

### *The Kingdom of God- Part III*

- \* We often hear ourselves and others refer to “The Kingdom of God”.
- \* I am convinced that we are simply parroting a religious word without actually knowing what we are saying!
- \* What is *the kingdom of God*?
- \* In most instances in the New Testament the original word for “kingdom” is *basileia*.
- \* It means sovereignty, royal power, dominion!
- \* In short, the Kingdom of God is the “sphere of God’s rule!”
- \* This causes the Lord’s prayer to be an even more powerful prayer:

Matthew 6:10 (NIV)

10 Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

*(Father, Your sovereignty, royal power and dominion be done on earth!)*

- \* Notice how that changes the feel of that prayer! It invokes God!
- \* We are asking for God’s sovereign will, His divine power and dominion to cause our lives, circumstances and situations to reflect His perfect will!
- \* With that said, let’s begin a journey of discovering The Kingdom of God.

I. When Jesus preached “The Kingdom of God,” He was saying that the time of God restoring and redeeming His creation had begun!

Acts 3:19-21 (TPT)

19 And now you must repent and turn back to God so that your sins will be removed, and so that times of refreshing will stream from the Lord’s presence. 20 And he will send you Jesus, the Messiah, the chosen one for you. 21 For he must remain in heaven until the restoration of all things has taken place, fulfilling everything that God said long ago through his holy prophets.

A. If we allow scripture to speak for itself, we realize that the concept or phrase “Kingdom of God” is about the restoration of God through the work of Christ!

1. To fully see what is being said and what this means simply... consult what God said through the prophets in scripture!

Jeremiah 23:5-6 (NIV)

5 “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. 6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.

2. John the Baptist’s father Zacharia refers to the prophetic writings when John was born, and his tongue loosed:

Luke 1:67-70, 76-79 (NIV)

67 His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: 68 “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

69 He has raised up a horn[a] of salvation for us in the house of his servant David

70 (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),

76 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, 77 to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, 78 because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven 79 to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

3. 600 years before the birth of Jesus, 600 years before the INCARNATION, the prophet Isaiah said this:

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 (NIV)

2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

4. Jesus Himself explains the redemption and restoration of His coming Kingdom...The Kingdom of God!!!

Luke 4:18-19 (NIV)

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

5. That’s the Life of the Kingdom! Total Restoration!

B. This “incarnation” or coming of God in flesh was the inauguration of God’s coming Kingdom!

1. Jesus did not simply DO the will of the Father, He WAS the will of the Father!

John 1:1-4 (NIV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

1 John 1:1-3 (NIV)

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 1:1-3 (NIV)

1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. 3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

2. Think about this... **THAT IS THE KING OF THE KINGDOM!!**
3. Jesus put the character, integrity and nature of God on full display!
4. Jesus is like God and God is like Jesus!
5. The Father is the Establisher of His Kingdom...  
The Son, Jesus, is the Authority of His Kingdom...  
The Holy Spirit is the enabling power of His kingdom!

II. Once you begin to learn about “The Kingdom of God” and see all throughout scripture the references to it, it becomes so dramatic to notice the differences of life in Christ! Life in His Kingdom!

Colossians 1:13-14, 19-21 (NIV)

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. 21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

A. The Kingdom of God is **MORE** than a philosophy, a mindset, or some other mystical belief!

1. The Kingdom of God is **REAL** and should affect our lives **NOW!**

2. The Kingdom of God is our “homeland!”

3. The Kingdom of God is where our citizenship lies!

B. Our salvation is a very REAL event from a very REAL God that produces a very REAL result!

Colossians 2:20-3:3 (NLT)

20 You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, 21 “Don’t handle! Don’t taste! Don’t touch!” 22 Such rules are mere human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them. 23 These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person’s evil desires.

1 Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. 2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.

1. Think about how REAL your life feels at times.
2. Real problems, real disappointments, real hurts!
3. God’s Kingdom around us is just THAT REAL!