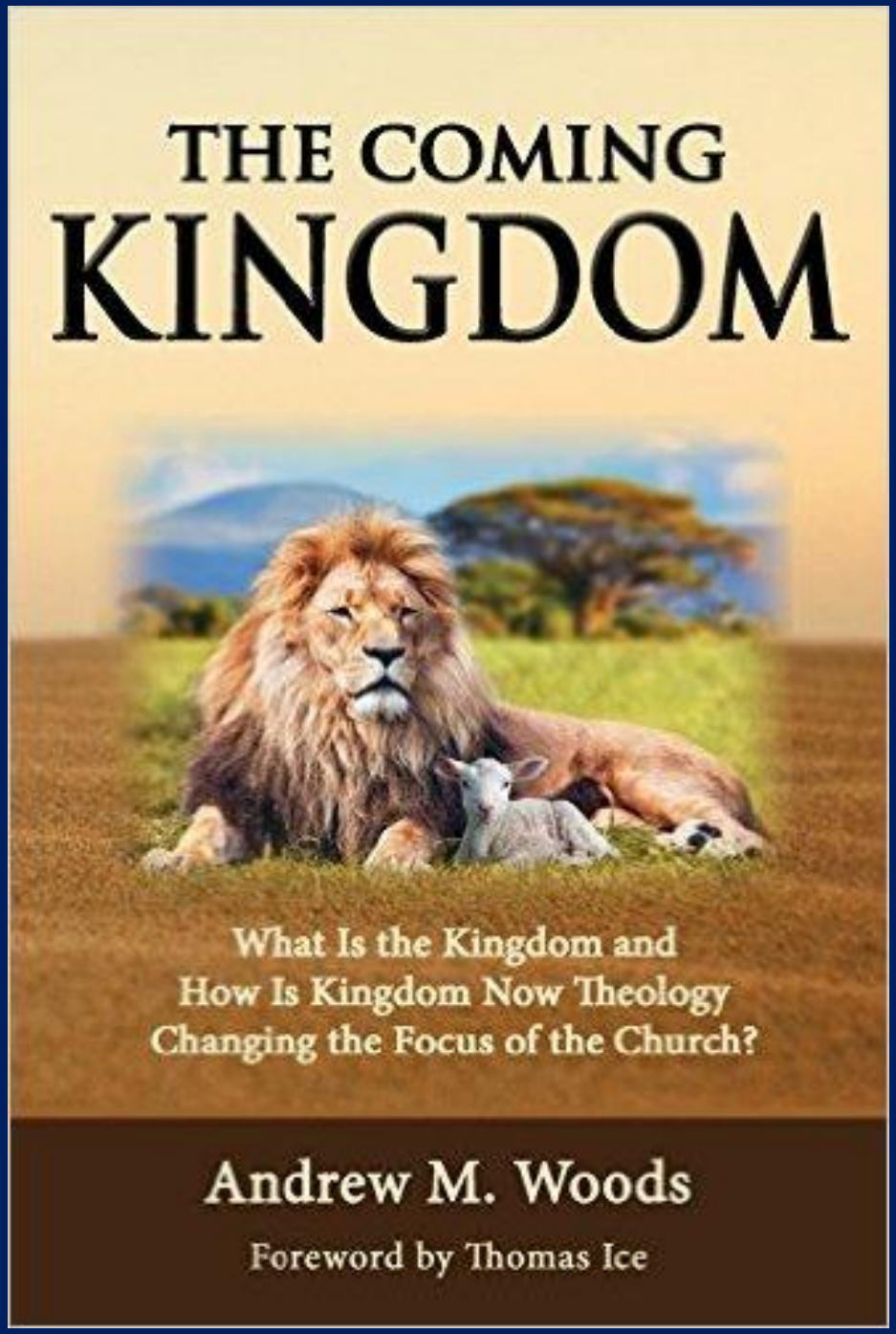

THE COMING
KINGDOM
What Is the Kingdom and
How Is Kingdom Now Theology
Changing the Focus of the Church?
Andrew M. Woods
Foreword by Thomas Ice

The Coming Kingdom

Chapter 1



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

Adjunct Professor of Bible & Theology – College of Biblical Studies

Introductory Lesson



1. Kingdom confusion illustrations
2. Series outline
3. An important distinction



Introductory Lesson



1. **<u>Kingdom confusion illustrations</u>**
2. Series outline
3. An important distinction



Emergent: Kingdom

"The ***Kingdom*** of God is a ***central*** conversation in emerging communities… And let me tell you 'Kingdom of God' language is ***really big*** in the emerging church" (Italics added).



Doug Pagitt, cited in Oakland, *Faith Undone*, 163.

Emergent: Kingdom

"He selected 12 and trained them in a new way of life. He sent them to teach everyone this new way of life...Even if only a few would practice this new way, many would benefit. Oppressed people would be free. Poor people would be liberated from poverty. Minorities would be treated with respect. Sinners would be loved, not resented."



