

Chapter 10

Rediscovering the Kingdom through Scripture

GOD'S KINGDOM PROPHESED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

And in the days of these kings **shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed:** and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and **it shall stand for ever** (Dan. 2:44).

13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like **the Son of man** came **with the clouds of heaven**, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

14 And there was given him **dominion, and glory, and a kingdom**, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: **his dominion is an everlasting dominion**, which shall not pass away, and **his kingdom** that which **shall not be destroyed** (Dan. 7:13-14).

But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom **for ever**, even for ever and ever (Dan. 7:18).

And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, **whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom**, and **all dominions shall serve and obey him** (Dan. 7:27).

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and **the government shall be upon his shoulder:** and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7 Of **the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end**, upon **the throne of David**, and upon **his kingdom**, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth **even for ever**. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this (Isa. 9:6-7).

Additional Information: Dr. James Kallas states in his book "Jesus and the Power of Satan" that Jesus never explained the Kingdom because the people to whom he was speaking knew what it meant or thought they knew what it meant (Kallas. 1968. 119). The Old Testament introduced the Kingdom while the opening of the New Testament's context was the Jewish expectation of the Messiah.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD DEFINED

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but **righteousness, and peace, and joy** in the Holy Ghost (Romans 14:17).

43 And he said unto them, **I must preach the kingdom of God** to other cities also: for **therefore am I sent**. 44 And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee (Luke 4:43-44).

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven (**the rule and reign of God**) **is at hand (has arrived)**. (Matthew 4:17).

Additional Information: Three things make up a kingdom. (1) The king. (2) His rule. (3) His subjects.

The word “kingdom” is made up of two words: “King” meaning “the sole and absolute ruler; One that presides over or rules.” “Dom” means “His domain or territory of rule or control.” In Latin “dominium” means “his property, ownership rights, Lordship.”

“Vines” states, “Kingdom = Since this earth is the scene of universal rebellion against God, the Kingdom of God is the sphere in which at any given time, His rule is acknowledged.” Within the phrase “the Kingdom of God” is the idea of a group of people that would be ruled by God.

The Roman inscription on the cross, shows Jesus being condemned on charges of being a king.

THE MESSIAH (THE ANOINTED ONE). THE MESSIAH WOULD BE THE ANOINTED ONE (LIKE NO OTHER). GOD'S SPIRIT WOULD REST UPON HIM WITHOUT MEASURE.

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for **God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him** (John 3:34).

2 And **the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him**, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and **he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes**, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: (Isaiah 11:2-3).

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 **The Spirit of the Lord is upon me**, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears (Luke 4:17-21).

32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and **it abode upon him** (John 1:32).

31 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, **a greater than Solomon is here** (Luke 11:31). (A greater king than Solomon is here!)

Additional Information: The word "Christ" (Gk. Christos) means "anointed" to rule, a king. "Legal anointing by pouring oil over the head supposedly confers strength or majesty (kingship). The most common form of anointing in the Old Testament is that of the king. Anointing is part of the ritual of enthronement. Anointing also signifies divine election. With it the Spirit came upon David (1 Sam. 16:1, 13). The noun 'the anointed' occurs 38 times in the Old Testament, always with reference to persons. Kings are 'the anointed' some 30 times. The high priest is 'the anointed' 6 times. Saul is most commonly called 'the Lord's anointed.' Apart from Saul, only Davidic kings bear the title (except in Isa. 45:1). Salvation is expected from the kingly rule of the anointed" (i.e. deliverance from enemies) (Lk. 1:69, 71, 74-75) (Theological Dictionary of the N.T. pgs. 1322-1324).

FOR THOSE THAT UNDERSTOOD THE PROPHECIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, THE APPEARANCE OF THE MESSIAH WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED WITH: SIGNS AND MIRACLES

2 Now when John had heard in the prison **the works of Christ**, he sent two of his disciples,

3 And said unto him, **Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?**

4 Jesus answered and said unto them, **Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see:**

5 The **blind receive their sight**, and the **lame walk**, the **lepers are cleansed**, and the **deaf hear**, the **dead are raised** up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them (Matthew 11:2-5).

1 ¶ Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

7 To **open the blind eyes**, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house (Isaiah 42:1, 7).

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because **he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor**; he hath sent me to **heal the brokenhearted**, to

preach **deliverance to the captives**, and recovering of **sight to the blind**, to **set at liberty them that are bruised**,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

21 And he began to say unto them, **This day is this scripture fulfilled** in your ears (Luke 4:17-21).

1 ¶ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath **anointed me to preach good tidings** unto the meek; he hath sent me to **bind up the brokenhearted**, to **proclaim liberty to the captives**, and the **opening of the prison to them that are bound**;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; **to comfort** all that mourn;

3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called **trees of righteousness**, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified (Isaiah 61:1-3).

