

Segment Five

The Kingdom Of GOD

GOD's original desire for mankind was that they would dwell upon the earth, in Paradise. As a result of the fall of man, the planet, the animals, and mankind itself has been radically changed. The need of mankind is great. Currently, the human race is on a path leading to death and destruction. As we look around us, we know this is not right.

What Is The Kingdom Of GOD?

“Everything wrong with the world made right.”

Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-4; Daniel 2:44

Kingdom Characteristics:

- **Peace** – Isaiah 9:7; Ezekiel 34:25; Isaiah 32:18
- **Harmony** – Isaiah 11:6-9
- **No War** – Isaiah 2:4, Micah 4:3
- **Righteous Government/Justice for all** – Isaiah 11:3-5; Psalm 96:11-13
- **No fear** – Ezekiel 34:28; Zephaniah 3:15-17; Micah 4:4
- **No shame** – Isaiah 25:8c
- **World united under GOD**- Zephaniah 3:9 (KJV) - one language and purpose, Jeremiah 32:38-39 - one heart and one way, Isaiah 2:2 - one capital, Jerusalem; Ezekiel 37:22a; Ezekiel 34:23 - one King, Zechariah 14:9 - one God, the LORD
- **Justice/Destruction of the Wicked** – Isaiah 66:15-18
- **Christ rules with swift decision** - Psalm 2; Zechariah 14
- **Saints rule with the King** - Psalm 2:6-9/Revelation 2:26-27, Daniel 7:22b, 27; I Corinthians 6:2
- **Return to Paradise** - Revelation 21:2-4 - GOD dwells on the earth with mankind again, Revelation 22:2 - tree of life, Revelation 22:3a - no more curse, Jeremiah 31:34 - relationship with GOD perfected
- **Abundance** – Amos 9:13 (NLT) – “The time will come, says the LORD, when the grain and grapes will grow faster than they can be harvested. Then the terraced vineyards on the hills of Israel will drip with sweet wine!”
- **Restoration** – Acts 3:21; Isaiah 65:17-20, 25/Revelation 21:1/II Peter 3:13
- **No death or sickness** – Isaiah 25:7-8; 33:17-24; 35:5-6; Revelation 20:14; 21:4
- **Devil Destroyed** – Revelation 20:10
- **Everlasting** – Daniel 7:13-14; Psalm 145:13

There are many characteristics and aspects of the Kingdom. At the return of Jesus, the Kingdom will begin and the saints will be resurrected and changed. The Messiah will rule for 1000 years upon the earth. Mortals will dwell with immortals for that time period. The devil will be imprisoned. After the 1000-year reign, the devil will be destroyed. Then the Messiah will hand over the Kingdom to his Father. Paradise will be restored and the New Jerusalem will come down out of heaven to the earth as an everlasting worldwide capital. Time does not permit us to go into all of these things now, but we should study to understand these important truths more clearly.

What Is The Alternative To The Kingdom Of GOD?

Psalm 37 – The righteous inherit the land, the wicked are cut off.

Revelation 20:15; 21:7-8 - Total destruction

John 3:16; Romans 6:23 – Life or death

Matthew 25:41, 46 – Those on the King's left (opposed to those on his right, Matthew 25:31-34)

What Is Eternal Life?

John 3:16, 36

What is Jesus offering to those who believe and obey him?

“Life in the age to come.”

“Eternal Life” literally means “ages” life. The English words “eternal, everlasting, and forever” are all from the Greek word *aion*, which means age, or ages. The Hebrew word *olam*, means “age” as well. When “*aion*” is connected with the word “life” we have “ages life.”

Biblically speaking, there are two ages: 1) the present evil age (Galatians 1:4) in which we now live, and will one day end, and 2) the next age, called the age to come or the Messianic Age, which has no end. When Jesus promises life to those who believe and follow his teachings, he is offering them this life in the age to come.

When we read the words “eternal life,” or “everlasting life,” we should think “life in the age to come,” which gives us a very clear understanding of that which Jesus is offering us, more than just “living for a long time.” When Jesus offers his followers “eternal life,” he is offering them life in his Kingdom.

(Look at the following verses with this understanding: John 3:16; Romans 6:23; I Timothy 6:12; Daniel 12:2. Look at the synonymous terms in Matthew 19:16, 17, 23, 24, 25, and 29.)

Life In The Age To Come

If we die, how can we have life in the age to come?

Daniel 12:2 – Resurrection

What is resurrection?

John 5:28-29

Living being = soul

Man dies because he lacks immortality.

