

The Kingdom Essentials

According to **1 Timothy 6:14-16** Paul describes our Lord Jesus Christ as the only Potentate or Ruler—the only one with all power—the King of Kings and Lords of Lords—above all other kings and lords. Only He has immortality—eternal (John 5:26). He dwells in the light which no man can approach unto—absolute light, no darkness at all, absolute purity and truth. He is so great that no man...can see Him and in His full divine appearance. Jesus is a King beyond our imagination.

In the New Testament, the Kingdom of Heaven is described in various ways, and its meaning can be understood on multiple levels:

1. Spiritual Kingdom: Jesus often spoke of the Kingdom of Heaven as a spiritual realm that exists within the hearts of believers. In passages like Luke 17:21, he states, "The kingdom of God is within you." This suggests that the Kingdom is not a physical place but a state of being in a close relationship with God.

2. Present and Future Reality: The Kingdom of Heaven is portrayed as both a present and future reality. In the teachings of Jesus, it is something that is already at work in the world but will also be fully realized in the future. This dual aspect emphasizes the idea of inaugurated eschatology, where the Kingdom has begun but is not yet fully consummated.

The Declaration

Jesus answered; My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight.... —**John 18:36**

A King

John 18:37 Jesus, standing before Pilate as a prisoner, was asked, Art thou a king then? Clearly, Jesus claimed to be king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I unto the world. He did not wait to become king, He was born King, rode into Jerusalem as King, and died as King. The enemies of Christ thought they defeated Him.

A Throne

Hebrews 1:8 Here God, the Father, is speaking to Jesus, the Son. He calls Him God. He gives Him an everlasting throne and scepter. Each denotes authority. A king without a throne has no power or authority. Jesus exercises His authority in righteousness. The Father calls it thy kingdom—Christ's kingdom. Christ's throne is in the heart of regenerated man (Matthew 19:28).

A Territory

Matthew 28:18 After rising from the dead and before ascending back to Heaven, Jesus declared that all-power in earth and in heaven was given to Him (these were created places). He is far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name [The Walton Family 224.5B, The Mars Family 160B, The Koch Family 128.8B] in this world (Ephesians 1:20-22). He won this dominion by His victory over death. It was given to Him by His Father when he raised him from the dead. His authority is over everyone everywhere, whoever, and whatever. The devil has no power or territory except for what God allows him.

Subjects

Ephesians 2:19-22 These regenerated ones are not foreigners, but fellow citizens . . . of the household of God. God has always called for a separation of His people from other people. He desires to have them come together so that He can feed them and care for them in one fold (The Church of God is visible. It is a working organism which the world can see, talk to, or call on, and facetime to ask for help.

A Law

Hebrews 8:10 To rule a kingdom one must have a law. God's law is His will. Under the Old Testament dispensation God gave Israel His law written on stone. But now, (Hebrews 8:6) or in the Gospel dispensation, He has put His laws into their mind and written them in their hearts. They become a part of His redeemed ones. His will is their will.

Ephesians 6:5-7 God's law is written in our hearts of his servants, we do His will on earth because we desire to obey him.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“God is light and we are children of the light”