

Previous series came
- Dry Bones alive
- New life to what?

Kingdom Now Introduction

- Most of us believe that we are from the planet Earth, and why not? We are surely not from Mars or Venus...

↳ We and billions of other people live in hundreds of different countries.

↳ We order our lives according to the governments and cultures of those countries

↳ We live, and raise our families here

↳ It's all our parents, grandparents and great grandparents ever knew.

↳ We limit our whole lives to what's on earth, because that's the way everybody has been living

- * But what if there is more? * what if when we belong to the King - Jesus Christ, we also belong to a country that supersedes any of the countries on earth we know?

↳ We think of the kingdom of God as some future destination

↳ Some invisible reality when we die

↳ The truth is so far some difficult to understand

↳ Truth is that the kingdom of God is here and now

↳ And I want to be clear, the kingdom of God is here now in a spiritual sphere.

↳ It can not be seen as yet, Jesus Christ will come to put up this visible physical kingdom

↳ But this kingdom's influence can be seen and experienced!!

Difference between heaven & earth

Matthew 6: 9-10

Kingdom Now

Matthew 6:10

- We started looking at this scripture that is about the Kingdom of God coming on earth as in Heaven
- What does this mean? What is God's Kingdom?
- Lets take a closer look at this word "Kingdom"

the Greek word is "Basileia"

in the strong (concordance G932) it means the following:

Royal power: Of the royal power of Jesus as triumphant Messiah

↳ the right or authority to rule over a Kingdom

↳ royal power conferred on Christians in Christ's Kingdom

Kingship: To be King over, to be in the position of a King

↳ To rule over

Dominion: Sovereignty or Control — Lordship

↳ The territory of a government.

Rule: Control over an area or people

↳ A code of practice and discipline for a religious order or community

* "Basileia" comes from the root word "Basileus" (strong G935) which relates to the idea of a "foundation of Power"

* The Kingdom of God - is His realm and His foundation of Power on earth!!

* It is His dominion or lordship, in which He establishes His will here and now through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ in the lives of His people!!

Kingdom Now

Qualities of the Kingdom of God:

1 Corinthians 4:20

① It is a Kingdom of Power, not just words

- The Kingdom of God was never meant to be proclaimed with words alone.
- Neither was it to be communicated as something that will come only in the future
- Always meant to be announced with power and in the present - in the Now!!

1 Thessalonians 1:5

↳ The Apostle Paul wrote

↳ Many speak about the Kingdom, but have no accompanying demonstration of what they teach.

↳ Words alone is not enough, there has to be an accompanying power - a visible demonstration of God's power to heal the sick, deliver the captives and the oppressed, and save the lost.

Matthew 4:23

↳ This is the gospel Jesus Christ preached, and it was accompanied by power.

↳ The foundation of God's power (the Kingdom) manifested through Him and the gospel message He preached.

↳ Even Paul & the other apostles preached the gospel that was accompanied by power!!

Kingdom Now

Qualities of the Kingdom of God:

John 18:36

② It is a Supernatural Kingdom.

- the Kingdom is not yet physical, nor does it have an earthly capital yet.
- It is a supernatural, or spiritual Kingdom. Its capital is in Heaven, from which God reigns.
- The Greek word for the word that Jesus uses here for world is the word; - "Kosmos"

"Kosmos" means - constitution; order; government

- The Kingdom is not subject to this world order - or a part of it. It's a government on its own - and its supernatural
- meaning it is not natural; supernatural - some force beyond scientific understanding or the laws of nature
- The Kingdom of God is a force beyond scientific understanding
- The Kingdom of God is a force beyond the laws of nature.

Lets look at the story where Jesus raised Lazarus

John 11:38 - 44

- 4 - material universe
- number of nature - natural

- * Jesus walks in the foundation of God's Power, and the supernatural manifestation thereof.
- * The Kingdom of God is not of this world, its of the government of Heaven!

Kingdom Now

Qualities of the Kingdom of God:

③ It is an (Unshakable) Kingdom

Hebrews 12:28

- Not only will it not be shaken, it cannot be shaken - this is ultimate truth.

unmoved;
firm; stable
immovable
unchangeable

- In this world everything is constantly changing, you will agree that things changed alot just in the last months.

