

## Kingdom of Darkness

### The Fall

Genesis 2:16-17

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, **for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**"

Genesis 3:6-7

So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, **she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

### The World Under Sin – Under Satan

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so **death spread to all men because all sinned.**

John 8:44

You are of *your* **father the devil**, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.

### Rulers of Darkness

Ephesians 6:12

<sup>12</sup>For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the **rulers of the darkness** of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

John 14: 29-31

"And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the **ruler of this world** is coming, and he has nothing in Me. But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.

Sermon on the Mount - Kingdoms

Notes – week 3

## Kingdoms of the World

Matthew 4:8-9

Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the **kingdoms of the world** and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the **god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

## Reconciliation

Colossians 1:19-23

<sup>19</sup>For it pleased *the Father that* in Him all the fullness should dwell, <sup>20</sup>and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

<sup>21</sup>And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled <sup>22</sup>in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight— <sup>23</sup>if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

## Ransom – Rescue – Salvation

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And **whoever lives and believes in Me** shall never die. Do you believe this?"

## Kingdom of Heaven

### At Hand

Matthew 3:2 – John the Baptist proclaims “Repent, for **the kingdom of heaven is at hand**”

Matthew 4:17 – “From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for **the kingdom of heaven is at hand**”

### Is Present for the Righteous

Matthew 5:3 – Jesus proclaims “Bless are the poor in spirit, for **theirs is the kingdom of heaven**”

Matthew 5:10 – Jesus proclaims “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for **theirs is the kingdom of heaven**”

## What is the Kingdom of Heaven?

### Also called the “Kingdom of God”

Matthew 4:17 – “From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the <b>kingdom of heaven</b> is at hand”	Mark 1:15 – Jesus proclaims “The time is fulfilled, and the <b>kingdom of God</b> is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel”
Matthew 5:3 – Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the <b>kingdom of heaven</b> .	Luke 6:20 – “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is <b>the kingdom of God.</b> ”

### No Physical Observation

Luke 17:20 Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God does not come with observation; <sup>21</sup> nor will they say, ‘See here!’ or ‘See there!’ For indeed, **the kingdom of God is within you.**”

Interlinear Greek: “INSIDE OF-YOU” (Strongs G1787, G5216) – KJV “the kingdom of God is within you”

### A Partly Present Kingdom – present and growing within the true believer

Matthew 13:31-32 “Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches.” - ***The kingdom within grows from a seed to a fruit – and impacts and enriches the environment***

Matthew 13:33 “Another parable He spoke to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.” - ***The kingdom within expands and grows until mature.***

## Sermon on the Mount - Kingdoms

Notes – week 3

### A Fully Future Kingdom – At the consummation

Matthew 25:31 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, **inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.**”

**The kingdom is our ultimate destiny – in complete fellowship with Christ and the Father**

## The Appearance of the Kingdom of Heaven

### Composed of the True and the False Followers

The kingdom exists in this world with the true believers and those who “appear” to be believers. The genuine and the imposter live side-by-side and will not be revealed until consummation. The true believers are indeed “in” the kingdom of heaven whereas the imposters “appear to be” in the kingdom of heaven but are ultimately rejected.

Matthew 13:37-40 - He answered and said to them: “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the **good seeds** are the sons of the kingdom, but the **tares** are the sons of the wicked *one*. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age.

Matthew 7:21 - “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

## Response to the Kingdom of Heaven

Once the value of the kingdom is understood, the response is a total commitment:

Matthew 13:44 - “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

Matthew 13:45-46 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”