45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, **We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write**, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, **Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!**

48 Nathanael saith unto him, **Whence knowest thou me?** Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, **when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.**

49 **Nathanael answered and saith** unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; **thou art the King of Israel** (John 1:45-49).

31 And many of the people believed on him, and said, **When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these** which this man hath done? (John 7:31).

36 But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same **works that I do, bear witness of me**, that the Father hath sent me (John 5:36).

35 ¶ And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and **preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease** among the people (Matthew 9:35).

28 But if I **cast out devils** by the Spirit of God, **then the kingdom of God is come unto you** (Matthew 12:28).

**MIRACLES WERE TO BRING ABOUT REPENTANCE AND FAITH.
MIGHTY WORKS WERE DONE IN ORDER TO GENERATE FAITH AND
LED MEN TO REPENTANCE AND ACCEPTANCE OF GOD'S RULE.**

20 Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of **his mighty works** were done, because they **repented not**:

21 Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have **repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes** (Matthew 11:20-21).

48 Then said Jesus unto him, **Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.**

49 The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

50 Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.

51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.

52 Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.

53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: **and himself believed, and his whole house** (John 4:48-53).

THE SCEPTER OF GOD'S RULE IS RIGHTEOUSNESS

8 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a **sceptre of righteousness** is the **sceptre of thy kingdom**. {Ps 45:6,7}

9 **Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity**; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows (Hebrews 1:8-9).

9 ¶ Know ye not that **the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And such **were some of you**: but ye are **washed**, but ye are **sanctified**, but ye are **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

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21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I **tell you before**, as I have also **told you in time past**, that they which **do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God** (Galatians 5:19-21).

10 Blessed are they which are **persecuted for righteousness' sake**: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

20 For I say unto you, That **except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven** (God ask for a righteousness of the heart which requires repentance) (Matthew 5:10, 20).

21 But now the **righteousness of God** without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God which is **by faith of Jesus Christ** unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being **justified freely by his grace** through the **redemption** that is in Christ Jesus: (Romans 3:21-24). (What God pronounces, He makes).

36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.

37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom **all things that offend, and them which do iniquity**;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43 Then shall **the righteous** shine forth as the sun **in the kingdom** of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear (Matthew 13:36-43).

HOW DOES ONE PREPARE FOR GOD'S KINGDOM, GOD'S RULE?

1 ¶ In those days came John the Baptist, **preaching** in the wilderness of Judaea,

2 And saying, **Repent** ye: for the **kingdom of heaven is at hand** (Matthew 3:1-2)

5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all **baptized** of him in the river of Jordan, **confessing their sins** (Mark 1:5).

29 And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, **justified God, being baptized** with the baptism of John.

30 But the Pharisees and lawyers **rejected the counsel of God** against themselves, **being not baptized** of him (Luke 7:29-30).

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should **believe on him** which should come after him, that is, **on Christ Jesus** (Acts 19:4).

14 Now after that John was put in prison, **Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,**

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent ye, and believe** the gospel (Mark 1:5, 14-15).

1 ¶ When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that **Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John** (John 4:1).

7 ¶ And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;

12 And they went out, and **preached that men should repent.**

13 And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them (Mark 6:7, 12-13).

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and **preached Christ** unto them.

12 But when they **believed** Philip preaching the things concerning the **kingdom of God**, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were **baptized**, both men and women (Acts 8:5, 12).

20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.**

25 And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone **preaching the kingdom of God**, shall see my face no more (Acts 20:20-21, 25).

THE KINGS COMMANDMENTS ARE NOT BURDENSOME (they are a delight).

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and **his commandments are not grievous (i.e. burdensome or hard)** (1 John 5:3).

28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest.**

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and **ye shall find rest unto your souls.**

30 For **my yoke is easy, and my burden is light** (Matthew 11:28-30).

2 But **his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night** (Psalms 1:2).

THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL HELP US OBEY.

31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also **the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him** (Acts 5:31-32).

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if **ye through the Spirit** do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14 For as many as are **led by the Spirit** of God, they are the sons of God (Romans 8:13-14).

THE MESSIAH WOULD BE THE SON OF DAVID AND THE SON OF GOD.

42 Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of **the seed of David**, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? (John 7:42).

69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that **Christ, the Son of the living God** (John 6:69).

1 ¶ Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, **against the LORD, and against his anointed**, saying,

7 ¶ I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, **Thou art my Son;** this day have I begotten thee (Psalm 2:1-2, 7).

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and **the government shall be upon his shoulder**: and **his name** shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, **The mighty God, The everlasting Father**, The Prince of Peace.

7 Of the **increase of his government** and peace **there shall be no end**, upon the **throne of David**, and **upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it** with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this (Isaiah 9:6-7).

