

## **The Kingdom**

### **Realm of the Kingdom**

Colossians 1:13-14

**The Kingdom:** God's comprehensive rule over all creation.

*"Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!" Psalm 103:22*

**Is This Really a Kingdom under the Comprehensive Rule of a Good King?**

**Is This Really a Kingdom under the Comprehensive Rule of a Good King?**

- **Either God is Unwilling to Make Everything Right**
- **Or God is Unable to Make Everything Right**
- **Or God is Working a Plan that Will Make Everything Right**

*"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:13-14*

**Main Idea:** The Realm of the Kingdom is All of Creation

### **I. The Temporary Existence of Two Kingdoms**

**Kingdom of God:** God's comprehensive rule over all creation started this way

*"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together." Colossians 1:15-17*

**Kingdom of Darkness:** Exists within the Kingdom of God as a "rebellious state" under the authority of Satan, encompassing all the demons of hell and all unsaved humanity. How did it happen?

**Who is Satan:** Angels were God's first created beings, designed to reflect his glory and carry out his will throughout creation. Satan was an angel...

### **Satan's Past Position, Proudful Fall, and Current Ambitions**

**Past Position:** *"You were the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God...you were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you." Ezekiel 28:12b-13a,15*

**Proudful Fall:** *"You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'" Isaiah 14:13-14*

**Current Ambitions:** *"In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." 2 Corinthians 4:4*

*"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8*

*"For a short time, God has permitted Satan to act as the ruler of a rival kingdom, the world of unsaved humanity and the demons of hell. So Satan has his own kingdom, and we can see and feel its effect everywhere." Tony Evans*

*"The devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short." Revelation 12:12b*

### **II. The Functional Relationship Between Two Kingdoms**

**Satan is Attacking God's Glory**

**Satan has Boundaries Set By God**

**Power vs Authority**

*"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7*

There is a rebellious kingdom led by Satan that is focused on destroying God's. God is allowing this rebellious kingdom to continue, providing unsaved humans the opportunity to repent before he abolishes this Kingdom of Darkness forever.

### **III. The Future Destination for the Two Kingdoms**

**Satan's Days Are Numbered**

**Everyone Will Worship the King of Kings Someday**

*"Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:9-11*

**The Kingdom of God Will Reign Forever**

God is the King of the Kingdom and his realm is all of creation, but you and I were born enslaved to the kingdom of darkness because of our sin. However, the best news in the world is that you can be delivered from the domain of darkness to the Kingdom of God! It happens in a moment of prayer, and it's available to you right now.

*"The LORD works righteousness & justice for all who are oppressed.  
He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.  
The LORD is merciful & gracious, slow to anger & abounding in steadfast love.  
He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.  
He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.*

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;  
As far as the east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.  
As a father shows compassion to his children,  
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.  
For he knows our frame, he remembers that we are dust.*

*As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;  
For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.  
But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.  
The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,  
and his kingdom rules over all.*

*Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word,  
Obeying the voice of his word!  
Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!  
Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul!" **Psalm 103:6-22***

#### **Sources & Further Reading Opportunities:**

- *Tyndale Bible Dictionary* – Elwell & Comfort (2001)
- *Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary* – Hughes & Laney (2001)
- *New Bible Commentary* – D.A. Carson, R.T. France (1994)
- *CSB Study Bible* – Editor Trevin Wax (2017)
- *Evangelical Commentary on the Bible* – Richard J. Erickson (1995)
- *The Kingdom Agenda* – Tony Evans (2013)