

The Good News of the Kingdom

*“And the **Good News about the Kingdom** will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.”* Matthew 24:14 NLT

What is the Good News of the Kingdom?

First and foremost the great news is:

Jesus is the *King of Kings and Lord of lords.* Revelation 19:16

Jesus, the Son of God came to earth from heaven and said:

“The time promised by God has come at last!” he announced. *“The **Kingdom of God is near!** Repent of your sins and **believe the Good News!**”* Mark 1:15 NLT

Jesus brought His kingdom, which is not of this world, to earth. John 18:36

Jesus taught His disciples, which includes those alive today, to pray,

*“**Your kingdom come Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**”* Matthew 6:10 NKJV

This is our prayer of agreement with the divine plans and purposes of God.

What is the grand plan of God for heaven and earth?

The plan of God is to bring heaven and earth together under the authority of Christ Jesus.

*“God has now revealed to us his mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill his own good pleasure. ¹⁰ And **this is the plan:** At the right time **He will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth.**”* Ephesians 1:9-10 NLT

It is said that God answers our desperate prayers. Our prayers for the will of God to be done on earth will become increasingly more desperate as the will of man increases and darkness covers the earth.

*“For behold, the **darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people;**”*
Isaiah 60:2a NLT

Jesus invites His followers, His disciples, His saints to walk in His glorious light.

*“But the **LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you.**”* Isaiah 60:2 b NKJV

*“**You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.**”*
Matthew 5:14 NKJV

*“**Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.**”* Matthew 5:16 NKJV

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How do you enter into the Kingdom of God?

We must believe in Jesus and be born again by the Spirit.

“... *“Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.”* Acts 16:31 NLT

“Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.” John 3:5 NLT

You must obey the Lord and follow His will in child like faith.

“When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.” John 15:10 NLT

“... *“Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.”* Matthew 18:3 NKJV

We enter into the kingdom through the ‘door’ Jesus Christ who is our only way to the Father.

“Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.” John 14:6 NLT

Followers of Jesus hear His voice and follow Him.

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” John 10:27 NLT

How do you live in relationship with God and in His Kingdom of God?

Jesus said that the first and most important thing is that you whole heartedly love God.

“... you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.” Mark 12:30 -31 NLT

This is one reason why God sent His Son to earth, to demonstrate His sacrificial love for us.

“For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 NLT

How do you live in relationship with others and in the Kingdom of God?

And Jesus also said the second most important thing is to love others.

“The second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ No other commandment is greater than these.” Mark 12:31 NLT

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Those who believe and obey are called *children of God*, *God is love*. Romans 18:14; 1 John 4:8

Jesus commanded us to love one another.

“This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.” John 15:12 NKJV

The apostle Peter also wrote, *“And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.” And love covers a multitude of sins.”* 1 Peter 4:8 NKJV

What has Jesus already done for us?

Jesus paid the very high price for our sin, and our rebellion to the ways and will of God. He paid with His life, His blood as the perfect sacrifice paying for our salvation, redemption and restoration into a righteous relationship with God forever.

What will it cost us to follow Jesus into His kingdom?

Something of such great value comes at a great price.

It will cost us everything, our whole life. We are to always follow the example of Jesus and give our lives to God. We are called to willingly *surrender* our lives to Jesus Christ, as our act of worship, to love Him and serve Him. Then He will live His life *through* us in the Spirit.

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me.”

Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34 Luke 3:23 NLT

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” Romans 12:1 NASB

“For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.”

Colossians 2:12 NLT

How does the Kingdom of God grow?

Jesus commissioned His disciples, which includes His followers alive today to,

“...go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20 NLT

When and where will the Kingdom of God come to earth?

The Kingdom of God is at hand on earth, in a partial way now.

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Jesus brought the Kingdom of God with Him to earth.

The Kingdom of God is revealed on earth now through the lives of those who truly believe in Jesus, and who follow, honor and obey Him as their Lord and King.

Jesus' disciples, His set apart, consecrated, sanctified saints, are being *transformed* into the image of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit working *in* us and *through* us.

