



# the coming kingdom

a prophetic message for our universe

APRIL - MAY 2010

This Book Belongs to \_\_\_\_\_

# The Coming Kingdom Reading

Jesus said, “.... **The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.... for the kingdom of heaven is near.**”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.”

**“I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.** Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

**.... Whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. And this *good news* of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations... The time has come.... The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!**”

**“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
Forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
For Thine is the Kingdom and the glory  
forever and ever,  
Amen.”**

*Matthew 4:23 Luke 17:21 Matthew 4:16-17 Matthew 13:44-46 Mark 10:15  
Matthew 7:21 Matthew 5:19 Matthew 24:14 Mark 1:15 Matthew 6:9-13*



MAY 9

## ***Jesus' Baptism & Jesus' Message***

Matthew 13:45-46; Matthew 13:44; Matthew 13:31-32;  
Matthew 22:1-14, Acts 19:1-7, John 3:5

### **Sermon Notes**

The “\_\_\_\_\_ of God is at \_\_\_\_\_.”

The Kingdom of God is \_\_\_\_\_...

A \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 13:45-46)

A \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 13:44)

A \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 13:31-32)

A \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 22:1-14)

A \_\_\_\_\_. (scripture ref?)

Jesus never \_\_\_\_\_ anyone.

Jesus' baptism is a baptism \_\_\_\_\_ not a baptism \_\_\_\_\_.

The baptism into Jesus Christ is a baptism into the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (John 3:5)

## **Introduction**

Jesus didn't come to prepare the way for the Kingdom; He came to usher in the Kingdom of God. Over and over Jesus used stories to describe the Kingdom. Each one started with a simple phrase, "The Kingdom of God is like...."

The passion of Christ was the Kingdom of Christ...His Church. He died so the Kingdom could come in full-force under a new covenant sealed with His blood.

We know what the Kingdom meant to Jesus. What does it mean to us? What does it mean to me? Is the Kingdom of God—the church of Jesus Christ—a generic reference we use to describe organized religion or is it really a Kingdom?

How do you know if a person belongs to a Kingdom? You know because of their allegiance to the King. You know because everything they own and oversee is subject to the King they trust and love. The Kingdom of God is a kingdom. It's not like any kingdom on this earth. It's not like any kingdom ruled by humans. It's a kingdom with no geographical boundaries or borders. It's a kingdom defined by belief, sacrifice, love, service, and especially by the Lordship of Jesus Christ in our lives.

What does the Kingdom mean to you?

## **Reflection**

What caught your attention from the lesson on Sunday about Jesus' message and Jesus' baptism?

## **Heart**

Jesus spent a great deal of time trying to help people get their hearts right for the coming of the Kingdom. What kind of hearts do we need to have in order to enter the Kingdom of God? What does that mean?

## **Soul**

Sometimes Christianity is reduced to thoughts and studies and seems to bypass our souls. When you study the Kingdom Parables taught by Jesus, which one(s) goes right to your heart and resonates in your soul?

## **Mind**

Sometimes Christianity is reduced to feelings and expressions that seem void of thought. When you study the Kingdom Parables taught by Jesus, which one(s) forces you to stop and think?

## **Strength**

Jesus' baptism, which He left for the church to practice, was very similar to John's baptism. Both were a call for repentance and forgiveness of sins. However, Jesus' baptism included an acceptance of Jesus as Lord and the receiving of the Holy Spirit. How does baptism become a point of strength in your walk with Christ? How does it serve as something which gives us strength?

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