



**The Upside-Down Kingdom – (feels upside down)
Or the Right Side Up Kingdom – (but actually it's right)**

The **Upside-Down Kingdom** is a core Christian concept describing how Jesus' teachings reverse the power structures and values of the traditional world. In this kingdom, true greatness is found in humility, strength comes from weakness, and leaders are those who serve rather than rule.

The "Upside-Down Kingdom" refers to the teachings of Jesus in the New Testament (such as the Beatitudes) which flip conventional human values upside down. This philosophy is profoundly **counterintuitive**, as it argues that worldly thoughts and goals of success are actually backwards, and true spiritual victory requires adopting a paradoxical (contradictory, conflicting) approach to life.

(Counterintuitive – Illogical, Irrational, Unreasonable)

Matthew 20:16 (NLT) ¹⁶ “So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last.”

Luke 6:27–29 (NLT) *Love for Enemies* ²⁷ “But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. ²⁸ Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on one cheek, offer the other cheek also. If someone demands your coat, offer your shirt also.

Matthew 6:14–15 (NLT) ¹⁴ “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Matthew 20:20–28 (NLT) *Jesus Teaches about Serving Others*

...She replied, “In your Kingdom, please let my two sons sit in places of honor next to you, one on your right and the other on your left.” ...²⁴ When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were indignant. ²⁵ But Jesus called them together and said, “**You know that the rulers in this world**

lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. ²⁶ But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. ²⁸ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Title: The Right Side Up Kingdom

Matthew 5:3–12 (NLT) *The Beatitudes* (*Beatitude means supreme blessedness, exalted happiness, or a state of complete joy. It is often associated with a deep, spiritual peace rather than temporary emotional satisfaction. The word comes from the Latin beatus, which means "happy" or "blessed". The Biblical "Beatitudes" - In Christianity, "The Beatitudes" refers to a specific set of declarations made by Jesus in the famous sermon on the mount.*)

³ “God blesses those who are poor (NIV – poor in spirit) and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

⁴ God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ God blesses those who are humble, (gentle, meek, lowly, humble) for they will inherit the whole earth.

⁶ God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, righteousness. CEV-God blesses those people who want to obey him more than to eat or drink. They will be given what they want! for they will be satisfied.

⁷ God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

⁹ God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.

Amplified Bible “Blessed [spiritually calm with life-joy in God’s favor] are the makers *and* maintainers of peace, for they will [express His character and] be called the sons of God.

¹⁰ God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

¹¹ “God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. ¹² Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

Moving Into The Kingdom, Allowing The King To Reign In Me, and Receiving It’s Benefits:

1. Confronted By Truth or Heart Truth About Jesus
2. Sincerely Question & Seek
3. Come To Faith, Believe, or Trust in Jesus as Lord
4. Act Upon Faith by Surrendering To The Lord Dying To Self
5. Enter The “Feels” Upside-Down Kingdom Which “Actually” Is The Right Side-Up Kingdom
6. Over Time We Find Out His Way Wins
7. Also, There Will Be Eternal Rewards

How Do We Live Life The King's Way (The Right Side Up Kingdom Way)

A. Know The Kingdom

- a. Word
- b. Study

B. Have Faith

Genesis 15:6 (NLT) ⁶ And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

Faith has always been the test. Will you have faith in Jesus? In His kingdom? In His Kingdom directives?

Hebrews 11:1 (NLT) Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.

Proverbs 3:5 (NLT) ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.

Luke 6:46–48 (NLT) *Building on a Solid Foundation* ⁴⁶ “So why do you keep calling me ‘Lord, Lord!’ when you don’t do what I say?” ⁴⁷ I will show you what it’s like when someone comes to me, listens to my teaching, and then follows it. ⁴⁸ It is like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against that house, it stands firm because it is well built.

Luke 17:19 (NLT) ¹⁹ And Jesus said to the man, “Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you.”

Luke 18:42–43 (NLT) ⁴² And Jesus said, “All right, receive your sight! Your faith has healed you.”

⁴³ Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus, praising God. And all who saw it praised God, too.

Matthew 9:22 (NLT) ²² Jesus turned around, and when he saw her he said, “Daughter, be encouraged! Your faith has made you well.” And the woman was healed at that moment.

Matthew 21:22 (NLT) ²² You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.”

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NASB95) for we walk by faith, not by sight—

C. Surrender or Be Selfless

The nature of the people of the world is selfishness.

Christianity is the opposite of selfishness.

Many Christians are trying to do Christianity and maintain their own selfish wishes.

Galatians 2:20 (NASB95) “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Matthew 16:24–27 (NLT) ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.” ²⁵ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. ²⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? ²⁷ For the Son of

Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds.

D. Be Humble

Matthew 18:2–4 (NLT) ²Jesus called a little child to him and put the child among them. ³Then he said, “I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. ⁴So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Mark 10:14–16 (NLT) ¹⁴When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. ¹⁵I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn’t receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.” ¹⁶Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.

Luke 14:11 (NLT) ¹¹For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Matthew 23:11–12 (NLT) ¹¹The greatest among you must be a servant. ¹²But those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Luke 4:16–20 (NLT)

¹⁶When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. ¹⁷The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:

¹⁸“The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, ¹⁹and that the time of the LORD’s favor has come.”

²⁰He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently.

Life Changing News! The Kingdom is Opening To You!

- He’s going to explain us some things we don’t see.
- He’s going to release us from some captive ways and habits.
- He’s going to see that those who are oppressed are set free by some new information.
- Some of those things He will open our eyes to may seem upside down. Are you going to have faith? Be humble? Surrender your preference?

The Lord's favor has come to you! Will you will know the Kingdom, trust Him (faith), surrender to the King's Way, and be humble before His directives & truth? You can walk in the Lord's Favor and Blessings!