

**Emphasis 6: The Kingdom of God: Perception, Proclamation, Demonstration & Embodiment**

**Emphasis 6B: What On Earth is the Kingdom of God?**

**aka Definition of the Kingdom of God (Heaven)**

Bible Study Prepared for RCF at WSU Fall 2017 by Greg Weis / Presented at WSU RCF Tuesdays 10/24 & 31 /2017 & 11/7 & 14/2017  
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- I. **Fifteen (15) Biblical Emphasis for Rediscovery and Restoration to Biblical Patterns** (See List Elsewhere)
- II. **2016 – 2017 School Year: Emphasis 5: Rediscovering & Restoring the Entire Bible as the Word of God**
- III. **Tonight: Continue from last 3 Weeks (2017 – 2018 School Year) Emphasis 6: What On Earth is the Kingdom of God? aka The Kingdom of God: Perception, Proclamation, Demonstration & Embodiment**  
**Tonight: Emphasis 6B: What On Earth is the Kingdom of God? aka Definition of the Kingdom of God.**

**Some Introductory Theme Verses:** (Matthew 3:2; 4:17) (Mark 1:14-15)

**(Matthew 6:10)** ‘Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.’

**(Matthew 4:17)** <sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (“at hand” = NASB, ESV, GNV, KJV, RSV, NKJV) (“come nigh” = WYC, YLT) (“is near” = NLT, NET)  
Greek: ἐγγίζω (engízō) to make near, approach, be at hand, come (draw) near, join one thing to another

**(Matthew 12:28)** But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.  
Greek: φθάνω (phthánō) to anticipate or precede; by extension, to have arrived at(already); attained, come.

**(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.

**(Luke 17:20-21)** <sup>20</sup> Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed;<sup>21</sup> nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or, ‘There it is!’ For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst.”

Greek: ἐντός (entos) within you i.e. in the midst of you.

**(Revelation 11:15)** Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.”

**IV. The Kingdom of God (Heaven) Defined aka What On Earth is the Kingdom of God? / Twelve Statements**

1. The Kingdom of God is the Reign, Government, Rulership or Dominion of God. It is the sphere or realm in which His good and perfect will is willingly enacted, not only as in Heaven, but on the Earth Now. God owns and is completely sovereign over all the earth, and therefore, even His enemies do His will. Only recipients of His Reconciling & Empowering Grace are freed to participate in His Redemptive, Restoration Purposes. Thus, experiencing “the obedience of faith / trust” separates religion from reality. (Col. 1:13-14)

2. The Kingdom of God is Both Present & Future. It is not primarily heaven or the age to come, but a breaking into this present evil age w/ the power, order, Spirit & reign of the King now & on the earth. (Explain)

3. God has eternally purposed to express His reign (kingdom) through a nation of people born of One Regal Head in time & space (this present age.) (Galatians 1:4) (Ex. 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:5, 9) (Plato vs. Christ)

4. The Bible reveals that His premeditated plan was always that His “special treasure” that is, “the people for His possession” would willingly enter into His death, so that in dying His death they might be reborn of One Regal Head, into His Newness of Resurrected Life, and enter Now into His New Kingdom Creation. In other words, there is no true Kingdom life on the wrong side of our daily crosses. (Gal. 2:20) (**Matt. 23:10-12**) (Hebrews 13:20; 2 Cor. 4:12; Romans 6; Etc.) (Foreshadowed by Circumcision, applied by daily Baptism: Explain)

**(Luke 22:25-26)** And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called ‘Benefactors.’ <sup>26</sup> But *it is* not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant. (Kingdom & Cross) (**John 13:5-17**)

5. God's predestined purpose has always been & remains to produce a kingdom of priest: born of; filled with & extending the manifest presence of His Spirit. Together, they are to be God's Temple, built according to His Pattern & Overflowing w/ His Glory in Demonstrable Ways. (Rom. 14:17) (1 Cor. 12:3)

