

KINGDOM COME

– 21 –

The Kingdom Has Come

**All Bible verses use the English Standard Version (ESV)
unless otherwise indicated**

- Pharisees conspiring to destroy Jesus.
- Jesus is going to confront them directly.

Matthew 12:22 Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw.

There are sometimes spiritual realities that present themselves physically.

Matthew 12:23 And all the people were amazed, and said, “Can this be the Son of David?”

- They are asking “Is this the messiah?”
- David was king.
- The messiah would be his descendant.
- They are on the edge of believing Jesus is the messiah.

Matthew 12:24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, “It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons.”

- Can’t deny the miracle.
- So, they try to attack the source.
- Real power from the wrong kingdom.
- Legalism will lead you to a hard heart.

1 Timothy 4:1-3 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, 2 through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, 3 who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

Matthew 12:25-26 25 Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. 26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

- Jesus uses wisdom and logic.

- He goes: kingdom > city > house.
- Division destroys.

Matthew 12:27-28 27 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. 28 But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

- Their disciples attempted to cast out demons.
- OT doesn't talk about exorcisms, though it was a practice.
- Closest example is 1 Sam. 16 David and Saul.
- Psalm 91 – famously used in Jewish exorcisms.

Matthew 12:29 Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house.

- Jesus' victory over Satan in the wilderness proves Satan is powerless against him.

Matthew 12:30 Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

- There is no dabbling with Jesus.
- No neutrality.
- You're either with him and the kingdom or you're scattered by the enemy.

Matthew 11:31-32 31 Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit

will not be forgiven. 32 And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

- He's addressing religious leaders who saw the Spirit's work clearly and deliberately called it demonic.
- This is hardened, willful, informed rejection.
- This is knowing the truth and deciding not to care.

Ephesians 2:4-9 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with

him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7
so that in the coming ages he might show
the immeasurable riches of his grace in
kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by
grace you have been saved through faith.
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift
of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no
one may boast.