

# GOD'S PLAN UNFOLDS

*Part 15*

*Putting It All Together*

Scripture asserts Yahweh's sovereign  
kingly **rule** over all things

and

reveals that His rule will one day be  
exercised in a kingdom **realm** where  
His people will rule with Jesus

GOD'S PLAN UNFOLDS, PART 15 - MESSAGE



**Kingdom rule** (or reign) is dominion, sovereignty, power and authority to exercise that rule



“A kingdom is the authority to rule, the sovereignty of the king” (George Ladd, *The Gospel of the Kingdom*, p. 19)



Ps 145:10-13; Rev 1:5

**KINGDOM: RULE OR REALM?**





**Kingdom realm** is a place where rule is exercised, this idea of realm has both a current and a future aspect



1) Currently, Jesus' realm is heaven, we were transferred into His kingdom, seated with Him in the heavenly places, and are citizens of that realm—heaven



2) But Scripture speaks of a yet future realm where Jesus will exercise His rule in fulness on earth

## KINGDOM: RULE OR REALM?



- ▶ God intends His kingdom to be ruled by man (Gen 1:28)
- ▶ God's kingdom will be opposed (Gen 3:1-5; 2 Cor 4:4; Jn 14:30)
- ▶ The seed of the woman will be victorious (Gen 3:15; "the covenants of the promise", Eph 2:12)
- ▶ Abraham's seed is promised a nation, land and to be a blessing to all nations (Gen 12:1-3; 15:18; 17:1-8, 15-16; 22:15-18)
- ▶ The Law of Moses was added 430 years after Abraham to serve the promise (Gal 3:17; Lev 26:11; Gen 17:1; Dt 28:9; 18:13)
- ▶ God planned all along for Israel to have a king (Deut 17:14-20)
- ▶ The king will be "My anointed" (*mashiach* = Messiah, 1 Sam 2:10, 35)
- ▶ The Davidic Covenant unfolds more of God's plan (2 Sam 7:12-16)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



- ▶ Yahweh's Anointed (Messiah) who is also His Son (Ps 2)
- ▶ The Son will rule on earth in the midst of enemy rulers (not eternal state, Ps 8:4-6; 132:13-14, 17-18)
- ▶ Messiah will triumph over His rivals (Ps 22:27-28)
- ▶ The ultimate Son's coming dominion is certain (Ps 2, 21, 45, 110)
- ▶ The earthly King will be God (Ps 45:6-7)
- ▶ Messiah will be the Son of David yet David's Lord (Ps 110:1)
- ▶ Messiah will be priest from Melchizedek's priestly order (Ps 110:4)
- ▶ This King will be human (Ps 8:4-6)
- ▶ This King's rivals will seem to get the best of Him (Ps 22:6-8, 11, 18)
- ▶ Nations will turn to Him (Ps 22:27-28)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



- ▶ Messiah is a Shepherd with believers as His sheep (Ps 95:7)
- ▶ Messiah will bring justice and salvation (Ps 96:9-10, 13; 98:1-3, 9)
- ▶ His reign is still future (Ps 96:10, 13; 98:9)
- ▶ This King will be God in our midst (Isa 7:10-17; Lev 26:11)
- ▶ He will be born of an actual virgin (Isa 7:14)
- ▶ Messiah will be born in Bethlehem (like David, Micah 5:2)
- ▶ His four-fold title is fit only for Yahweh (Isa 9:6)
- ▶ His government will rest personally on His shoulders (Isa 9:6)
- ▶ He is the heir to David's throne and David's kingdom (Isa 9:7)
- ▶ The Promised King certainly will come (Dan 9:1-6, 9-12)
- ▶ The Promised King will be supernatural (Isa 11:2-11)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



- ▶ Yahweh will give Messiah the key to David's house (Isa 22:22)
- ▶ Messiah breaks into human history (Zech 9:9-10)
- ▶ Messiah will break into human history in the end times and reign (Isa 42:1-4; Dan 2:44; 7:13-14; Zech 6:12-13; 12:10; 14:1-4, 9)
- ▶ After the Fall, people are not fit for Messiah's kingdom (Isa 1:2-4; 6:5; 44:18-20; 50:10; 64:6-7)
- ▶ Through the New Covenant, the King makes people fit for His kingdom (Isa 53; 54:10; Jer 31:31-34; Ezek 36:22-36)
- ▶ Jews and Gentiles both enter Messiah's kingdom (Isa 10:21-22; Isa 55:3-5; Zech 8:22-23)
- ▶ The King's kingdom will bring defeat for His enemies (Joel 3:1-2; Dan 7:22; Zech 12:9; 13:8; 14:1-9)
- ▶ The King's kingdom will bring worldwide salvation (Zech 8:20-23; 12:7-10, 13:1; 14:16; Isa 60:1-5)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