**(John 3:8)** The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit." **(Matthew 12:27-28 Above.)**

(Combine Exodus 40:33-38; 2 Chronicles 5:13-14; Hebrews 7:22; 8:6; 12:24; Romans 5:19 w/ Eph. 2:19-22)

*The Holy Spirit and You: A Guide to the Spirit Filled Life* by Dennis & Rita Bennett

*When Heaven Invades Earth: A Practical Guide to A Life of Miracles* by Bill Johnson

6. Ultimately, all of God's actions, movements, works & dealings are designed to produce that nation and work in and through it to subdue the entire earth and Manifest His glory. This involves the reproduction of children born of His Spirit & producing His character, fruit and works. Whenever, God calls an individual it is always for this larger corporate purpose. (Life poured out, expendable; John 15:6, 16; Matt. 4:19; Mk. 1:17)

7. The Triune God predestined & ordained that His Holy Covenant people would always war against opposition. The opponents would include: (1) Satan, his angels and demons; (2) The peoples, nations & rulers of this age who persecute His people; & (3) Ourselves. (Cain vs. Able; Sermon on the Mount; Early Church, Etc.)

8. The Bible is a Book of the Kingdom of God. It contains the history of the Kingdom of God in the earth – past present and future. It contains the laws and covenants of the Kingdom. It contains a history of the covenantal kingdom people. It contains a progressive unveiling of the person of the King, our Lord Jesus Christ. It increasingly brings to light His ways, heart, character & Kingdom purposes through His *ecclesia*. (Matt. 16:18)

9. No person can have any ultimate fulfillment, purpose or joy without the illumination of knowing and experiencing the King, that is, the Living Word, who was made Manifest in the Incarnation and continues to be made manifest through the written word & by people Individually & corporately aligning their life, character and purpose with King Jesus's life, character and Kingdom purposes. (John 10:10) All other reasons for living are futile and frustrating; miss the mark (sin) of God's creative purposes in and through His people and produce destruction and death. (Romans 6:23) (Cf. John 7:17 w/ **Matthew 23:37-39**)

10. The whole Bible contains a progressive revelation of the Mystery of the Kingdom of God. (Matt. 13; Mark 4 & Col. 1:25-29) The "Mysteries of Christ and His Kingdom" are presented clearly, plainly and pervasively throughout every chapter of Scripture, yet in such a way that no one fully grasped their meaning or anticipated their fulfillment, because God had ordained that a veil lies over the minds of the seekers, until it is lifted by the Holy Spirit to reveal Christ; who was obviously always the Point. The Mystery of the Kingdom is Christ and Christ in us manifesting and filling the whole earth with His glory. Thus, we labor until Christ is formed in every man, family, church community and beyond. **(2 Cor. 3:4-18)**

11. The Kingdom of God is the Jurisdiction of God. And the People of God are the Agent of the Kingdom. The people of God are therefore supposed to be a nation within the nations with separate and unique priest, government, culture, laws, language, economics, taxes, race, leadership models, philosophy of education, business purposes and ethics and politics, etc. (Matt. 5:13-16 ... "city set on a hill" ... "lampstand")

12. Clarification or Caution: The People of God are a Primary Agent of the Kingdom; but are not exactly or completely synonymous with the Kingdom of God in at least two important respects: **(2 Samuel 12:13-14)**

a. The citizens of the Kingdom never fully experience the kingdom in this life due to sin & finiteness.

b. The Kingdom and purposes of God are always larger than the people of God. This includes: Using the people of God to bless all of the earth. (Gen. 12:1-3) (Discuss: *7 Institutions of God's Government*)

**(Romans 2:1-28)** <sup>23</sup> You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God? <sup>24</sup> For "THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU," just as it is written. **(Isaiah 52:5) (Ezekiel 36:20)**

**V. Next Message: Emphasis 6C1: Major Biblical Sub-Themes of the Kingdom of God – Inerrancy of Scripture**



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