

"THY KINGDOM COME" [The Gospel of the Kingdom] Pastor Mark Johnson March 12, 2023

INTRO: This morning I'm going to begin a new series on the theme, *"Thy Kingdom Come."* What did Jesus mean when He told us to pray for God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven (Matt. 6:10; see also Matt. 6:33)?

I. THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM IS WHAT JESUS AND THE APOSTLES TAUGHT AND PREACHED.

- A. Jesus Taught & Preached the Gospel of the Kingdom (Mark 1:14; Matt. 4:17, 23; 9:35).
- B. John the Baptist preached The Kingdom of God/heaven (Matt. 3:1-2; Lk. 16:16).
- C. Jesus commissioned His followers to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom (Matt. 10:5, 7; Lk. 10:1, 9).
- D. The Apostles Taught & Preached the Gospel of the Kingdom (Acts 19:8; 28:30-31a).

II. INITIAL "GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM" OBSERVATIONS

- A. Jesus never preached or told us to preach "The Gospel of Salvation"!
- B. The Gospel of Salvation prepares us to die but doesn't prepare us for how to live until we die!
- C. The Gospel of the Kingdom prepares us to both die and live until we die!
- D. The Gospel of Salvation tells us how to get from earth to heaven, while The Gospel of the Kingdom tells us how to get heaven to earth until we go to heaven.

III. THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND (Matt. 3:2; 4:17; 10:5, 7; Luke 10:9)!

- A. "At hand" near, approaching, within your reach.
- B. Other "at hand" passages.
 - 1. The Passover feast was at hand (John 2:13, 23; 7:2, 10).
 - 2. Jesus' betrayal & crucifixion were at hand (Mt. 26:45-50).
- C. The kingdom of God has come upon you (Matt. 12:28)!
 - 1. Jesus casting out demons was evidence the kingdom had come (Matt. 4:23-24; 8:16, 28-34; 12:22-30).

CONCLUSION: The kingdom of God is at hand – it's within your reach! Pray it! Take it! What is it? Come next Sunday!