

The Kingdom Of God

Matthew 25:34

1

“Kingdom” Defined:

- ▶ “A government, country, state, or population that is nominally or actually ruled by a king or queen” (American Heritage Dictionary).
- ▶ KINGDOM (*Greek basileia*) “sovereignty, royal power, dominion, ... by metonymy, a concrete noun, denoting the territory or people over whom a king rules” (Vine’s Expository Dictionary)

2

Popular Misconceptions Of The Kingdom

- ▶ Premillennialism ...

“The Bible clearly teaches that after the second coming of Christ and before the final resurrection and judgment there will be an age or dispensation of one thousand years during which Christ will reign on the earth.” (Charles M. Neal – Foy E. Wallace Debate. 1933)

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Popular Misconceptions Of The Kingdom

- ▶ The Mormon Church:

“We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes: that Zion will be built upon this (American) continent: that Christ will reign personally upon the earth: and that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisiacal glory.” – Joseph Smith (Articles of Faith of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter–Day Saints, Article 10)

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Popular Misconceptions Of The Kingdom

- ▶ The Jehovah’s Witnesses –

“The great ‘day of Jehovah’ began in A.D. 1914, when he set his Beloved One, Christ Jesus, upon his throne and sent him forth to rule in the midst of his enemies ...” (The Chaos Of Cults, Fourteenth Edition, page 240)

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Popular Misconceptions Of The Kingdom

Romans 3:4, “let God be found true, but every man a liar”

- ▶ Proposition: We can read and study the word of God and can understand what the kingdom of God is, when it was established, its importance, how to enter into it, and how to inherit the heavenly kingdom.

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

God’s Universal Dominion:

- Psalms 22:27–28
- Psalms 103:19
- Psalms 145:10–13
- Daniel 4:3
- Romans 13:1–2

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The Hebrew Nation Or Twelve Tribes Of Israel:

- Genesis 12:1–3
- Exodus 19:5–6
- 1 Samuel 8:5–7
- 1 Chronicles 28:5
- 2 Chronicles 13:8

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The Redeemed Of God Under The Present Reign Of Christ:

- Anticipated in prophecy. Daniel 2:44
- Prophesied by Jesus. Matthew 21:43
Note context.

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The Redeemed Of God Under The Present Reign Of Christ.

- ▶ The kingdom of heaven was preached to be **“at hand”** by:
 - a. John the baptist. Matthew 3:2
 - b. Jesus. Matthew 4:17
 - c. The apostles. Matthew 10:7
 - d. The seventy. Luke 10:9

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The Redeemed Of God Under The Present Reign Of Christ.

- ▶ The kingdom to come in the lifetime of some in that generation. Mark 9:1
- ▶ John was *“in the kingdom.”* Revelation 1:9
- ▶ Paul and the Colossians had been *“translated into the kingdom.”* Colossians 1:13
- ▶ This kingdom composed of the redeemed, the saved ones over whom Christ rules or reigns. 1 Corinthians 15:24–25

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The everlasting kingdom or the heavenly kingdom.

2 Peter 1:10 – Entrance into *“the everlasting kingdom”* is contingent upon continued faithfulness in adding the virtues of the text.

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The everlasting kingdom or the heavenly kingdom.

2 Timothy 4:18, *“The Lord will deliver me from every evil work, and will save me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom (be) the glory forever and ever. Amen.”*

- Paul was already *“in the kingdom of the Son of His love.”* Colossians 1:13

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The everlasting kingdom or the heavenly kingdom.

Matthew 13:41–42 – Though one is in the kingdom or church, if he becomes unfaithful, and be denied entrance into the *“everlasting kingdom.”*

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Usage Of The “Kingdom Of God” In The Scriptures

The everlasting kingdom or the heavenly kingdom.

- ▶ This kingdom will consist of the redeemed of all the ages.
- ▶ This everlasting kingdom is the *“kingdom prepared from the foundation of the world”* to be received by those whom the Lord sets on His right hand at the judgment. Matthew 25:34
- ▶ It is to be *“inherited,”* therefore it is not the present kingdom. (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:50; Galatians 5:21; Ephesians 5:5)

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Conclusion:

- ▶ We are all a part of God’s universal rule, but this is not enough.
- ▶ There is no advantage in trying to be a part of fleshly Israel. cf. Philippians 3:3
- ▶ Our hope lies in being a part of the kingdom, the redeemed of God under the present reign of Christ, and being faithful that we may be of those who shall inherit the *“heavenly kingdom.”* 2 Timothy 4:4–6, 18

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