

God's Kingdom

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The phrase “the Kingdom of God” is widely used in the Christian circle, but many of us don't understand and appreciate the impact that these few words should have in our lives. When we talk of a kingdom, we are speaking of a monarchy, the head of which is a king or a queen. Another definition of a kingdom is territory or country subject to a king or queen; or the dominion of a monarchy, the sphere of which “ONE” king has control, or the sphere of his reign, a realm or his domain.

Our key verse: Matthew 6:33 -- “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness....”

The very first verse of the Book of Genesis gives us the information that we need to begin to understand the state “the Kingdom of God.”

Genesis 1:1 states – “*In the beginning GOD created the heaven and a special place he called earth.*” This verse tells us the sphere that God has dominion over: the heaven and also earth. We know, through space exploration and telescopic photos, that the sphere of the “heavens” is beyond our imagination but God has dominion over every imaginable thing that exists in the Heavens. The earth and the world that we live in are very special to Him. So He “GOD” created a special creature to reflect Himself and placed him on earth and gave him some specific instructions: Genesis 1:28 “*Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth and take control and have dominion over every living thing that exists on the earth.*”

In Genesis chapter 3 we see that man fell from the position of authority and the struggle began where God consistently tries to have ‘man’ come to the realization that God is supreme and He is King of all His domain and we must worship Him and obey Him with total submission and humility. Throughout the ages we have failed to recognize God as King of His entire kingdom and have allowed our personal desires and accomplishments to reign in our lives instead of allowing the King to take control.

It was simply impossible for the Jews to understand the life of Jesus while He was on earth. They never understood the statement “the kingdom of God is at hand.” Nicodemus, a Jewish leader, visited Jesus by night to discuss His ministry on earth. Jesus said to him, “*For a*

surety or I can assure you that except a man be born again he cannot comprehend my ministry because it is all about the God and who He is and His dominion.”

In the book of Matthew there is an example of Jesus talking about the Kingdom of God after having a conversation with a person who had a sick servant. Matthew 8:5--13, “*and when Jesus entered into the village of Capernaum, a Roman captain came up to Him in panic saying ‘Lord, my servant lay at home grievously sick, he cannot walk and is in a lot of pain.’ Jesus to him I’ll come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, ‘no, no I don’t want to give you all that trouble, I am not worthy that you should come to my home, but just speak the word only and my servant shall be healed.’ For I am a man under authority, I receive orders and I give orders, I say go and someone goes, I say come and someone comes immediately, I give instructions and it is done. When Jesus heard this He was astonished and said to them that followed, I can assure you that I have not found such great faith in all Israel, the very people who are supposed to know all about God and how He works. This man is an example of many who will come from every direction entering into God’s Kingdom through the same method as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Then those who grew up ‘in the faith’ but have **no faith in God** will find themselves **out of grace** and wondering what happened.*”