

## LESSON 3

# The Kingdom of God in Human History

Job 41:33-34

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*He has no equal on earth— a creature devoid of fear! He surveys everything that is haughty; he is king over all the proud beasts, Job 41:33-34.*

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**Class Overview:** This lesson shows that God's kingdom has always existed, even before the church was established. From the earliest days of mankind, through the flood, under the Law of Moses, in captivity, and leading up to Christ, God's reign never ceased. His authority is rooted in creation itself and carried through history. By defining what it means for God to be King and what His kingdom truly is, we see that every law, every event, and every age points back to His sovereignty. Jesus, seated at the right hand of Majesty, is the fullest expression of this reign.

### Class Objectives:

By the end of this class, you should be able to:

1. Explain why God's reign has existed from creation and never ceased.
  2. Define "kingdom," "king," and "majesty" in a biblical sense.
  3. Recognize how God ruled throughout human history—before the Law, during the Mosaic covenant, and through times of captivity.
  4. Understand that Jesus' position at the right hand of God affirms His divine rule.
  5. Apply the truth of God's continuing sovereignty to personal faith and obedience.
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## Introduction

So far in our study, we have discussed God's reign before the world began and His reign over the physical realm after the world was created. In this lesson, we will learn about how God reigned over mankind during the beginning, after the flood, during the Mosaic period, the captivity, and until the time of Christ. It is essential that we understand God's reign has never ceased and that God is present and active in every realm that exists. Some people infer that God had no kingdom before the coming of the church. Let's examine and see if those thoughts are consistent with who God is and His actions within the human realm.

## The Earth is the Lord's

1. God's Ownership Means His Rule is Universal.
  - a. Job 5:10; 7:1; 34:13; 38:4; 41:33-34.
    - i. Who is God? *God is the source and sustainer of all things.*

- b. Psalm 2:2, 8; 22:29; 33:8; 46:6; Proverbs 8:16
  - i. Who is in control? *God rules over nations and rulers alike.*
- c. God's ownership means His authority is universal.

## Defining Terms: What It Means for God to be King, and For Us to Live Under His Majesty

1. Kingdom: *dominion, rule, realm, royalty, kingdom, reign.*
2. King: *sovereign, one who possesses complete power and authority.*
  - a. Exodus 15:11: *Lord, who is like you among the gods? Who is like you, glorious in holiness, revered with praises, performing wonders?*
    - i. See also Deuteronomy 3:24; 2 Samuel 7:22; Revelation 4:8.
  - b. Psalm 35:10: *All my bones will say, "Lord, who is like you, rescuing the poor from one too strong for him, the poor or the needy from one who robs him?"*
  - c. Psalm 71:19: *Your righteousness reaches the heights, God, you who have done great things; God, who is like you?*
  - d. Psalm 113:5: *Who is like the Lord our God— the one enthroned on high,*
3. Majesty: *greatness, i.e., (figuratively) divinity (often God Himself).*
4. "King," "Kingdom," and "Majesty" are not just abstract terms – they apply directly to God in Scripture.
  - i. *If God is King, how should that change the way we see ourselves?*

## Christ at the Right Hand:

1. Jesus is not a *new king*, but the fullest revelation of God's eternal kingship.
2. Hebrews 1:3: The Son is the **radiance of God's glory** and the exact expression of his nature, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
3. Jesus is positioned next to Majesty.
  - a. Hebrews 8:1: *Now the main point of what is being said is this: We have this kind of high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,*
  - b. Scripture declares that God is different from anything.
  - c. Jesus sitting at the right hand means His reign is both present and eternal.
  - d. Do we grasp the praise that should be on our lips?
4. Therefore, God is all in all, throughout eternity, all things are subject to Him, and He has the inherent right to do whatever He pleases.
  - i. Read Daniel 4:30-37.

## The King's Rights

1. What rights does God possess and why?
2. Why do humans sometimes see God's actions as unfair, and how does Scripture answer that?

3. For what purpose did God give law?
  - a. Physical law in creation.
  - b. Spiritual law in human relations.
4. Has God ever left mankind without guidance or accountability?
5. God is and always has been King, sovereign, all-powerful, over all realms.

## Conclusion

God has always been King, and His kingdom has always existed in the world. From creation to the present, His reign has never been broken or diminished. Nations rise and fall, leaders come and go, but God's authority remains constant and unshakable. Scripture reminds us that He establishes law, sustains life, and guides history according to His will. The fullness of His rule is revealed in Jesus, who now sits at the right hand of Majesty. When we understand this clearly, we are called to submit in humility, worship in reverence, and live confidently, knowing that our King reigns over all.

*The story of history is simple—kings come and go, but God has always been King.*

## For Discussion

1. Why do some people think God's kingdom did not exist before the church, and how do the Scriptures challenge that idea?
2. What do the Psalms teach us about who is truly in control of human affairs?
3. How does defining "king," "kingdom," and "majesty" help us understand God's nature?
4. In what ways does Daniel 4:30–37 illustrate the danger of human pride in contrast to God's sovereignty?
5. How should the truth that God has always been King shape our worship and daily obedience today?