

100 BIBLE LESSONS

Give these lessons to people you visit, youth groups, hospital patients, church visitors and new members. Use them in Sunday School, bus ministry, jail services, nursing homes, Christian schools, small discussion groups and many other places. God's Word will answer your questions and help solve your problems.

LESSON 32 – THE KING

The gospel presented in Scripture is the gospel of the Kingdom. It presents Jesus as the Saviour, Lord, and King (the maximum authority). The gospel of the Kingdom is Christ-centered not man centered. As Juan Carlos Ortiz stated, *“There are two masters in this world, and each has a kingdom. We were born into the kingdom of darkness. We were natural citizens of the kingdom of selfishness. It is a place where everyone does his own will. That is the way Satan runs his kingdom, “in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind” (Ephesians 2:3).*

We lived as we liked. We did as we pleased. What difference did it make? The kingdom of darkness is like a wrecked ship that is sinking fast. When the captain knows his ship is lost, he goes to the passengers and says, “Listen, those in second class can go to first class; you’re free to do what you want. Anyone who wants to drink, help yourself at the bar; it’s all free. If you want to play soccer in the dining room, go ahead. If you break the lamps, don’t worry.”

The passengers say, “What a nice captain we have! We can do whatever we like on this ship.”

But they will all be dead in a few minutes.

In the kingdom of darkness, you can have all the drugs, lust, and cheating you want. Nevertheless, you are lost. You think you are the king. You are led by the selfish spirit of your kingdom. But it is only a matter of time.

What is salvation? It is to be “delivered...from the domain of darkness, and transferred...to the kingdom of His beloved Son” (Colossians 1:13). It is not getting free of the kingdoms altogether. It is moving from the rulership of Satan to the rulership of Jesus Christ.

In this new Kingdom, you cannot do whatever you like. You are part of the Kingdom of God. He is King. He rules.” [Disciple by Juan Carlos Ortiz, pgs.28-29].

The problem of modern day evangelism is that there is no emphasis on kingdoms, there is no emphasis on authority, there is no emphasis on masters. “Ask Jesus into your heart,” “Ask Jesus to be your Savior,” “Repeat this prayer after me,” does not emphasize the turn from darkness to light, the turn from Satan’s authority to God that is necessary for one to receive the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 26:18).

There must be a racial change, a new birth, a new nature that accompanies repentance and the accepting of God's rule. *"It is my belief that the mission of Jesus was to invade this present evil age with His kingdom rule, the age to come. Those who chose to receive the proclamation of the rule of God are, in fact, the Church" [The Church is Not the Kingdom! Week 3, SBL Ministries, p.1].*

"The Kingdom of God does not accept naturalized citizens. You have to be born into the Kingdom. Suppose the laws of the United States were like that. And I came along to the immigration office and said, "I want to be an American."

"Where were you born?" they would ask me.

"[Entebbe, Uganda, East Africa]."

"Then you cannot be an American," they would explain, "because all Americans are born on American soil."

"Oh, but sir, I really want to become an American."

"Where were you born?"

"[Entebbe, Uganda, East Africa]."

"Well, I just told you that the only way to be an American is to be born in the United States of America."

"Oh, sir, how can I do it? I really truly want to be an American."

"Well, the only thing you can do would be to die and be born again, and this time be sure to be born in America. That's the only way. We don't accept visitors. We don't accept visas anymore. You have to be born here."

So how can a man change citizenship from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God?

Jesus brought the solution. His death on the cross and His resurrection really means this: Any slave who looks to the cross in faith is allowed to count that death as his own death. He dies; Satan loses him.

Then comes the resurrection. By it we are transferred into the new Kingdom. This is just as important as the cross. We die to one king and are born under the rule of another." [Disciple by Juan Carlos Ortiz, p.30]. If we would interpret the word "Christ" as "anointed to rule, king," we would not fail to see His "kingship" throughout the entire New Testament (Luke 23:2).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Mark 15:25-28. Jesus was declared to be a criminal by the Roman government because he: a. was said to be a king. b. was a good teacher. c. didn't pay his taxes.
2. Read Luke 23:1-3. From a Jewish perspective the word "Christ" means: a. a farmer. b. a teacher. c. a tax-collector. d. a king.

3. Read Acts 17:6-7. The Apostle Paul was accused by Jewish opposition of preaching Jesus as: a. a great religious leader. b. a healer. c. another king other than Caesar. d. a good man.
4. Read Revelation 15:3. The Lord God Almighty is the: a. King of the Saints. b. King of the unbelievers. c. King of the Gentiles.
5. Read Acts 25:26 & Revelation 17:14. The Old Testament Hebrew word *Malak* means “to reign, or be king.” Basically the word means “to fill the functions of ruler over someone” The Greek word *kurios* that is used in the New Testament and is translated “Lord” 667 times means “supreme in authority.” Which English word in Acts 25:26 & Revelation 17:14 is the equivalent of the Greek word *kurios* in these verses?
6. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. The everlasting King whose government shall not come to an end will be called: a. The Prince of Peace. b. The everlasting Father. c. the mighty God. d. Counsellor. e. Wonderful. f. all of the above.
7. Read Hebrews 1:8-9. The scepter [a staff borne by a king as an emblem of authority] of God’s rule is: a. love. b. joy. c. peace. d. righteousness.
8. Read Mark 1:14-15 & Acts 20:21. How can a man change citizenship from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God?
9. Read Luke 16:13; John 13:13-15; Matthew 23:10. What master have you chosen?
10. Read Colossians 1:13-14. We have been bought, purchased and freed to come into the Kingdom of God through Jesus’: a. teaching. b. blood. c. example.