

Research Week Abstract 2023 – Calian Chambers

Title – Your Kingdom Come: Heaven as Described by Its Creator

Program of Study – Studio & Digital Art w/ Teacher Licensure; minor in Photography

Presentation Type – **Choose one of the following:** Juried Art

Subtype – **Choose one of the following for poster or oral presentation types:** Creative and Artistic

Mentor(s) and Mentor Email – Professor David Meyer (dwmeyer@liberty.edu)

Student name(s) and email(s) – Calian Chambers (chchambers@liberty.edu)

Abstract:

This series of images explores the parabolic illustration of the Kingdom through conceptual photography. There are many stories of what heaven will be like, most of which Jesus unveils through the unparalleled practice of storytelling. Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus's followers inquired of the land promised to them, and their Rabbi always responded with a parable to provide the most accurate description. The story which sparked my idea was that of the great banquet, as depicted in Luke 14:12-24. "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God" (Luke 14:15). It has piqued my interest and been a great comfort to know that those who are invited are the least likely to come to the banquet, and in the eyes of the world, those who come are the least likely to be invited. What a wonderfully awesome God we serve, that He would turn all things upside down! My methodology will be to use a digital camera and Adobe software to process each image into black and white. The possible implications of my research lie in the impact it will have on the viewer, as it endeavors to instill in us an appreciation for our King's description of the kingdom as well as exhort us to a more eager readiness for His coming. In the future, I would love to connect this concept to even more stories and parables found in Scripture, as I find photography a wonderful medium for telling God's story.