

February 1st & 2nd, 2025

What is the Kingdom of God? *Acts 1:1-8*

Eternal

- ❖ The Kingdom of God was evident in creation and the nation of Israel before the arrival of Jesus Christ.
 - ↪ God is the Creator of the universe and mankind, the ruler of nations, and the sustainer of Israel.

Psalm 24:1-2 “The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.”

Psalm 93:1-2 “The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed; He has put on strength as His belt. Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.”

Daniel 4:34b-35 “for His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and He does according to His will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand or say to Him, ‘What have you done?’”
 - ↪ Adam lost the God-given privilege of dominion over the earth by allowing Satan and the kingdom of darkness to bring calamity to the earth and the generations to come.

Genesis 3:17 “And to Adam He said, ‘Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, “You shall not eat of it,” cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;”

Romans 5:12 “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—”

Imminent

- ❖ Throughout the Old Testament, many prophecies pointed to a future when the kingdom of God would be established through the nation of Israel by the Messianic King.
 - ↪ Jesus is the Messianic King who fulfilled these prophecies.

Daniel 7:14 “And to Him (Jesus) was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”

Zechariah 9:9-10 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and He shall speak peace to the nations; His rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.”
- ❖ The prophesied Messiah would restore the Kingdom of God. Jesus fulfilled these prophecies, announcing and revealing the Kingdom of God.
 - ↪ Jesus was the expected King of Israel.

Luke 1:31-33 “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

✚ Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God.

Mark 1:14-15 “Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.’”

Luke 8:1 “Soon afterward He went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him,”

✚ Jesus established the Kingdom of God.

Luke 11:20 “But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.”

✚ Jesus and His kingdom were rejected, and He promised to give it to those who produce its fruits.

Matthew 21:31b-32 “Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.’”

Matthew 21:43 “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.”

✚ The kingdom of God will be restored in Israel and the whole earth through the Messiah and those who will rule with Him, but for now, the kingdom of God is being established through the followers of Christ.

📖 Zechariah 14:5b-9

Revelation 11:15 “Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever.’”

Romans 8:19-22 “For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.”

Effective

❖ The Kingdom of God, established through Jesus Christ and the Church, reveals the power of God and undoes the work of Satan.

✚ The kingdom of God had arrived and is to be established by the disciples through the power of God.

Acts 1:7-8a “He said to them, ‘It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses’...”

✚ The kingdom of God is an extension of heaven on earth.

Matthew 16:18b-19, "...I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Available

❖ How does someone belong to the Kingdom of God?

↪ Repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

Mark 1:15 "and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.'"

↪ Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38 "And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"

↪ Submission to the King of the Kingdom.

Acts 8:12 "But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women."

↪ Obedience and belonging to the King's Rulership.

Matthew 9:35 "And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction."

Matthew 13:11 "And He answered them, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.'"

↪ Living for the Kingdom of God.

2 Corinthians 5:20 "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

Endnotes:

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