

DIVINE PARADOX | Life in God's Kingdom

WEEK 3 - "What Did I Miss?"

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign.

-Revelation 11:15 (ESV)

God's intent as King

...but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

-John 20:31 (ESV)

- How does our world reflect a need for the Kingdom of God? How does your life reflect a need for the Kingdom of God?
- What does God's Kingdom, fully and finally inaugurated, look like?
- Why does God want to bring us into His Kingdom? How does one gain entrance into God's Kingdom?
- How is God's Kingdom being expressed in your life? Do you view yourself as a representative of God's Kingdom?

God's unfolding plan of redemption - the "scenes" in God's story

God's covenants with His people each reveal part of His plan to redeem creation and bring about His rule and reign.

- The Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis chapters 12:1-3)
- The Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19:3-6)
- The Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7:12-16)
- The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)



Living for the King under a New Covenant

"The entire story of the Bible is about God's kingdom being restored, from beginning to end."

- How is God's plan being unfolded now?
- If all we ever focus on is the *end* of God's story - what do we miss?
- How does our perspective of the Bible change when we look at God's story as revealed through scripture as one redemptive arc, rather than as a set of individual (systematic) theologies?
- Where is *our* story located in the grand biblical narrative of "paradise lost, paradise recovered?"
- How does taking communion each week remind us of our citizenship in God's Kingdom?

Scripture for further study:

- John 1:43-51
- John 10:10
- Luke 22:14-23
- 1 Peter 1:20-21