48 Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.

49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, **thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel** (John 1:48-49).

63 But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be **the Christ, the Son of God** (Matthew 26:63).

THE MESSIAH WOULD SPEAK THE WORDS OF GOD. HE WOULD BE THE VISIBLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD.

25 The woman saith unto him, I know that **Messias** cometh, **which is called Christ**: when he is come, **he will tell us all things** (John 4:25).

49 For I have not spoken of myself; but **the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.**

50 **And I know that his commandment is life everlasting**: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak (John 12:49-50).

68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? **thou hast the words of eternal life** (John 6:68).

16 Jesus answered them, and said, **My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me** (John 7:16).

22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, **A prophet** shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; **him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.**

23 And it shall come to pass, that **every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people** (Acts 3:22-23).

49 For I have not spoken of myself; but **the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak** (John 12:49).

THE MESSIAH WAS ALSO UNDERSTOOD TO BE COMING, BAPTIZING

25 And they asked him, and said unto him, **Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ**, nor Elias, neither that prophet? (John 1:25).

22 ¶ After these things came **Jesus and his disciples** into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and **baptized** (John 3:22).

1 ¶ When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that **Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John** (John 4:1).

33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, **the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost** (John 1:33).

8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost** (Mark 1:8).

15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be **baptized with the Holy Ghost**.

17 Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles **granted repentance unto life** (Acts 11:15-18).

THE MESSIAH (THE CHRIST) WAS TO DELIVER (RESCUE) OTHERS FROM THEIR ENEMIES. INSTEAD OF POLITICAL, THEIR REAL ENEMIES WERE SPIRITUAL.

16 And ought not this woman, being a **daughter of Abraham**, whom **Satan hath bound**, lo, these eighteen years, **be loosed from this bond** on the sabbath day? (Luke 13:16).

28 But if I **cast out devils** by the Spirit of God, **then the kingdom of God is come unto you**.

29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first **bind the strong man?** and **then he will spoil his house** (Matthew 12:28-29).

67 ¶ And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, 68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and

redeemed his people, 69 And hath raised **up an horn of salvation** for us **in the house of his servant David**;

70 As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

71 That we should be **saved from our enemies**, and from the hand of **all that hate us**; (Luke 1:67-71).

42 And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed **the Christ, the Saviour** of the world (John 4:42).

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose **the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil** (1 John 3:8).

38 How God **anointed** Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about **doing good**, and **healing all that were oppressed of the devil**; for God was with him (Acts 10:38).

CHRIST A KING

Addition Information: If we would interpret the word "Christ" as the scriptures define it, as a King, we would greatly enhance our understanding of Jesus' message.

And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is **Christ a King** (Luke 23:2).

Let **Christ the King** of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him (Mark 15:32).

2 Saying, Where is he that is born **King** of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where **Christ** should be born.

5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a **Governor**, that shall **rule** my people Israel. {Mic 5:2} (Matthew 2:1-6).

Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up **Christ** to sit on **his throne** (Acts 2:30).

***THE WORD "CHRIST" IS AGAIN INTERPRETED AS "KING" IN
THESSALONICA. THIS UNDERSTANDING CAME FROM WHAT THE
APOSTLE PAUL HAD TAUGHT ABOUT "THE CHRIST."***

1 ¶ Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:

2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this **Jesus**, whom I preach unto you, **is Christ**.

4 And **some of them believed**, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.

5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

7 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, **saying that there is another king, one Jesus** (Acts 17:1-7).

THE PURPOSE OF JESUS MISSION

And he said unto them, **I must preach the kingdom of God** to other cities also: **for therefore am I sent** (Luke 4:43).

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. **For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil** (1 John 3:8).

But if I **cast out devils** by the Spirit of God, then the **kingdom of God is come unto you** (Matthew 12:28).

For the Son of man is come **to seek** and **to save** that which was lost (Luke 19:10). (Save from what? The rule and domain of Satan).

WHAT MESSAGE DID JESUS PREACH?

For I have not spoken of myself; but **the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak** (John 12:49).

From that time **Jesus began to preach**, and to say, **Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand** (Matthew 4:17).

And Jesus went about all Galilee, **teaching** in their synagogues, **and preaching the gospel of the kingdom**, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people (Matthew 4:23).

14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, **preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God**,

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and **the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel** (Mark 1:14-15).

43 And he said unto them, **I must preach the kingdom of God** to other cities also: **for therefore am I sent**.

44 And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee (Luke 4:43-44).

3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great **salvation**; which **at the first began to be spoken by the Lord**, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? (Heb. 2:3-4).

WHAT MESSAGE SHOULD WE PREACH?

The law and the prophets were until John: **since that time the kingdom of God is preached**, and every man presseth into it (Luke 16:16).

