

We Exist to Proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ

July 19th & 20th, 2014

Matthew 24:1-14

“Wars, earthquakes, persecutions, and false prophets are all signs of Jesus’ coming, but they indicate only the certainty of judgment, not its time. Such signs characterize the entire period between His resurrection and His coming in judgment. Knowing when Jesus would return would lead His disciples to laziness and laxity in their watchfulness. The ‘when’ (v.3) that Jesus gives is task oriented: it is after the gospel has been preached to the nations (v.14).”¹

The Gospel of the Kingdom: Matthew 24:14

Kingdom: (Greek – *basileia*) “denoting ‘sovereignty, royal power, dominion,’ ... The Kingdom of God is ... the sphere of God’s rule, ...”²

Matthew 6:33 “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

f Seek first the kingdom of God and all needs will be met!

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the Kingdom *Matthew 4:23-25*

❖ Healing was the first sign of the gospel of the kingdom.

Disease: (Greek - *malakia*) is used only in Matthew and means a debility causing feebleness and weakness.

Affliction: (Greek - *noseo*) afflicted by sickness. In 1Tim.6:4 it is used for those “depraved in mind”.

❖ Healing relieved people of sickness, disease, pains, epilepsy, paralysis, demonic oppression and other afflictions!

❖ Great crowds followed Jesus because He not only taught truth with authority (*Matthew 7:28-29*) but brought life and healing!

f Jesus heals a man with a demon. *Luke 4:31-37*

f Jesus heals Peter’s mother-in-law. *Luke 4:38-41*

f Jesus heals a man full of leprosy. *Luke 5:12-16*

♦ Power was flowing out from Jesus to heal!

“... *And the power of the Lord was with Him to heal.*” *Luke 5:17b*

♦ Power came out from Jesus to deliver people from demons!

“*And all the crowd sought to touch Him, for power came out from Him and healed them all.*” *Luke 6:19*

f Mary Magdalene had seven demons cast out of her! *Mark 16:9*

f The demon possessed man was delivered from a legion of demons and was in his right mind!
Mark 5:15

❖ The power of the Gospel of the Kingdom changed Paul’s life!
Philippians 3:7-11

Jesus has sent us to proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom and to do the works that He did!

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.” John 14:12-14

All to the Glory of God!

Study Questions:

How does a person come see the kingdom of God? *John 3:3*

What two responses enable a person to live in God's kingdom? *Mark :14-15*

What does true repentance look like? *2 Corinthians 7:10-11*

Endnotes:

¹ Sproul, R.C. *The Reformation Study Bible*. Orlando: Ligonier Ministries, 2005.

² Webster, Noah. *American Dictionary of the English Language (1828 Facsimile Edition)*. San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1989.

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