

The Kingdom is Here Part 4 April 30, 2023 Pastor Brian Gobar



I. INTRO/REVIEW

A. Repent, the Kingdom is here

Matthew 4:17 (NIV) From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

• Israel expected a religious leader to come and overthrow the Roman government

Acts 1:6 (NLT) So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"

- B. The ministry of Jesus revealed the Kingdom of God
 - Blessed are the poor in spirit

Matthew 5:3 (NLT) "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

• A parable is a story that reveals a hidden truth

II. THE KINGDOM IS "HERE"

Psalm 46:1-3 (NKJV) God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; *though* its waters roar *and* be troubled, *though* the mountains shake with its swelling. *Selah*

- A. He is always here, so here is the best place we can ever be
 - We are representing an invisible God who is always HERE, to a culture that will only believe what it sees and feels
- B. We believe that preaching Christ will bring great Joy
 - We can't force people, or expect people to live by a standard that they haven't accepted

III. THE KINGDOM IS WHEREVER I AM

A. There are two kingdoms

Colossians 1:13-14 (NLT) For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness <u>and</u> transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.

• The plan didn't stop with forgiving our sins—we're citizens in a new Kingdom

A Kingdom is: The governing influence of a king over His territory impacting it with His personal will, purpose and intent, producing a culture, values, morals and lifestyle that reflect the king's desires and nature for His citizens



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We can't force or expect people to live by the standard of a kingdom they're not a part of!

Matthew 6:10 (NIV) your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

IV. THE KINGDOM IS WHEREVER I GO

A. God doesn't just want us to get to heaven; He wants to bring His Kingdom to Earth

Matthew 4:17 (AMP) From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent [change your inner self your old way of thinking, regret past sins, <u>live your life in a way that proves repentance</u>; seek God's purpose for your life], for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

B. Your life is proof that you've changed

2 Corinthians 5:17 (TLB) When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!

2 Corinthians 5:20 (TLB) We are Christ's ambassadors. God is using us to speak to you: we beg you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, receive the love he offers you—be reconciled to God.

- C. An ambassador represents the interests of his home country in a foreign land
- D. We are brand ambassadors for heaven
 - I don't represent me; I represent the kingdom of heaven, and this is the difference between a Christian and an ambassador

If you don't know or believe that God is "here," you won't live like God is "here," and if you don't live like God is "here," no one else will know that God is "here."