

"THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM"

The Proclamation Of The Kingdom

INTRODUCTION

1. It is quite common to hear sermons on the church of Christ...
 - a. The establishment of the church
 - b. The nature of the church
 - c. The work and worship of the church-- **And rightly so, because the church is important to Jesus** - cf. [Ep 5:25-29](#)

2. But what about the kingdom of God...?
 - a. Has the kingdom been established?
 - b. What is the nature of the kingdom?
 - c. What blessings and responsibilities are present of those in the kingdom?-- **Not much is often said about the kingdom of God these days**

[Yet as we shall see, the kingdom of God was an important topic of first century preaching, and should also be in the twenty-first century! Note the prominence of the kingdom of God in...]

I. THE PREACHING OF JESUS

A. HE PROCLAIMED THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM...

1. Throughout Galilee - [Mk 1:14](#); cf. [Mt 4:23](#); [9:35](#)
2. Declaring that the kingdom was "at hand" - [Mk 1:15](#)
3. Calling upon people to repent and believe the good news - [Mk 1:15](#)
4. Doing so with a sense of urgency and purpose - [Lk 4:43](#); [8:1](#)

B. HE SENT HIS DISCIPLES TO PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM...

1. First, the apostles in their limited commission - [Lk 9:1-2](#)
2. Individual disciples as well - [Lk 9:59-60](#)
3. Then seventy disciples, sent out two by two - [Lk 10:1,9-11](#)

[Even after His death and resurrection, Jesus continued to teach His disciples many things about the kingdom (cf. [Ac 1:3](#)). We should not be surprised to see that they would continue to talk about the kingdom (cf. [Ac 8:12](#)). We note this especially in...]

II. THE PREACHING OF PAUL

A. IN THE SYNAGOGUES ON HIS JOURNEYS...

1. His custom was to go into the synagogues - cf. [Ac 17:1-3](#)
2. He sought to persuade them concerning the kingdom of God - cf. [Ac 19:8](#)

B. AMONG THE CHURCHES HE VISITED...

1. He had preached the kingdom of God to them - [Ac 20:25](#)
2. He had warned them what to expect - e.g., [Ac 14:21-22](#)

3. He would later write to them about the kingdom - e.g., [1 Th 2:12](#); [2Th 1:5](#)

C. TO ANYONE WHO WOULD LISTEN...

1. Such as the inquiring Jews in Rome - [Ac 28:23](#)
2. To those who visited him while under house arrest - [Ac 28:30-31](#)

CONCLUSION

1. What is this "kingdom" that so preoccupied Jesus and Paul...?
 - a. Is it a literal kingdom?
 - b. Is it a kingdom yet to come?
 - c. Is it a kingdom that ought to preoccupy our attention and predominate our teaching?

-- **Indeed, what is the gospel of the kingdom?**
2. Since we noticed that...
 - a. Jesus spent forty days (in addition to three years!) talking about the kingdom - [Ac 1:3](#)
 - b. Paul talked "from morning till evening" on one occasion - [Ac 28:23](#)

We'll examine the nature, establishment, blessings, and demands of the kingdom. Remember these words of Jesus:

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it." ([Mt 13:44-46](#))

What is this kingdom of great value to those who find it, whether by accident or design...?