And **this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached** in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come** (Matthew 24:14).

19 When **any one heareth the word of the kingdom**, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side (Matthew 13:19).

28 Wherefore **we receiving a kingdom** which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear (Hebrews 12:28).

WHAT MESSAGE DID THE DISCIPLES PREACH?

1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

2 And **he sent them to preach the kingdom of God**, and to heal the sick (Luke 9:1-2).

12 And they went out, and **preached that men should repent. (In order to come under the rule of God, you must repent).**

13 And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them (Mark 6:12-13)

59 And he said unto another, **Follow me.** But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. 60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but **go thou and preach the kingdom of God** (Luke 9:59-60).

1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

9 And heal the sick that are therein, **and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.**

16 He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me (Luke 10:1, 9, 16).

5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and **heirs of the kingdom** which he hath promised to them that love him? (James 2:5).

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

11 For so **an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom** of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:10-11).

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever** (Revelation 11:15).

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, **Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ:** for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night (Revelation 12:10).

WHAT MESSAGE DID THE APOSTLE PAUL PREACH? Paul states that he was taught his message directly from the Lord Jesus Christ (Galatians 1:11-12).

8 And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, **disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.**

9 But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but **spake evil of that way** before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus (Acts 19:8-9).

23 ¶ And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom **he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus**, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,

26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the **salvation of God** is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

30 ¶ And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,

31 **Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ**, with all confidence, no man forbidding him (Acts 28:23-31).

13 Who hath delivered us from **the power of darkness**, and hath translated us into **the kingdom of his dear Son**:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: (Colossians 1:13-14).

11 And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision. These only are my **fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God**, which have been a comfort unto me (Colossians 4:11).

12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath **called you unto his kingdom** and glory (1 Thessalonians 2:12).

5 ¶ Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of **the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer**: (2 Thessalonians 1:5).

1 ¶ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and **in view of his appearing and his kingdom**, I give you this charge:

2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction.

3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear (2 Timothy 4:1-3 NIV).

18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will **preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom**: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen (2 Timothy 4:18).

***WITHIN THE PREACHING OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS THE
PREACHING OF CHRIST AND HIS REDEMPTIVE WORK***

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached **Christ** (the King) unto them.

12 But when they believed Philip **preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God** (coming under God's rule), and **the name of Jesus Christ**, they were baptized, both men and women (Acts 8:5, 12).

21 And when they had **preached the gospel** to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and **exhorting them to continue in the faith**, and **that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God** (Acts 14:21-22).

***THE GOSPEL OF GRACE AND THE PREACHING OF THE KINGDOM OF
GOD ARE SYNONYMS (One of two or more words in the same
language which have the same or very nearly the same meaning).***

24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, **to testify the gospel of the grace of God**.

25 And now, behold, I know that ye all, among **whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God**, shall see my face no more (Acts 20:24-25).

***BEING SAVED AND BEING IN THE KINGDOM ARE SYNONYMS
(Saved from what? Sin, Satan and his domain or kingdom.)***

23 ¶ Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be **saved**? And he said unto them,

24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, **in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.**

29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall **sit down in the kingdom of God** (Luke 13:23-29).

23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he **expounded** and **testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus**, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the **salvation of God** is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it (Acts 28:23, 28).

ETERNAL LIFE AND INHERITING THE KINGDOM ARE SYNONYMS (One of two or more words in the same language which have the same or very nearly the same meaning).

34 Then shall the **King** say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into **life eternal** (Matthew 25:34, 46).

16 ¶ And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, **that I may have eternal life?**

22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man **shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven** (Matthew 19:16, 22-23).

THE BIBICAL TERMS USED WHEN TEACHING THE KINGDOM ARE NOT OUR COMMON PHRASES SUCH AS: "WHEN YOU DIE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO TO HEAVEN?" RATHER, "EVERLASTING LIFE" OR "EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT" ARE THE PHRASES THE BIBLE USES.

34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

46 And these shall go away into **everlasting punishment**: but the righteous into **life eternal** (Matthew 25:34, 41, 46).

***THERE ARE TWO KINGDOMS IN CONFLICT, GOD'S & SATAN'S.
The battle is over the hearts, minds, ownership and rule of
individuals. It is a battle between the Kingdom of God and the
kingdom of the devil.***

The strong man (i.e. Satan), is bound (a metaphorical term indicating a curbing of power), so his house (Satan's kingdom) may be plundered. "But if I (Jesus) **cast out devils** by the Spirit of God, **then the kingdom of God is come unto you**. Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then **he will spoil his house**" (Matthew 12:28-29).

