

Week 1
The Kingdom of God is at Hand

Matthew 24:14: “The Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.” NLT

As I have prayed about what is going on in our world, this verse has kept coming up in my heart. When bad things are happening in our world, we often hear messages about the end times. This is my favorite end time verse! When Jesus taught about the signs of the times, he prophesied that we would see the Good News of the Kingdom being preached all over the world and then the end would come.

From the beginning of time, when governments and earthly leaders have been evil and corrupt, God’s people have prayed, put their trust in God and His promises, preached the Good News of His kingdom, and saw His purpose accomplished on the earth. This verse brought up these questions in my heart, “What is the Good News about the Kingdom?” “Who will experience it?” “What did Jesus teach us about His kingdom?” “How does it affect the way we respond to bad news? It’s time to be about our Father’s business! We were born for such a time as this!

Matthew 24:14 inspired me to do this study and look up every passage in the Bible that spoke of the kingdom of God.

Luke 8:9-10; 15-18:

⁹ Later his disciples came to Jesus and asked him privately what deeper meaning was found in this parable. ¹⁰ He said, “You have been given a teachable heart to perceive the secret, hidden mysteries of God’s kingdom realm.

¹⁵ The seed that fell into good, fertile soil represents those lovers of truth who hear it deep within their hearts. They respond by clinging to the word, keeping it dear as they endure all things in faith. This is the seed that will one day bear much fruit in their lives.”¹⁶ “No one lights a lamp and then hides it, covering it over or putting it where its light won’t be seen. No, the lamp is placed on a lampstand so others are able to benefit from its brightness. ¹⁷ Because this revelation lamp now shines within you, nothing will be hidden from you—it will all be revealed. Every secret *of the kingdom* will be unveiled and out in the open, made known by the revelation-light. ¹⁸ So pay careful attention to your hearts as you hear my teaching, for to those who have open hearts, even more revelation will be given to them until it overflows. TPT

I. Jesus began His ministry preaching the Good News of the kingdom. His message was simple:

Mark 1:14-15: “¹⁴ Jesus came to 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, and believe the gospel.” NKJV

14 Jesus went back into the region of Galilee and preached the wonderful gospel of God's kingdom realm.¹⁵ His message was this: "At last the fulfillment of the age has come! It is time for the realm of God's kingdom to be experienced in its fullness! Turn your lives back to God and put your trust in the hope-filled gospel!" TPT

- Jesus said that to experience the kingdom of God we must simple turn from unbelief (sin)- a worldly way of thinking and believe the Good News of the Gospel.

Luke 4:14-19¹⁴ Then Jesus, armed with the Holy Spirit's power, returned to Galilee, and his fame spread throughout the region.¹⁵ He taught in the synagogues and they glorified him.¹⁶⁻¹⁷ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been raised, he went into the synagogue, as he always did on the Sabbath day. When Jesus came to the front to read the Scriptures, they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and read where it is written,¹⁸⁻¹⁹ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, and he has anointed me to be hope for the poor, freedom for the brokenhearted, and new eyes for the blind, and to preach to prisoners, 'You are set free!' I have come to share *the message of Jubilee*, for the time of God's great acceptance has begun." TPT

II. What is the Good News of the Kingdom of God?

Romans 14:17: "For God's Kingdom is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of the righteousness, peace, and joy which the Holy Spirit gives." GNC

When we believe the Gospel, the Holy Spirit brings forth the life of God in our hearts and in our lives! The Kingdom of God is manifested in us!

Colossians 1:6; ⁶ *This is the wonderful message that is being spread everywhere, powerfully changing hearts throughout the earth, just like it has changed you! Every believer of this good news bears the fruit of eternal life as they experience the reality of God's grace.*

Rescued from the power of darkness and transferred into the Kingdom of the Son of His love

¹² *Your hearts can soar with joyful gratitude when you think of how God made you worthy to receive the glorious inheritance freely given to us by living in the light-*¹³ He has rescued us completely from the tyrannical rule of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom realm of his beloved Son.¹⁴ For in the Son all our sins are canceled and we have the release of redemption *through his very blood.*

The Supremacy of Christ

¹⁵ He is the divine portrait, the true likeness of the invisible God, and the first-born heir of all creation.¹⁶ For through the Son everything was created, both in the heavenly realm and on the earth, all that is seen and all that is unseen. Every seat of power, realm of government, principality, and authority—it was all created through him and for his purpose!¹⁷ He existed before anything was made, and now everything finds completion in him.¹⁸ He is the Head of his body, which is the church. And since he is the beginning and the firstborn heir in resurrection he is the most exalted One, holding first place in everything.¹⁹ For God is satisfied to have all his fullness dwelling in Christ.²⁰ And by the blood of his cross, everything in heaven and earth is brought back to himself—*back to its original intent, restored to innocence again!*

Made Holy through Christ

²¹⁻²² Even though you were once distant from him, living in the shadows of your evil thoughts and actions, he reconnected you back to himself. *He released his supernatural peace to you* through the sacrifice of his own body as the sin-payment on your behalf so that you would dwell in his presence. And now there is nothing between you and Father God, for he sees you as holy, flawless, and restored,²³ if indeed you continue to advance in faith, assured of a firm foundation to grow upon. Never be shaken from the hope of the gospel you have believed in. And this is the glorious news I preach all over the world.