Brian McLaren, *A Generous Orthodoxy*, 111.

Emergent: Kingdom

"Industrialists would realize that God cares for sparrows and wildflowers-so their industries should respect, not rape, the environment. The homeless would be invited in for a hot meal. ***The kingdom of God would come*** – not everywhere at once, not suddenly, but gradually like a seed growing in a field, like yeast spreading in a lump of bread dough, like light spreading across the sky at dawn."



Brian McLaren, *A Generous Orthodoxy*, 111.

Emergent: Kingdom

"If Revelation were a blueprint of the distant future, it would have been unintelligible to its original readers…In light of this, Revelation becomes a powerful book about the ***kingdom of God here and now***, available to all."



Brian McLaren, cited in Oakland, *Faith Undone,* 158.

Russell Moore

President: Ethics and Religious Liberties
Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention



"The locus of the **kingdom of God in this age is within the church, where Jesus rules as king**. As we live our lives together, we see the transforming power of the gospel and the **in breaking of the future kingdom**."

Justin Taylor, "An Interview with Russell Moore,"
www.thegospelcoalition.org.

Kingdom



Rick Warren, cited in Oakland, *Faith Undone,* Kindle edition.

"I stand before you confidently right now and say to you that God is going to use you to change the world...I'm looking at a stadium full of people right now who are telling God they will do ***whatever it takes to establish God's Kingdom*** **"on earth** as it is in heaven." What will happen if the followers of Jesus say to Him, "We are yours?" What kind of spiritual awakening will occur?"

Kingdom

"If we are to be a part of this **coming kingdom**, God expects our lives – our churches and faith communities too – to be characterized by these authentic signs of our own transformation: compassion, mercy, justice, and love – demonstrated *tangibly*. Only then will our light break forth like the dawn, our healing quickly appear, and our cries for help be answered with a divine *Here am I.*"



Stearns, *Hole in the Gospel*, 57.

Kingdom

"The gospel that we have been given – the whole gospel – is God's vision for a new way of living…**Christ's vision was of a redeemed world order populated by redeemed people – *now***. *To accomplish this, we are to be salt and light* in a dark and fallen world, the "yeast" that leavens the whole loaf of bread (the whole of society). *We are the ones God has* called to be His Church. It's up to us. *We are to be the* change. But a changed world requires *change agents, and* change agents are people who have first been changed themselves."



Stearns, *Hole in the Gospel*, 276, 243-44.

Introductory Lesson



1. Kingdom confusion illustrations
2. **Series outline**
3. An important distinction



Kingdom Study Outline



1. What does the Bible Says About the Kingdom?
2. The Main Problem with Kingdom Now NT interpretations
3. Why do some believe that we are in the kingdom now?
4. Why does it matter?



Introductory Lesson



1. Kingdom confusion illustrations
2. Series outline
3. **<u>An important distinction</u>**



Universal vs. Theocratic Kingdom

	Universal Kingdom	Theocratic Kingdom
Time	Eternal (Ps 93:1-2)	Future (Dan 2:44)
Scope	Universal (Ps 103:19)	Earthly (Dan 2:35, 44-45)
Rule	God rules directly (Dan 4:17)	God rules indirectly through a human (Ps 2:6-9)
Existence	Always (Ps. 93:1-2)	Contingent upon a human response (Exod. 19:5-6; Matt. 3:2; 11:2-6, 14; 23:37-39)

Alva J. McClain, *The Greatness of the Kingdom* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1959), 19-21

Exodus 19:5-6

“Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a **kingdom** of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”



Exodus 19:5-6

“Now then, **if** you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, **then** you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”



Universal vs. Theocratic Kingdom

	Universal Kingdom	Theocratic Kingdom
Time	Eternal (Ps 93:1-2)	**Future (Dan 2:44)**
Scope	Universal (Ps 103:19)	**Earthly (Dan 2:35, 44-45)**
Rule	God rules directly (Dan 4:17)	**God rules indirectly through a human (Ps 2:6-9)**
Existence	Always (Ps. 93:1-2)	**Contingent upon a human response (Exod. 19:5-6; Matt. 3:2; 11:2-6, 14; 23:37-39)**

Alva J. McClain, *The Greatness of the Kingdom* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1959), 19-21

Introductory Lesson



1. Kingdom confusion illustrations
2. Series outline
3. An important distinction



The Coming Kingdom

Chapter 2



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

Adjunct Professor of Bible & Theology – College of Biblical Studies

Kingdom Study Outline



1. What does the Bible Says About the Kingdom?
2. The Main Problem with Kingdom Now NT interpretations
3. Why do some believe that we are in the kingdom now?
4. Why does it matter?



Kingdom Study Outline



1. **<u>What does the Bible Says About the Kingdom?</u>**
2. The Main Problem with Kingdom Now NT interpretations
3. Why do some believe that we are in the kingdom now?
4. Why does it matter?



