

How to Let the Future In

Written by Bill Perkins

"The kingdom of God is in the midst of you."

- Luke 17:21

Jesus says the Kingdom works like leaven-
quiet, steady, unstoppable-
until the whole life becomes shaped
by the future God has already begun.

Paul says the same thing in different words:

"Christ in you, the hope of glory."

- Col 1:27

Hope is not a wish.

Hope is the future breaking into the present.

Hope is the life of the age to come
already rising inside you.

The old leaven had to be removed-
the sinful patterns of your past,
the pressure of pretending,
the habits that belong to who you were
and now who you are becoming.
But once the old leaven is gone,
Jesus presses something else into the dough-
the leaven of the Kingdom,
the life of the Spirit,
the future God intends for you.

Paul describes this future as something
already at work:

"We are being transformed
from glory to glory."

- 2 Cor 3:18

Not someday.

Now.

The future God has for you
is already rising in you.

But here is the question Scripture presses:
Will I let God's unseen work shape me while I wait?

Paul answers the question this way:
"If we hope for what we do not see,
we wait for it with patience."
- Rom 8:25

Waiting is not passive.
It is opening the places
where the Kingdom wants to rise.

You let the future in
by giving God access
to the places
you used to guard.

You let the future in
by trusting that the work He began
He will finish. - Phil 1:6

You let the future in
by allowing the Spirit
to knead the truth of Christ
into every secret place
until your life begins to look like
the One who lives in you.

Leaven doesn't stay small.
Neither does the Kingdom.
Neither does the future God has planted in you.

You may not know this about Jesus:
His leaven works forward— the future rises in us.

Where is the Spirit inviting me to open a door,
so the future God intends can rise within me.

My part is to welcome it,
and trust the One
who is shaping me
into the image of Christ.

Father, make Your future rise in me.
Press the leaven of Your Kingdom
into every part of my life.
Remove what belongs to my past,
fill me with what belongs to Your future.
Transform me from glory to glory
until Christ is formed in me.
I ask in Jesus' name,
Amen.