

# ZOOM STUDY: IMPORTANT BIBLICAL TERMS

## KINGDOM OF GOD

1.) What are the qualities of earthly kingdoms and empires?

2.) How did God describe the coming kingdom in the Old Testament?

**Daniel 2:39-40, 44-45** “After you [King Nebuchadnezzar], another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. <sup>40</sup> Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron... <sup>44</sup> In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. <sup>45</sup> This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands—a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces.”

**Psalms 72:5-8, 17b** He will endure as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations. <sup>6</sup> He will be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth. <sup>7</sup> In his days the righteous will flourish; prosperity will abound till the moon is no more. <sup>8</sup> He will rule from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. ...All nations will be blessed through him, and they will call him blessed.

3.) On Palm Sunday the people of Jerusalem correctly identified Jesus as their promised King. How did Jesus establish that kingdom in the days that followed?

**Mark 11:9-10** Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!” “Hosanna in the highest!”

**Revelation 12:1-5, 10** A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. <sup>2</sup> She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. <sup>3</sup> Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. <sup>4</sup> His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. <sup>5</sup> She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. ... <sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.”

4.) What are the characteristics of this kingdom? Why is this so important to realize, especially as the end draws near and the enemies of the church rise up against her?

**John 18:36** Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

**Luke 12:32** “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.”

**Luke 17:20-21** Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is within you.”

**Revelation 1:5-6** To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

5.) How does this kingdom grow? How long will it last?

**Matthew 24:14** “This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

**Acts 28:31** Boldly and without hindrance [Paul] preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

**John 3:5** Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.”

6.) Some parables from Matthew 13 illustrating what the kingdom of God/kingdom of heaven is like...

- Seeds scattered in a field (v.3ff)
- A man who sowed good seed in his field (v.24ff)
- A mustard seed (v.31ff)
- Yeast that rises and permeates the whole batch of dough (v. 33ff)
- A treasure in a field or a fine pearl, which once found, all was sold to acquire (v. 44ff)
- A net that catches “good” and “bad” until separated at the end (v. 47ff).

7.) What are we asking for when we pray in the Lord’s Prayer, “Your kingdom come”?

8.) The Bible also speaks about the coming kingdom of God. To what is that referring?

**Daniel 7:26-27** “The court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. <sup>27</sup> Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.”

**Mark 14:25** “I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God.”

**Luke 22:28-30** “You are those who have stood by me in my trials. <sup>29</sup> And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, <sup>30</sup> so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

**Revelation 11:15** The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.”

9.) Why does living in wickedness exclude a person from the kingdom of God?

**Galatians 5:19-21** The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;<sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions<sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

*Closing Prayer: Christ, our King, we adore you for granting us citizenship in your realm, and we thank you for the protection and peace we enjoy. Lead us to serve you in zeal as grateful and obedient members of your kingdom, and use our words and actions to attract others to your gracious rule. Amen.*