

Your Kingdom Come

1. Intro: What is God's Kingdom? (poll)

A. Major theme of scripture

- a. John the Baptist & Jesus
- b. Paul
- c. OT

- 1. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. Ps. 145:13
- 2. For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. Ps. 22:28
- 3. As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill. Ps. 2:6
- 4. for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation. Dan. 4:34

2. God rules over all creation - he is sovereign!

A. The obedience of the elements

- a. The right to command
- b. The right to bless and curse (and his dominance over Satan)

B. A sense that something is not right with the world, his authority is not acknowledged

- a. The Fall
- b. Israel rejects God as king: "And the Lord said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them." He will take, take, take! 1 Sam. 8:7
- c. Jesus before Pilate: "Are you the king of the Jews?" John 18
- d. Before his ascension: "Are you at this time going to restore the Kingdom to Israel?" Acts 1:17-18
- e. Isaiah 6 - The king is dead, things seem out of control: Vision of ANOTHER throne, the true king

"Is this not your natural state? It's the unspoken truth of humanity that you crave subjugation. The bright lure of freedom diminishes your life's joy in a mad scramble for power... for identity. You were made to be ruled. In the end you will always kneel."  
"Not to men like you" (i.e. Jesus!!)

Even after the kingdom of Israel was brought down, waiting for it to be restored. Dan 2 vs John 6

The sovereignty of God ~ controversial! Ps 33:10-11  
The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.  
This is me like. I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things.  
This not so much.  
And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose Rom. 8:28  
The Lord has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble. Pr. 16:4

1. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. (1 Tim. 6:13-16)

3. God's kingdom is at hand — a special sense in which his rule is manifesting itself in people's hearts

A. Sayings

- a. Seek first the Kingdom - the sermon on the mount
- b. If I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, the kingdom of God is upon you
- c. To the chief priests & elders: tax collectors + prostitutes will enter first
  - 1. AND the Kingdom will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits

B. Parables

- a. mustard seed/leaven
- b. treasure in a field / merchant searching for a pearl
- c. net catching good fish + bad
- d. laborers in the vineyard

C. Bestowal of Authority on Christ

- a. Ps. 2
- b. Phil. 2 - Already and not yet

D. Defeat of Satan

4. A plea for God's spiritual Rule

A. In our hearts

- a. The subsequent petitions are illustrations/outworkings of the coming of God's Kingdom
  - 1. we obey him, we depend on him, we forgive others
- b. Already and not yet (Rom. 7)

B. In other's hearts

- a. The church
- b. Evangelism/missions
  - 1. Back to Acts 1 - Jesus' response to the Apostles

5. A plea for Christ's return

- A. Rev. 5
- B. Rev. 22 "I am coming soon!" (x3)

And they sang a new song, saying,  
"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals,  
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and they shall reign on the earth."  
Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice,  
"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!"  
And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,  
"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" Rev 5:9-13