

The Kingdom of God

Relevant Bible Verses: Matthew 5:1-10 ; John 16:19-22 ; 1 Corinthians 13:12

Message Notes:

- Over thirty times in the Bible, Jesus uses terms like “the Kingdom of God is...” or “the Kingdom of God is like...”. This Kingdom is so much greater, so much deeper, than we can fathom.
- God talks of a hope being planted within us; there is purpose to that. The Kingdom is like a mustard seed. It starts very small (like we often feel), but God says he can take that smallest of seeds and grow it into something magnificent.
- We are like a dried out sponge but, when Jesus speaks of the Kingdom, water is soaked into us. Like a treasure of gold in a field that a man sells all of his possessions to buy is another analogy Jesus uses of the Kingdom. We are all looking for treasure and value, whether it be in a job, a spouse, in possessions. When you find the Kingdom of Heaven, you find the greatest treasure possible and abandon all else. Finding the Kingdom of Heaven fills the sense of purpose you lacked until now, and it does not abate like worldly satisfactions do.
- The things of the Kingdom, such as unconditional love, and eternal abundant life, you cannot buy. The Kingdom gives an amazing future you cannot explain in human terms because it is so far beyond all this life has to offer.
- No matter what happens in this life, good or bad, we have a future that makes it meaningless in comparison. Though we have a job to do in this world, we are not of this world.
- In this world you will have trouble. Being a Christian does not mean you will not. But this world is fleeting. What greater comfort is there than knowing the promise of what is to come?
- Nothing on this Earth will satisfy, only the Kingdom will. The Kingdom is a gift that is given to us; nothing we do can earn it.
- All the trials of Matthew 5 point to what it means to be a part of the Kingdom of God. They show it is worth giving up everything as the Kingdom to come never ends.