The mission of **bringing the reign of God to individuals** was given to Jesus disciples through their preaching and miracles. In this Jesus saw Satan fall from heaven (i.e. Satan's defeat). "And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, **I beheld Satan** as lightning **fall** from heaven" (Luke 10:17-18).

Additional Information: Within the phrase "the Kingdom of God" is the idea of a group of people that would be ruled by God. In order to enter God's Kingdom conditions had to be met. A change of heart was required. This change of heart is what the Bible calls repentance. It was a change of heart toward God, that is, it was a turning away from Satan, sin and its ways, unto God, Christ and His ways (Acts 26:18). As one turns ("conversion" - the Greek word means "to turn") God offers (as a gift, through Jesus' blood), the forgiveness of sins and everlasting life (Rom. 6:23). The teaching of the "kingdom" is the only teaching that I am aware of that emphasizes both justification and sanctification together.

SATAN AS KING

If **Satan** also be divided against himself, how shall **his kingdom** stand? because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub (Luke 11:18)

5 And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all **the kingdoms of the world** in a moment of time.

6 And the devil said unto him, All **this power** will I give thee, and **the glory** of them: for **that is delivered unto me**; and to whomsoever I will I give it (Luke 4:5-6).

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall **the prince of this world** be cast out (John 12:31).

In whom **the god of this world** hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them (2 Cor. 4:4).

Who hath delivered us from the **power** (dominion – NIV) **of darkness**, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son (Col. 1:13).

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and **were by nature the children of wrath**, even as others (Eph. 2:2-3).

25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the **devil**, who are **taken captive** by him at his will (2 Tim. 2:25-26).

JESUS AS KING

Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, **thy King** cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass (Matthew 21:5).

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he **sit upon the throne** of his glory (Matthew 25:31).

Then shall **the King** say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **inherit the kingdom prepared for you** from the foundation of the world (Matthew 25:34).

And **the King** shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me (Matthew 25:40).

Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least **commandments**, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever **shall do and teach them**, the same shall be called **great in the kingdom of heaven** (Matthew 5:19)

Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, **"Are you the king of the Jews?" "Yes, it is as you say,"** Jesus replied (Matthew 27:11 NIV).

And set up over his head **his accusation** written, THIS IS **JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS** (Matthew 27:37).

"**Are you the king** of the Jews?" asked Pilate. "**Yes, it is as you say,**" Jesus replied (Mark 15:2 NIV).

The written notice of the charge against him read: **THE KING OF THE JEWS** (Mark 15:26 NIV).

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the **throne** of his father David:

33 And **he shall reign** over the house of Jacob **for ever**; and **of his kingdom there shall be no end** (Luke 1:32-33).

And why call ye me, **Lord, Lord, (Master, Ruler, King)** and do not the things which I say? (Luke 6:46).

"But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, '**We don't want this man to be our king**'" (Luke 19:14 NIV).

37 And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of **the disciples began to rejoice** and praise God with a loud voice **for all the mighty works that they had seen**;

38 Saying, **Blessed be the King** that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest (Luke 19:37-38).

And Pilate asked him, saying, Art thou **the King** of the Jews? And he answered him and said, **Thou sayest it** (Luke 23:3).

And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, **THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS** (Luke 23:38).

Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art **the Son of God**; thou art **the King of Israel** (John 1:49).

13 Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: **Blessed is the King** of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

14 And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written,

15 Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, **thy King cometh**, sitting on an ass's colt (John 12:13-15).

If ye love me, **keep my commandments** (John 14:15).

He that hath my **commandments**, and **keepeth them**, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him (John 14:21).

If ye **keep my commandments**, ye shall **abide in my love**; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love (John 15:10).

Ye are my friends, if ye **do whatsoever I command you** (John 15:14).
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"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "**You are right in saying I am a king**. In fact, **for this reason I was born**, and for this I came into the world, **to testify to the truth**. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me" (John 18:37 NIV).

12 And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: **whosoever maketh himself a king** speaketh against Caesar.

15 But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, **Shall I crucify your King?** The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.

19 ¶ And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH **THE KING** OF THE JEWS (John 19:12, 15, 19).

Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had **given commandments** unto the apostles **whom he had chosen** (Acts 1:2).

6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

7 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that **there is another king, one Jesus** (Acts 17:6-7). (A king has absolute authority over ones life).

And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to **reign over the Gentiles**; in **him shall the Gentiles trust** (Rom. 15:12).

Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the **keeping of the commandments of God** (1 Corinthians 7:19).

If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that **the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord** (1 Corinthians 14:37).

24 Then cometh the end, when **he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father**; when he shall have **put down all rule and all authority and power**.

25 For he must **reign**, till he hath put all enemies under his feet (1 Cor. 15:24-25).

Now unto **the King eternal**, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen (1 Timothy 1:17).

