

What in God's Earth is the Kingdom of Heaven?

Section 1: An Introduction to the Kingdom of God: A Survey of Kingdom Concepts

Chapter 1: What is the Bible All About? The Primacy of the Kingdom

I. Series Theme Verse: Make Multiple Points Including: What the Kingdom of God is Not & Its Priority

(Matthew 6:10) "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven." (Prayer's Place / Goal)

- A. Not Heaven, Going to Heaven or the Plan of Salvation (The most popular current Christian ideas)
- B. Not the popular notions during the days of the first Advent of Christ (More correct, but incorrect.)

II. Chapter 1: What is the Bible All About? The Primacy of the Kingdom

- A. Question: Is There a Central, Comprehensive, Overriding or Dominant Theme of All Scripture?
- B. Answer. Yes. The Kingdom of God is the Primary, Principal and Prevailing Biblical Topic / Motif.

III. The Primacy of the Kingdom of God in The New Testament's New Pentateuch(s) – Gospels & Acts

- A. The New Pentateuch's Explained – Multiple Directions from Matthew, Luke, John & Church Fathers
- B. Matthew: (Matthew has over 50 Kingdom References.) (Matthew's Use of " ... of Heaven")

(Matthew 3:2) "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (The first public words of John the Baptist)

(Matt. 4:17) From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

(Matthew 6:10) "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven." (Prayer's Place / Goal)

(Matthew 6:33) But above all pursue (seek first) His kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (NET) (ESV in Brackets)

(Matthew 12:25) And knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself will not stand. (See John 17:20-23) (Kingdom vs. Church)

(Matthew 13) Seven Parables of the Kingdom

(Matthew 21:43) Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it. (This Kingdom Reference is crucial & climatic.) (See also Matthew 16:18-19)

(Matthew 28:18-20) The Great Commission / All Authority / The New Creation King

C. Mark

(Mark 9:1) And Jesus was saying to them, "Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power."

(Mark 14:25) Truly I say to you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

D. Luke & Acts

(Luke 1:32-33) He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

(Luke 9:2) And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing.

(Luke 9:27) But I say to you truthfully, there are some of those standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God." (It cannot be 2nd Coming, Final Judgment or Heaven.)

(Luke 12:31-32) ³¹ But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. ³² Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom.

(Acts 1:3) He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.(Final Orders to 12 & 120) (Also, Stephen Philip, Paul, Etc.)

(Acts 28:30-31) He (Paul) lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, ³¹ proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

E. John

(John 18:36) Jesus replied, "My kingdom doesn't originate from this world. If it did, my guards would fight so that I wouldn't have been arrested by the Jewish leaders. My kingdom isn't from here." (CEB)

IV. The Primacy of the Kingdom of God Among the New Testament Apostles

A. Paul (See Acts 28:30-31 Quoted Above.)

(See Acts 14:21-23) ... "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." (Romans 14:17)
(1 Corinthians 4:20) For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power. (Obviously not Heaven)
(Colossians 1:13) For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, (Romans 14:17)

B. Peter

(1 Peter 2:5) You yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple (house). You are being made into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (CEB)
(1 Peter 2:9) But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (Note Caps)

V. The Primacy of the Kingdom of God in The Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament)

A. The 5 Books of Moses / Pentateuch - (Genesis 1:26-28; 12:1-3)

(Exodus 19:5-6) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel." (Context & 1 Peter 2:5, 9)

B. The Wisdom Books (See Psalms 1, 2; 22; 23; 45; 72 & More)

(Psalm 110:1-5) The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet." (Quoted 7 Xs) (Read Psalm 2 if Time Permits)

C. The Major Prophets (Read Isaiah 2:2-4 if Time Allows)

(Isaiah 9:6-7) For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom,

D. The Minor Prophets (Read Micah 4:1-8 – It Starts by Quoting Isaiah 2:2-4)

VI. Next Message: Chapter 2: What On Earth Is the Kingdom of Heaven? The Kingdom Defined.

Kingdom of God Series – Section 1 Titles

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