

THE TENSION OF THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Living in the now and not yet

How do we hold on to the Sovereignty of God in a world where there is a Prince of this world opposing God's purposes? (John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11, Eph 6:12)

What do we understand by the Sovereignty of God and how do we hold it in tension with our free will?

How can we see the Kingdom in its power breaking into to our world bearing in mind:

- In a fallen world we will always have to contend with sickness and death.
- We will not see full justice until the Kingdom is fully revealed.
- The tensions of a Christian living in Zimbabwe or Orissa

How do we walk through these tensions?

We never let go of the hope of the Kingdom (Heb 11:35)

We keep praying to bring the Kingdom in to this world in which we live (Matt 6:10)

We never lose sight of the actual and the ideal (Heb 12:1-2)

We pray as if it all depends on God and work as though it all depends on us.

Ignatius Loyola advised , Use human means as though divine ones didn't exist, and divine means as though there were no human ones;

We keep asking and praying for God's grace (2 Cor 12:8)

We continue to fight

QUESTIONS

What evidences of the kingdom do you see in the life of the church and in our society?

What are the tensions we face living in the two worlds?

What stories and examples do you have of the kingdom breaking through with healing or power?

How does your free will fit into the Sovereignty of God?

Please pray for Christians in nations where the tensions are increased through injustice, famine or persecution