14 That thou keep this **commandment** without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

15 Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and **only Potentate**, the **King of kings**, and **Lord of lords**; (1 Timothy 6:14-15).

If we suffer, we shall also **reign with him**: if we deny him, he also will deny us: (2 Timothy 2:12).

8 But unto the Son he saith, **Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.**

9 Thou hast **loved righteousness**, and **hated iniquity**; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows (Hebrews 1:8-9).

3 ¶ And hereby **we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.**

4 He that saith, **I know him**, and **keepeth not his commandments**, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But **whoso keepeth his word**, in him verily **is the love of God perfected**: hereby know we that we are in him (1 John 2:3-5).

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and **his commandments are not grievous** (1 John 5:3).

And **this is love, that we walk after his commandments**. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it (2 John 6).

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever** (Revelation 11:15).

And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the **remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ** (Revelation 12:17).

Here is the patience of the saints: **here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus** (Revelation 14:12).

And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, **thou King of saints** (Revelation 15:3).

These shall make war with the Lamb, and **the Lamb shall overcome them:** for **he is Lord of lords, and King of kings:** and they that are with him are **called, and chosen, and faithful** (Revelation 17:14).

And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS** (Revelation 19:16).

And there shall be no more curse: but **the throne of God and of the Lamb** shall be in it; and **his servants shall serve him:** (Revelation 22:3).

14 **Blessed are they that do his commandments,** that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

16 **I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things** in the churches. **I am** the root and the **offspring of David,** and the bright and morning star (Revelation 22:14-16).

THE TEACHING OF THE "KINGDOM" IS THE ONLY TEACHING THAT I AM AWARE OF THAT EMPHASIZES BOTH JUSTIFICATION AND SANCTIFICATION TOGETHER.

Additional Information: Justification is the root (imputed righteousness), and sanctification (holiness) is the fruit of a changed heart. We must come to understand the claims of a king. The goal of the kingdom is to submit our lives to His rule and reign everyday (Matthew 6:33). This is not perfection, but a change of direction. Do we question a king, or obey a king? We need to understand more fully the claims of Christ (anointed to rule) over our lives?

Why do we minimize fruit, when the Bible does not minimize fruit in an individuals life? We think that any kind of response toward Christ is salvation. The Bible does not teach this (John 2:23-25; Luke 8:13).

12 ¶ Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: **he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness,** but shall have the light of life (John 8:12).

22 But now **being made free from sin,** and become servants to God, ye have your **fruit unto holiness,** and the **end everlasting life.**

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the **gift** of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:22-23).

19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.

20 First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should **repent and turn to God** and **prove their repentance by their deeds** (Acts 26:19-20 NIV).

7 To them who by **patient continuance in well doing** seek for glory and honour and immortality, **eternal life:**

8 But unto them that are contentious, and **do not obey the truth**, but **obey unrighteousness**, indignation and wrath,

9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that **worketh good**, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:

11 For there is **no respect of persons with God** (Romans 2:7-11).

43 For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

44 For **every tree is known by his own fruit**. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.

45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

46 And **why call ye me, Lord, Lord (King, Master, Ruler)**, and **do not the things which I say?** (Luke 6:43-46).

20 Wherefore **by their fruits ye shall know them**.

21 **Not every one that saith** unto me, **Lord, Lord (King, Master, Ruler)**, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that **doeth the will of my Father** which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: **depart from me, ye that work iniquity** (Matthew 7:20-23). **(Their fruit showed that they had never really turned from Satan and his ways, they practiced lawlessness and iniquity)**.

Follow peace with all men, and **holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord** (Hebrews 12:14).

7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

8 He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

9 **No-one who is born of God will continue to sin**, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. **(What does it mean to be "born again" anyway? It means to be given a new heart and a new spirit that causes us to walk in God's ways** (Ezekiel 36:26-27), **without it we cannot enter the Kingdom** (John 3:3, 5, 10).

10 **This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God**; nor is anyone who does not love his brother (1 John 3:7-10 NIV).

28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

29 And shall come forth; **they that have done good**, unto the resurrection of life; and **they that have done evil**, unto the resurrection of damnation (John 5:28-29).

41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that **offend**, and them which **do iniquity**;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43 Then shall the **righteous** shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear (Matthew 13:41-43).

47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:

48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the **good** into vessels, but cast the **bad** away.

49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the **wicked** from among the **just**,

50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

51 Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord (Matthew 13:47-51).

