

## LIVING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE FUTURE

- ◆ **The Kingdom of God broken into our lives in the person and ministry of Jesus. We live in this present evil age, yet we have been delivered from it.**

### **Hebrews 6:4-5**

...who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, 5 who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age...

### **Galatians 1:3-5**

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

"The kingdom of God is God in power and exercising his sovereignty for the defeat of Satan and the restoration of human society to its rightful place of willing subservience to the will of God... It is the sovereignty of God in action to frustrate every enemy which would oppose God's will. ...It is the action of the sovereign God of heaven by which his reign is restored in power to those areas of his creation which he has permitted in rebellion to move outside the actual acknowledgment of his rule. The kingdom of God then is God's reign, the activity of God's sovereign and kingly authority" – George E. Ladd

- ◆ We are called to join Jesus' mission of advancing the Kingdom of God

### **Acts 26:17-18**

17 I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them 18 to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'



By Him ... Through us ... For Him



"The reign of God is not a place but an event: God's intervention or breakthrough in the affairs of men."  
-- Derek Morphew

"The Kingdom of God" simply means the dynamic ruling and reigning of God.

## THE CENTRALITY OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- ◆ **The Kingdom of God is the hope of the Old Testament**

### **Daniel 2:44-45**

44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. 45 This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands — a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces.

### **Isaiah 9:6-7**

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

- ◆ **Jesus' birth is announced as the coming of the Kingdom of God**

### **Luke 1:30-33**

30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and **he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.**"

◆ **Jesus began His ministry with the announcement of the Kingdom of God**

**Mark 1:14-15**

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

◆ **Jesus taught continually about the Kingdom of God**

**Luke 4:42-44**

43 But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." 44 And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

◆ **Jesus taught us to pray for the Kingdom of God to come**

**Matthew 6:9-10**

9 "This, then, is how you should pray:  
"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

◆ **After His resurrection, Jesus prepared His disciples by teaching about the Kingdom of God**

**Acts 1:2-3**

3 After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

◆ **The Apostles and early church taught the Kingdom of God**

**Acts 8:12**

12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

**Acts 19:8**

8 Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God.

**Acts 28:23, 30-31**

From morning till evening he explained and declared to them the kingdom of God and tried to convince them about Jesus from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets.

30 For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. 31 Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

**UNDERSTANDING SALVATION AS DELIVERANCE INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

**Colossians 1:12-14**

....giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. 13 For **he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son** he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**John 3:3-7**

3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, **no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.**"

4 "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no **one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.** 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

• **Salvation is deliverance from Satan's Kingdom into the Kingdom of God**

**1 John 5:19**

19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

**Ephesians 2:1-6**

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

• **Salvation is an exchange of Sovereignties – Jesus becomes Lord**

**Romans 10:9-10**

9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

**Philippians 2:9-11**

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**1 Corinthians 12:3**

...no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.