCer David Grizzle, “**Unity among DISSIMILAR people serves the purpose of being INDISPUTABLE PROOF that God is in the house!**” Let's not settle for the façade of **UNIFORMITY**. Let's strive for biblical unity!*

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

Pastor Mark said, one of the ways that God is actively at work right now is through "activating the gifts of the Spirit in unprecedented ways." **In what ways are you seeing this in your life or in your community?**

A few years after Jesus' death and resurrection, Caesar Augustus declared himself "*Pontifex Maximus*" or the Chief Priest of Rome. Upon his death, Augustus was declared the Son of God. So simply put, Caesar is Lord. Anything less and anything else was treason against Rome. When Paul says "there is ONE LORD" (Ephesians 4:4-6), referring to Jesus, it is a creedal coup d'état against Rome. **How have you declared Jesus Christ your Lord? How has culture elevated modern-day caesars as Lord?**

In your own life, **how are you stewarding privilege in a way that incarnates the gospel?**

David Grizzle, a long-time NCC Group Leader shared how a beloved community understands that: "Unity among DISSIMILAR people serves the purpose of being INDISPUTABLE PROOF that God is in the house!" **How would you describe a beloved community?**

Practical Application

- As we head into election season, take an inventory of the voices in your life. How are they similar and how are they different? Are you surrounded by diverse perspectives? Are you surrounded by like-minded people? **How do you prevent yourselves from creating echo-chambers in your own life?**
- Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to [NCC Daily](#), a new five-minute audio podcast to help you walk verse-by-verse through the book of Ephesians. Invite a few others to do so with you, connecting throughout the week via Marco Polo or a group text, or meeting together online in person to discuss and debrief what you're learning.
- Climb the stairs to the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. Join us as we start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. Register at ncc.re/UpperZoom.