***JESUS SAID YOU MAKE THE WORD OF GOD INEFFECTIVE THROUGH
YOUR OWN TRADITIONS (MARK 7:13).***

Additional Information: Someone said to me, “Why don’t we emphasize and teach more about the “kingdom” and what that means? Why don’t we emphasize what the scripture emphasizes?” I said, “Because we have been deceived by our own evangelical traditions (many of them can’t even be found in the scriptures)” Consider this:

The words “king or kingdom” or its equivalent is used 3274 times in scripture. 285 of those times it is used in the New Testament. The word “Christ” (“anointed” to rule, a king) is used 571 times in the New Testament. The word “Lord” is used 728 times in the New Testament.
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The word “Saviour” is used 24 times. The word “disciple(s)” is used 272 times in the New Testament. The word “Christian(s)” is used only 3 times. The phrase “ask Jesus into your heart” is used 0 times. The phrase “receive Jesus as your personal Saviour” is used 0 times. The example of having someone repeat a prayer after someone else is found 0 times in scripture. The idea that grace allows me to do whatever I want to do, is found 0 times in scripture (Titus 2:11-12).

Pat Robertson from the 700 club said, “John the Baptist in the early pages of the New Testament said: ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ I was struck by the words... this was revolutionary understanding, as simple as it may seem... Somehow I had failed to take seriously the fact that the kingdom of God is the central teaching of Jesus. He began His earthly

ministry by declaring the arrival of the kingdom, and He ended it by 'speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.' Indeed He described such teaching as His ultimate purpose (Luke 4:43). That the kingdom of God was at the heart of the Lord's work is obvious... Having been trained and surrounded by Christians who did not concern themselves especially with the Lord's teachings on the reality of the kingdom here and now, I didn't begin to catch glimpses of this reality in any meaningful way until the mid-seventies... By mid-decade, I was wrestling with John the Baptist's insistence that 'the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' I mused over this for many weeks and months, tracking through the Scriptures..."

John MacArthur, pastor of Grace Community Church said, "Listen to the typical gospel presentation nowadays. You'll hear sinners entreated with words like, 'accept Jesus Christ as personal Savior'; 'ask Jesus into your heart'; 'invite Christ into your life'; or 'make a decision for Christ.' You may be so accustomed to hearing those phrases that it will surprise you to learn none of them is based on biblical terminology."

Where have we been? It appears we have not been studying seriously the Scriptures. Take a good look at the sermons recorded in Acts, look at how they were responded to. Look at the words of Jesus, look at the words of Paul. Where have we been?

WILL YOU TURN TO GOD'S KINGDOM? WILL YOU TURN TO JESUS AS KING?

This is the Apostle Paul's commission from Jesus (the words are in red):

15 I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;

17 Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,

18 **To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness** of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

19 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

20 But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, **that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance** (Prove your repentance by what you do) (Acts 26:15-20).

20 And how I (the Apostle Paul) kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.**

22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:

23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, **to testify the gospel of the grace of God.**

25 And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone **preaching the kingdom of God**, shall see my face no more (Acts 20:20-25).

THE COST FOR FOLLOWING JESUS IS EVERYTHING.

44 ¶ Again, the **kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field**; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and **selleth all that he hath**, and **buyeth** that field.

45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:

46 Who, when he had found **one pearl of great price**, went and **sold all that he had**, and **bought it** (Matthew 13:44-46).

Additional Information: In Matthew 13:44-46, the kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hid in a field and like a merchant who found a pearl of great price (value). The cost was --- All that you have! The same price is for everyone (all that you have). Some say, "No, it is Jesus who is giving all to purchase you." Both are true. It is like a marriage. One does not say, "Yes, give your all to me, but I will not give my all to you" (See John 2:23-25). It is an exchange of both lives to be One. We do sometimes waver in our commitment. It is then that we need to make adjustments.

33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that **forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple** (Luke 14:33).

53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, **ye have no life in you.**

60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

66 From that time **many of his disciples went back**, and **walked no more with him** (John 6:53, 60, 66).

34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, **Whosoever will come after me**, let him **deny himself**, and take up **his cross, and follow me.**

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but **whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.**

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8:34-37).

25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that **hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal** (John 12:25).

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and **ye are not your own?**

20 For **ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's** (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Additional Information: John the Baptist ministry only lasted a few months, Stephens (Acts 7) lasted only a short time. Jesus ministry was only three and a half years. We must lose our life to find true life (John 12:25). We should not try to hold on to life as if duration was an end in itself. What kind of life do we have? Is it kingdom life? Kingdom life says, Your will be done on earth, just like your will is done in heaven. That is true living (kingdom living).

THE KINGDOM OF GOD WILL ONE DAY COME TO A GLORIOUS AND VISIBLE CONSUMMATION.

Additional Information: We are “saved” now (Acts 16:31), yet are waiting for the manifestation of all that it means to be a son of God (Romans 8:19; Heb. 9:28). We have “eternal life” now (1 John 5:11), yet we are waiting for the consummation of all that it means in the future (Matthew 25:31, 46). The “kingdom” is here now in Jesus (in an invisible form, Matthew 12:28; 4:17), yet it will be consummated (appear in visible form) at the end of the age (Matthew 25:34; 13:39, 43). It is here but yet to arrive.

