

Kingdom Come Seek His Righteousness

Introduction - Kingdom Come our theme for 2022

Kingdom is central

Beginning of ministry - John the Baptist, Jesus & Peter

Primary ministry - 100 references

End of ministry - last 40 days

Apostles continued - 30 references in NT

But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptised, both men and women. **Acts 8:12**

Define Kingdom: The Kingdom of God is the realm over which God reigns as supreme and Jesus Christ is King. It's the manifestation of the values and will of God.

- This can be in a person, marriage and family
- The kingdom of God can manifest in a community of believers and begin influencing the neighbourhoods where they live

Recap

- Kingdom come - God's rule and reign
- Kingdom come - Repentance, a different way of thinking
- Kingdom come - In our streets and communities
- Kingdom come - Healing Signs and wonders
- Kingdom come - God with us
- Kingdom come - Seek his righteousness

Kingdom Values, Characteristics - Lifestyle

- Jesus began his earthly ministry by preaching the sermon on the Mount
- It spans Matthew 5,6,7
- He begins by giving us eight Kingdom lifestyle characteristics
- Teaching us his followers the way we should be and live

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [4] Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. [5] Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. [6] Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. [7] Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. [8] Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. [9] Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. [10] Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [11] "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. [12] Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in

the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. **Matthew 5:3-12**

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 - To be poor in spirit is to acknowledge our great need for God and leads to continual dependency upon God. See our desperate need for God

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

- Is to grieve over our need for for God. Feel deeply about our need for God

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

- Meekness is power under control

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

- is to have sustained faithfulness in seeking God with a whole heart for the breakthrough of His kingdom in our lives and in others.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

- is to treat others with a tender spirit when they fail spiritually or attack, resist, or disappoint us.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

- is to seek to walk in purity in our thoughts (no bitterness or immorality, etc.) and in our motives

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

- speaks of the grace to bring peace or healing to broken relationships in the home, marketplace, Church, or in society

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- is to bear the counterattack for plundering Satan's kingdom because we operate in power and/or stand for righteousness.

Jesus invites "whoever," i.e. everyone, to be great in His kingdom by walking in the Beatitudes.

Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. **Matthew 5:19**

- Practices these things - A way of righteous living

Application Seek First - The King and the Kingdom

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. [34] Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:33-34

But first and most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right-the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also. **Matthew 6:33AMP**

... Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. [34] "Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes. ... **Matthew 6:30-34 MSG**

Pursue the King - Abiding in Intimacy

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. [5] "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. **John 15:4-5**

You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. [4] Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal. **Isaiah 26:3-4**

After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." [2] At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. **Revelation 4:1-2**

Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals." **Revelation 5:5**

Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. **Hebrews 3:1**

fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **Hebrews 12:2**

Colossians 1 - Christ's supremacy in all things

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, [7] rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. **Colossians 2:6-7**

Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? [4] The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god. **Psalm 24:3-4**

One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. **Psalm 27:4**

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. **Psalm 63:1**