



5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Jesus Commissions His Followers to Preach God's Kingdom

After Jesus' baptism by John, He went to Capernaum and began His public ministry.

"From that time (the beginning of his public ministry) Jesus began to preach (and continued to preach, the Greek uses the present tense, something that continues, habitually, over and over), and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4:17 KJV)

[And] *"²³Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. ²⁴News about him spread as far as Syria, and people soon began bringing to him all who were sick. And whatever their sickness or disease, or if they were demon-possessed or epileptic or paralyzed—he healed them all."* (Matthew 4:23-24 NLT)

"¹Soon afterward Jesus began a tour of the nearby towns and villages, preaching and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom of God. He took his twelve disciples with him, ²along with some women he had healed and from whom he had cast out evil spirits..." (Luke 8:1-2 NLT)

[And Jesus said], *"⁴³... 'I must preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God in other towns, too, because that is why I was sent.' ⁴⁴So he continued to travel around, preaching in synagogues throughout Judea."* (Luke 4:43-44 NLT)

Jesus then commissioned His twelve apostles to preach and do as He had done.

"¹One day Jesus called together his twelve disciples and gave them power and authority to cast out demons and to heal all diseases. ²Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick." (Luke 9:1-2 NLT)

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

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

"⁶So they began their circuit of the villages, preaching the Good News and healing the sick." (Luke 9:6 NLT)

Jesus then commissioned 70 others to preach the message of the Kingdom of God.

“¹After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. ²Then He said to them, ‘The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.’” (Luke 10:1-2 NKJV)

“⁸Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you. ⁹And heal the sick there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

¹⁰But whatever city you enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹‘The very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near you.’” (Luke 10:8-11 NKJV)

Did Jesus preach the gospel of the Kingdom and the Apostle Paul preach the gospel of grace? What does Acts 20:24-25 say?

*“²⁴But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of **telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God** (see John 1:17).*

*²⁵‘And now I know that none of you to whom **I have preached the Kingdom** will ever see me again.’” (Acts 20:24-25 NLT)*

Can you see that “**the preaching of the Kingdom**” and “**God’s wonderful grace**” are one and the same message (Galatians 1:8)?

Paul said the same thing in Acts 28:28-31.

*“²⁸So I want you to know that **this salvation from God** has also been offered to the Gentiles, and they will accept it.’*

*³⁰For the next two years, Paul lived in Rome at his own expense. He welcomed all who visited him, ³¹**boldly proclaiming the Kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ. And no one tried to stop him.**” (Acts 28:28-31 NLT)*

Can you see that “**proclaiming the Kingdom of God**” is “**this salvation**” that is from God?

“³So what makes us think we can escape if we ignore this great salvation that was first announced by the Lord Jesus himself...? ⁴...God confirmed the message by giving signs and wonders and various miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit whenever he chose.” (Hebrews 2:3-4 NLT)

And it is this gospel that must be preached in all the world before He again appears.

“¹⁴And 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 KJV)

Do you believe this?

Questions

1 Examine Acts 20:24-25.

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Can you not see that “**the preaching of the Kingdom**” and “**God’s wonderful grace**” are one and the same message (Galatians 1:8)?

2 Examine Acts 28:28-31.

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3 Examine Matthew 19:16, 22-23, 25.

“¹⁶Someone came to Jesus with this question: ‘Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?’

²²But when the young man heard this, he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘I tell you the truth, it is very hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.’

²⁵The disciples were astounded. ‘Then who in the world can be saved?’ they asked.” - Matthew 19:16, 22-23, 25 (NLT)

It is clear that this rich man was asking about eternal life. He turned away Jesus’ offer of eternal life and entrance into the kingdom of God. Then the disciples said, who can be saved? Eternal life, entering the kingdom, and being saved are being used as synonyms. Check this out for yourself.

We want to hear from you!

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

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Answer Key

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2 Examine Acts 28:28-31.

Can you see that “**proclaiming the Kingdom of God**” is “**this salvation**” that is from God?

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