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

1. Eden	6. Old Testament Prophets
2. Abrahamic Covenant	7. Post exile
3. Mosaic Covenant	8. Offer of the King / Kingdom
4. Divided Kingdom	9. Rejection of the Offer
5. Times of the Gentiles	10. Interim Age



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

11. Kingdom Mysteries	15. Kingdom Establishment
12. Church	16. Eternal State
13. Re-offer of the King/Kingdom	17. Testimony of Early Church History
14. Transfer of Kingdom Authority	



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

1. **Eden**	6. Old Testament Prophets
2. Abrahamic Covenant	7. Post exile
3. Mosaic Covenant	8. Offer of the King / Kingdom
4. Divided Kingdom	9. Rejection of the Offer
5. Times of the Gentiles	10. Interim Age



Genesis 1:26-28

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”



Genesis 1:26-28

[26] Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let **them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth**.” [27] God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. [28] God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and **subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth**.”



Genesis 2:19-20

19 Out of the ground the LORD God formed every
beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and
brought *them* to the man to see what he would call
them; and whatever the man called a living
creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names
to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to
every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not
found a helper suitable for him.



Genesis 2:19-20

19 Out of the ground the LORD God formed every
beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and
brought *them* to the man **to see what he would call**
them; and **whatever the man called a living**
creature, that was its name. 20 **The man gave names**
to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to
every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not
found a helper suitable for him.



Biblical Significance of Naming

	Girls Names	Boys Names
1	Emma	Aiden
2	Sophia	Jayden
3	Madison	Ethan
4	Isabella	Jacob
5	Olivia	Caden
6	Ava	Jackson
7	Madeline	Noah
8	Addison	Jack
9	Hailey	Logan
10	Lily	Matthew
11	Kaitlyn	Nicholas
12	Chloe	Ryan
13	Abigail	Brayden
14	Emily	Michael
15	Riley	Gavin
16	Mia	Dylan
17	Ella	Lucas
18	Hannah	Caleb
19	Kaylee	Andrew
20	Sarah	Connor

- Genesis 1:8
- Numbers 32:37-38
- 2 Kings 23:24
- 2 Kings 24:17
- Daniel 1:6-7

Fruchtenbaum, *Genesis*, 84

Genesis 5:29 (NASB)

"Now he **called his name Noah**, saying, 'This one will give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands *arising* from the ground which the LORD has cursed.'"



Changing of the Names
(Dan. 1:6)

- Jewish names (Deut. 6:6-7; Prov. 22:6)
  - Daniel-God is my judge
  - Hananiah-Yahweh is gracious
  - Mishael-Who is what God is?
  - Azariah-Yahweh has helped

Changing of the Names
(Dan. 1:7)

- Babylonian names (Gen 2:19; Rom 12:2)
  - Beltshazzar-Lady protect the king
  - Shadrach-I am fearful of God
  - Meshach-I am of little account
  - Abed-nego-Servant of Nebo

Theocratic Administrator



Results of Adam & Eve's Sin
(Genesis 3:7-13)



- Religion (3:7)
- Broken fellowship (3:8-10)
- "Buck passing" (3:11-13)
- Reversal creation hierarchy (3:11-13)

Results of Adam & Eve's Sin
(Genesis 3:7-13)



- Religion (3:7)
- Broken fellowship (3:8-10)
- "Buck passing" (3:11-13)
- **Reversal creation hierarchy (3:11-13)**

Names & Titles Demonstrating Satan's Post-Fall, Earthly Authority

(Job 1:7; 2:2; Luke 4:5-8; Rom. 8:19-22)



- Prince of this world (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
- God of this age (2 Cor. 4:4)
- Prince and power of the air (Eph. 2:2)
- Who the believer wrestles with (Eph. 6:12)
- Roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8)
- Whole world lies in his power (1 John 5:19)



Charles Ryrie

Basic Theology, Page 511

"Why is an earthly kingdom necessary? Did He not receive His inheritance when He was raised and exalted in heaven? ***Is not His present rule His inheritance? Why does there need to be an earthly kingdom? Because He must be triumphant in the same arena where He was seemingly defeated. His rejection by the rulers of this world was on this earth (1 Cor. 2:8). His exaltation must also be on this earth****. And so it shall be when He comes again to rule this world in righteousness. He has waited long for His inheritance; soon He shall receive it."*



J. Dwight Pentecost

Thy kingdom Come, Page 316

"Apart from the reign of Christ…here on earth…And apart from this rule, God's purpose for man would never be brought to conclusion. God's purpose for the earth would be unrealized and the problem generated by Satan's rebellion would never be resolved. Thus the physical, literal reign of Christ on the earth is *a theological and biblical necessity*—unless Satan is victorious over God."

1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

1. Eden	6. Old Testament Prophets
2. <u>Abrahamic Covenant</u>	7. Post exile
3. Mosaic Covenant	8. Offer of the King / Kingdom
4. Divided Kingdom	9. Rejection of the Offer
5. Times of the Gentiles	10. Interim Age