The Mystery of the Kingdom: Christ in You the Hope of Glory!

²⁶ There is a divine mystery—a secret surprise that has been concealed from the world for generations, but now it's being revealed, unfolded and manifested for every holy believer to experience. ²⁷ Living within you is the Christ who floods you with the expectation of glory! This mystery of Christ, embedded within us, becomes a heavenly treasure chest of hope filled with the riches of glory for his people, and God wants everyone to know it! ²⁸⁻²⁹ Christ is our message! We preach to awaken hearts and bring every person into the full understanding of truth. It has become my inspiration and passion in ministry to labor with a tireless intensity, with his power flowing through me, to present to every believer the revelation of being his perfect one in Jesus Christ.

- The Mystery of the Kingdom is Christ in you the hope of realizing his glory! It's Jesus bringing forth His life in you simply by you believing!

III. Jesus gave us kingdom authority to pray that His kingdom and His purpose would manifest in the hearts of men.

Matthew 6:7-10: “⁷ When you pray, there is no need to repeat empty phrases, praying like those who don't know God, for they expect God to hear them because of their many words. ⁸ There is no need to imitate them, since your Father already knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹ Pray like this: ‘Our Father, dwelling in the heavenly realms, may the glory of your name be the center on which our lives turn. ¹⁰ Manifest your kingdom realm, and cause your every purpose to be fulfilled on earth, just as it is fulfilled in heaven.’ TPT

IV. What happens when the Good News of the Kingdom is preached and prayed in this world? Kingdom Promises Manifested!

Isaiah 61:1-11: The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed *and* qualified me to preach the Gospel *of* good tidings to the meek, the poor, *and* afflicted; He has sent me to bind up *and* heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the [physical and spiritual] captives and the opening of the prison *and* of the eyes to those who are bound,

² To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord [the year of His favor] ^[a] and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,³ To grant [consolation and joy] to those who mourn in Zion—to give them an ornament (a garland or diadem) of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, the garment [expressive] of praise instead of a heavy, burdened, *and* failing

spirit—that they may be called oaks of righteousness [lofty, strong, and magnificent, distinguished for uprightness, justice, and right standing with God], the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

⁴ And they shall rebuild the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former desolations and renew the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

⁵ Aliens shall stand [ready] and feed your flocks, and foreigners shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.⁶ But you shall be called the priests of the Lord; people will speak of you as the ministers of our God. You shall eat the wealth of the nations, and the glory [once that of your captors] shall be yours.

⁷ Instead of your [former] shame you shall have a twofold recompense; instead of dishonor *and* reproach [your people] shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double [what they had forfeited]; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

⁸ For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery *and* wrong with violence *or* a burnt offering. And I will faithfully give them their recompense in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant *or* league with them.

⁹ And their offspring shall be known among the nations and their descendants among the peoples. All who see them [in their prosperity] will recognize *and* acknowledge that they are the people whom the Lord has blessed.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul will exult in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as [surely as] the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring forth, so [surely] the Lord God will cause rightness *and* justice and praise to spring forth before all the nations [through the self-fulfilling power of His word]. AMPC

Living from a Kingdom Perspective produces the fruit of righteousness, joy and peace in your heart and in the hearts of others by the Power of the Spirit!

As we read and watch the news from a kingdom perspective (What do you say about this Father? And pray His kingdom and will into this world) we will experience joy and peace and faith rise up in our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit! The kingdom of God manifests in us! News that would previously tempt us to be angry, and judgmental toward evil and corrupt people in this world, and concerns for the future, now this news just makes us smile because we see through our Father's eyes! We see the final outcome! And it is glorious! Psalm 2:1-12

We are about to see the greatest miracles the world has ever seen! The advancing and manifestation of God's kingdom and His will and purpose coming upon the earth! The sons & daughters of God all over this world are waking up to their identity, using their authority in the kingdom, and carrying out God's purpose in this land. Every evil plan the enemy has to destroy our country is being thwarted! Lies & Corruption are being exposed! Eyes are opening & Truth is being known! Righteousness, justice, and praise is springing forth through the power of God's Word!

Some of the very people the devil has used to bring his evil devices to pass will be saved and set free and begin to passionately proclaim the Good News of the kingdom! Watch and see the salvation of the Lord! Amazing things are going to happen in 2021! The year of the great harvest! It's an exciting time to be alive! Our God reigns! And our King has the final word!

Isaiah 46:8-10: "8 Everyone look! Come and see the breathtaking wonders of our God. 9 For He brings both ruin (of the enemy's plans) and revival. He's the one who makes conflicts end throughout the earth, breaking and burning every weapon of war. 10 Be still and know that I Am God! I am the God above all the nations, and I will be exalted throughout the whole earth."