6 ¶ When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, **wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom** to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power (Acts 1:6-7).

24 ¶ Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn (Matthew 13:24-30).

36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, **Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.**

37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the **Son of man;**

38 The **field is the world;** the **good seed are the children of the kingdom;** but the **tares are the children of the wicked one;**

39 The **enemy that sowed them is the devil**; the **harvest is the end of the world**; and the **reapers are the angels**.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and **they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity**;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43 Then shall **the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father**. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear (Matthew 13:36-43).

31 ¶ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall **he sit upon the throne of his glory**:

32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then shall **the King** say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **inherit the kingdom prepared for you** from the foundation of the world:

35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37 Then shall **the righteous** answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40 And **the King** shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46 And these shall go away into **everlasting punishment**: but **the righteous into life eternal** (Matthew 25:31-46).

24 Then **cometh the end**, when he shall have **delivered up the kingdom to God**, even the Father; when he shall have **put down all rule and all authority and power**.

25 For he must **reign, till** he hath put **all enemies under his feet**.

26 The **last enemy** that shall be destroyed is **death**.

27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall **the Son also himself be subject unto him** that put all things under him, **that God may be all in all**. (1 Corinthians 15:24-27).

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever** (Revelation 11:15).

13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like **the Son of man** came **with the clouds of heaven**, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

14 And **there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom**, that all people, nations, and languages, **should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed** (Daniel 7:13-14).

39 And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise,

40 God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

28 Therefore, since we are **receiving a kingdom** which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear (Hebrews 11:39-40; 12:28 NKJV).

5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and **heirs of the kingdom** which he **hath promised to them that love him?** (James 2:5).

Questions

1. **Read Daniel 2:44.** God shall set up a Kingdom that: a. shall never be destroyed. b. shall stand forever. c. shall consume all kingdoms. d. all of the above.
2. **Read “The Kingdom of God Defined,” Additional Information.** Three things make up a kingdom: a. a constitution. b. a king. c. the kings rule and reign. d. those that accept his rule, his subjects.
3. **Read “The Messiah (the Anointed One),” Additional Information.** In the Old Testament the phrase “the anointed” refers most often to: a. a judge. b. a slave. c. a king from the lineage of David.
4. **Read John 7:31; Matthew 11:2-5.** It appears that the Jewish Messiah’s appearance would be accompanied by: a. prosperity for everyone. b. the fall of the Roman Empire. c. signs & miracles.
5. **Read Matthew 11:20-21; John 4:49-53.** The purpose of Jesus miracles were to bring about: a. lots of people to church. b. repentance and faith towards God and His Messiah. c. none of the above.
6. **Read Hebrews 1:8-9.** A “scepter” was a staff held out by a king as an emblem of his authority. The “scepter” of Christ Kingdom (rule) is: a. do what you want, your performance doesn’t matter. b. darkness. c. righteousness.
7. **Read Acts 19:4; Mark 1:14-15; Acts 8:12; John 3:3.** A person responds to the gospel of the Kingdom by: a. belief on the Messiah (Christ Jesus). b. repentance (turning to God and away from your sins). c. baptism. d. a New Birth (spiritual birth). e. all of the above.
8. **Read Acts 3:22-23.** The Prophet (Messiah Jesus) is to be heeded in: a. some of the things He says. b. nothing that He says before the cross. c. all things whatsoever he shall say.
9. **Read John 1:25; Mark 1:8.** The Messiah would come: a. in royal robes. b. baptizing. c. riding a camel.
10. **Read 1 John 3:8; Matthew 12:28-29.** The Messiah has come to deliver us from our enemies. The real enemy is: a. the devil. b. your mother-in-law. c. your neighbors.
11. **Read Luke 23:2.** A common definition for the “Christ” is: a. a teacher. b. a king. c. a traveling preacher.

12. **Read Acts 17:1-7.** Paul was accused of breaking Roman law by saying: a. don't pay your taxes. b. that there is another King – Jesus. c. revolt against Caesar.
13. **Read Luke 4:43; 19:10.** The reason that Jesus came was to: a. preach the Kingdom of God. b. seek and save the lost. c. none of the above.
14. **Read Acts 26:18.** Which of these statements are true in your life? a. your spiritual eyes have been opened to the truth. b. you have turned from darkness to light. c. you have turned from the power and authority of Satan to the power and authority of God. d. you have called upon God from your heart for the forgiveness of your sins. e. none of these things.
15. **Read Matthew 24:14.** The message that you've read about in these lessons must go into all the world and then shall the end come. May God Bless You!

Answer Key

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