GOD is not our enemy. Sin, the devil, and death are the true enemies.

Jesus' view on death and resurrection – John 11:1-46, John 5:28-29, etc.

Paul's view on death and resurrection – I Corinthians 15; Acts 24:14-15, etc.

Job 19:25-27

But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that he will stand upon the earth at last. And after my body has decayed, yet in my body I will see God! I will see him for myself. Yes, I will see him with my own eyes. I am overwhelmed at the thought! (New Living Translation)

What Happens At Death?

Daniel 12:2

The dead...

know nothing – Ecclesiastes 9:5

nothing occurs in the grave – Ecclesiastes 9:10

cannot praise GOD – Isaiah 38:18-19

cannot give thanks to GOD – Psalm 6:5

back to dust – Genesis 3:19, Psalm 90:3



Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Immortality is a gift, not something inherent.

All who have died and will die are awaiting a resurrection - both good (for example, David – I Kings 2:2, 10; Acts 2:29, 34a) and evil (Psalm 9:17). (See vision of the resurrection in Ezekiel 37:1-28, and I Corinthians 15.)

When Is The Kingdom Of GOD?

Matthew 25:31-34 – When the King of the Kingdom returns.

Matthew 24:27 - It will be clear (not a secret) when it comes.

Psalm 110:1 – When Jesus' enemies are made his footstool.

Where Is The Kingdom Of GOD?

Psalm 37 – Upon the earth

Revelation 5:9-10 – Upon the earth

Matthew 5:5 – Upon the earth

Zephaniah 2:11b, Isaiah 66:18; Psalm 22:27-28; 86:9 – Covering entire planet, ruling over all nations

Revelation 21:20-27, Zechariah 8:3-5, Micah 4:1-2 - New Jerusalem is the capital city.

What About Heaven?

It may surprise you but Jesus **never** promises that the faithful would “go to heaven.” Instead, he continually teaches that they would “enter the Kingdom.”

Heaven is not the Kingdom of GOD.

- GOD put man on the earth at the beginning, and will keep him there.
- In Greek mythology, we find the idea of souls, spirits, etc., going to heaven or some alternate realm. This idea is not found in the Scriptures.
- When the Bible does speak of heaven, it speaks of it as the dwelling place of GOD (Ecclesiastes 5:2), the place to which Jesus ascended (Acts 1:11), and the storehouse for the rewards of the faithful that Jesus will bring with him when he returns (Matthew 6:19-20; 19:21, etc., and Revelation 22:12, etc.).
- As for the phrase “so shall we ever be with the Lord” being evidence for the faithful going to heaven, note where Jesus will be in the end (Acts 1:11/Zechariah 14:4; Matthew 24:30; Luke 21:27). His return is a return,

not a “fly-by.” Nowhere do the Scriptures teach that he will take the faithful or himself back to heaven after he returns.

What Is The Purpose Of The Kingdom Of GOD?

Isaiah 60:18-21

Matthew 6:9-13

The ENTIRE Bible speaks of the Kingdom. The Old Testament paints the vision for the rest of history. Jesus was sent to proclaim that the Kingdom was coming, that he was the King of Kingdom, and to make the payment for others to enter it. His words serve as the directions to Paradise. Paul, Peter, and the other apostles and writers of the New Testament wrote words of encouragement to the faithful who are waiting for the Kingdom. They taught, reprovved, and corrected the church so that many would enter this Kingdom and be ready when the King returns.

The Bible is one book. From Genesis to Revelation, its message is clear, consistent, and powerful. GOD is working to bring about that which He originally intended for mankind and the earth itself. This theme is called the Kingdom of GOD.

Why Hasn't The Kingdom Come?

II Peter 3:9

Who Is The Kingdom For?

Revelation 5:9-10

How Will The Story End?

Revelation 22:1-5

Jesus is coming back to take over the world. He will fix all that is wrong.

The Kingdom of GOD is coming to the earth.

What are you going to do?

Supplemental Materials

“Overcoming Objections To The Kingdom of GOD” – Sean Finnegan

“King of the Kingdom” – Victor Gluckin

The Coming Kingdom of The Messiah – Sir Anthony F. Buzzard

What Happens When You Die? – Sir Anthony F. Buzzard

Suggested Reading

Genesis 1:1 - Revelation 22:21

Daniel 7

Psalms 37

Isaiah 2:1-17; 25:1-12; Isaiah 35:1-10

Zephaniah 1-3

Zechariah 14