We are called to be the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus wherever we are now, and to manifest His kingdom. The truth of the message of the Kingdom of God will be confirmed with *supernatural* signs and wonders. These signs include salvations, healing and deliverance from oppression all in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit working through His yielded, pure obedient saints

Like present day John the Baptist, who is our model forerunner, we are to preach the truth and power of repentance and “*prepare the way of the Lord.*” Matthew 3:3 NKJV

What is the Kingdom of God like?

It is described in the Bible as glorious place.

The fullness of the Kingdom of God is a glorious paradise beyond our greatest imaginations. It is a beautiful place of peace and safety without tears, pain, sickness or death where we will live in the glorious presence of the Lord, and serving in a loving partnership with Him forever!

“... *“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.”* 1 Corinthians 2:9 NLT

When will the Kingdom of God fully come to earth?

The Lord Jesus will return to earth to rule and reign over all the nations of the world.

Sadly, this will be a hostile take over of those rulers of the nations who oppose Him.

“*Why are the nations so angry? Why do they waste their time with futile plans? ² The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the LORD and against his anointed one. (Jesus) ³ “Let us break their chains,” they cry, “and free ourselves from slavery to God.”* Psalm 2:1-3 NLT

The idea of these world rulers opposing the plans of God is foolish and laughable.

“*But the one who rules in heaven laughs. The Lord scoffs at them.*” Psalm 2:4NLT

It is God's plan to place His Son Jesus on the throne of David in Jerusalem, and give all the nations of the world to Him as His inheritance.

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For the Lord declares, **“I have placed my chosen king on the throne in Jerusalem, on my holy mountain.”**⁷ The king proclaims the LORD’s decree: **“The LORD said to me, ‘You are my son. Today I have become your Father.’ Only ask, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the whole earth as your possession.”** Psalm 2:6-8 NLT

There is great joy for those who take refuge in Jesus.

“Now then, you kings, act wisely! Be warned, you rulers of the earth!”¹¹ **Serve the LORD with reverent fear, and rejoice with trembling.**¹² **Submit to God’s royal son, or he will become angry, and you will be destroyed in the midst of all your activities—for his anger flares up in an instant. But what joy for all who take refuge in Him!”** Psalm 2:10-12 NLT

The coming day of the Lord is called a great and terrible day. Joel 2:11

This will be a *great* day for the obedient saints who have prepared their hearts to meet the Lord.

This will be a *terrible* day for those who do not repent and continue to sin and rebel against God.

The end of *this* age will come after the 7 years of tribulation, the 21 judgments of God, and the wrath of God has been pour out on the Devil, the Antichrist, the false prophet and their world system of evil religion and government. All those who rebel and are evil will all be locked away.

After the tribulation will come the glorious Millennial Age, the 1000 year rule and reign of Jesus with His saints on the earth bringing the fulfilled Kingdom of God. Praise God!

“Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. For them the second death holds no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him a thousand years.” Revelation 20:6 NLT

What will happen at the end of the 1000 year reign of Jesus on the earth?

Jesus will prepare the earth to welcome God to His Holy habitation on earth. Then truly heaven will come and be joined to earth.

“I heard a loud shout from the throne,..., “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.” Revelation 21:3 NLT

Now this all gives us great hope

We have great hope in our future in Christ and as citizens of the Kingdom of God forever!

“And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing His glory.” Colossians 1:27b NLT

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Here is a short summary of the Good News of the Kingdom of God

- Jesus, the Son of Man, the Son of God is the King of kings over all nations of the earth.
- We are invited to turn *from* our sin, our rebellion to God, die to our selfishness, and be *reborn* by the Spirit into an everlasting life of love in fellowship with the Lord our King.
- We are to whole heartedly love God with all our hearts, minds, soul and strength.
- And we are to love and compassionately care for others in the same way that we are deeply loved and cared for by God.
- We are to whole heartedly obey the Word of God and follow Jesus as our Lord and King.
- We are to invite and teach others how to enter into a personal relationship with Jesus and to become blessed citizens in the Kingdom of God which will expand without end.
- We will enjoy our blessed and abundant lives of love, peace and joy in the Lord as citizens of His Kingdom of God on earth forever. Praise God!