- ▶ The King's kingdom will bring a time of great wonder for His people:
  - ▶ Israel will finally bear righteous fruit (Ezek 36:27; Isa 2:2-4; 27:6; 32:15-17)
  - ▶ His kingdom will be a time of wonder and glory (Isa 11:1-9; 65:17-25; Amos 9:11-15)
  - ▶ The King will shepherd the remnant (Micah 2:12-13; 5:3-5a)
  - ▶ The King will build and inhabit His temple (Zech 6:12-13; Isa 2:2-4; 56:6-7; 60:7; Mic 4:1-2; Hag 2:6-9; Ezek 40-48)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



- ▶ The King preached the gospel of the kingdom (Mt 4:23; Isa 61:1-2; Lk 4:18-19)
- ▶ Entrance to Jesus' kingdom is by repentance and faith in Jesus (Jn 3:3; Mk 1:15)
- ▶ Kingdom entrance isn't automatic (Mt 8:5-13)
- ▶ The kingdom requires radically new ways of thinking (Mt 9:16-17)
- ▶ The kingdom requires radical response (Mt 11:12)
- ▶ Satan is partially bound (his defense only, 1 Jn 3:8; Mt 12:28-29)
- ▶ He unfolded more of God's plan (Ps 78:2-4; Mt 13:34-35)
- ▶ Not everyone who hears the invitation will enter the kingdom (Mt 13:1-23)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



- ▶ Believers & unbelievers coexist in the world (Mt 13:24-30, 36-43)
- ▶ For now, the kingdom is the spiritual rule of Jesus (Mt 13:24-30, 36-43)
- ▶ The current phase of the kingdom appears to be unimpressively insignificant (Mt 13:31-33)
- ▶ Jesus' kingdom is more valuable than anything (Mt 13:44-45)
- ▶ Not trusting in Jesus by faith is a great tragedy (Mt 13:47-50)
- ▶ Kingdom entry was relocated (Mt 21:43; Mt 16:16-20, keys taken from Israel, given to Church)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



- ▶ Kingdom fulness is reserved for later (Mt 19:27-29; Lk 22:28-30; Mt 26:29; Lk 19:11; 21:24)
- ▶ The King was rejected (Lk 17:20-25; Jn 12:27; 19:13-19)
- ▶ The current phase of the kingdom involves the Church doing kingdom work (Acts 8:12; Col 4:11; 1 Pet 2:5; Heb 13:15)
- ▶ The current phase of the kingdom involves the Church watching for her King (Acts 1:9-11; 3:19-21; Titus 2:13; Jas 5:7-8)

**BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**



# INAUGURATED AND FUTURE ESCHATOLOGY

**“Full-orbed biblical eschatology must include both what we might call “inaugurated” and “future” eschatology”**

(Anthony Hoekema, *The Bible and The Future*, p. 1)

# WORLDWIDE KINGDOM REALM

*“Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for You will judge the peoples with uprightness and lead the nations on the earth” (Ps 67:4)*

*“the God of heaven will cause a kingdom to rise up which will never be destroyed...it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself stand forever” and “it filled the whole earth” (Dan 2:44; 35)*

# KINGDOM REALM



Jesus' kingdom is where Jesus is

*"The kingdom of God has come upon you"*  
(Mt 12:28)

*"I solemnly charge you in the presence of God  
and of Christ Jesus...by His appearing and His  
kingdom"* (2 Tim 4:1)

# KINGDOM: MAIN THEME OF THE BIBLE

“While many important themes reside in the Bible, the kingdom of God seems to be the central theme that ties them all together...*the kingdom of God* should be considered the grand, overarching theme of Scripture, encompassing all the other major themes in the Bible”

(MacArthur and Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, pp. 850-1, italics original)