The Uniqueness of the Lord’s Kingdom

Introduction:
A. The Lord’s Kingdom is unique among kingdoms — temporal or spiritual.
   1. Many are uncomfortable with this, even among Christians.
      a. Had rather not be considered different.
      b. Had rather preachers not point out differences.
   2. Others find it attractive (cf. Phil. Holman’s statement at baptism).
B. We need to understand and appreciate the unique features of the kingdom.

Discussion:
I. The Uniqueness of its Standards.
A. Its standard of authority (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16, 17).
C. Its standard of conduct (Matt. 5:17-48).
D. Its standard of success (Jesus and Apostles failures by earthly standards)

II. The Uniqueness of its Dominion.
A. Neither earthly head nor headquarters (cf. Eph. 1:20-23).
B. Neither geographical nor ethic boundaries (Luke 17:20-21; Acts 10:35)

III. The Uniqueness of its Message.
A. It is a uniquely designed message (1 Cor. 1:18-25; 2:1-5).
B. It differs for all other gospels (Gal. 1:6-9).
   1. From denominational gospels.
   2. From social gospel.
   3. From Health and wealth gospel.
   4. From all-positive gospel (convicts then converts).

IV. The Uniqueness of its Mission.
A. To honor and praise God as the Lord directs not men (cf. Matt. 15:9, 14).
B. To honor and serve God congregationally and individually.
   1. Some things may be done collectively — church action.
   2. Other things must be done individually (cf. 1 Tim. 5:16; 1 Cor. 11:22, 34)

V. The Uniqueness of its Methods.
A. It is neither coy nor crafty (2 Cor. 4:1-4; Acts 26:26).
   1. Makes not attempts to hide aims, designs, nor identity.
   2. Has nothing up sleeves, nor pigs in a poke.
B. It lays all truth on the table — both appealing and objectionable.

Conclusion:
A. Why should kingdom appeal to our neighbors if it offers nothing different?
B. How can church be effective in the world unless it maintains it uniqueness?