- But God's Kingdom, is unchangeable & unshakable

- Everything outside of God's Kingdom is shakable

- There is shakings going on and there will be one great final shaking (Lev 6:12-17)

- Jesus called these shakings - birth-pangs in (Matthew 24)

* But we have recieved, and maybe you are only recieving it now - an unshakable Kingdom

* As a child of God, that is obedient, even if the storm comes we will not be moved

Matthew 7:24-25

Romans 8:38-39

- Nothing can move us!!

- Even through the shaking, if we are in the unshakable Kingdom of God we cannot be moved

- In the Kingdom of God we are immovable!!

Kingdom Now

Characteristics of the Kingdom of God:

Romans 14:17

integrity, virtue, purity of life
correctness of thinking & feeling & acting

① Righteousness

So living in righteousness means several things:

a.) Being in ^(right) good standing with God by the forgiveness and redemption we receive through Christ's death and resurrection. **2 Corinthians 5:21**

b.) Acting in the same ways that God acts, as it says in **Micah 6:8**

c.) Submitting yourself to be accountable to God for your thoughts, words, and actions, and allowing Him to correct us and to guide us. **Psalm 23:3** "Paths of righteousness for His Name sake"

* To be within the Kingdom of God, we must be righteous, regardless of the church we belong to.

* We have to submit to the government of God, if we don't we are rebellious & unrighteous.

* Only those within the Kingdom can ^(with a relationship with Jesus) know righteousness, outside it's a rule.

* Good News is that everyone who repents can receive the righteousness that comes through faith in Jesus Christ → entry to Kingdom → Eternal life

→ state of him who is as he ought to be
→ the condition acceptable to God

Kingdom Now

Characteristics of the Kingdom of God:

Romans 14:17

② Peace

- Righteousness and Peace comes together, the words righteousness and peace will always be related.
- We cannot experience true peace without having righteousness.
- Jesus wants to reign over the human race to bring it both righteousness and peace

Isaiah 9:6-7

Isaiah 32:17

- Rebellious people do not enjoy peace, you can even be religious and miss the peace of God!

So what does this word "Peace" really mean?

- The Hebrew word for peace is "shalom" meaning
 - ↳ Completeness
 - ↳ Soundness
 - ↳ Safe; well
 - ↳ happy; health & prosperity

* Peace is one of the Kingdom benefits that comes as a result of being justified and made righteous by Jesus Christ

* This supernatural peace only comes through knowing Jesus Christ

* And it will guard (shield) our hearts and minds

Philippians 4:7

↳ Protect against damage or harm

* This peace that comes from the presence of the Lord brings us to a position of complete protection!

Kingdom Now

Characteristics of the Kingdom of God:

Romans 14:17

③ Joy

- The Kingdom of God also brings us joy!! As one of the characteristics of the Kingdom, we when we actively live in the Kingdom will experience this joy.
- There is a difference between happiness and joy.
- Happiness belongs to the realm of the soul, while joy belongs to the realm of the spirit

Happiness:

- Its connected to external circumstances
- Depending on the nature of those circumstances, we feel happy or sad
- So although a new car, a new house or a high paying job can bring you happiness..... it can never bring you true joy.
- All of these things (external) often changes, which means that happiness is temporal, at least that that the world brings

Joy:

→ Nehemiah 8:10

- But joy, true joy is always related to a stable source that never changes, does not vary, and is not affected by external forces.
- Joy happens in our spirit, and when connected to King Jesus it remains constant. His Joy is our strength!!
- Regardless of the circumstances we might be experiencing.
- The joy of the Kingdom of God is constant, unchangeable through the Spirit of the Kingdom - The Holy Spirit.

Kingdom Now

Conclusion

- In this series we have come to know that God's Kingdom is present here on earth - Now!
- The "Basileia" = Royal Power; Kingship; Dominion; Rule of God is here on earth - Now!
- The "Foundation of God's Power" is here on earth - Now

* We looked at some qualities of the Kingdom of God:

- Its a Kingdom of Power
- Its a Supernatural Kingdom
- Its an unshakable Kingdom

* We looked at some characteristics of the Kingdom of God:

- Righteousness
- Peace
- Joy

Romans 14:17

- But outside of the Holy Spirit we can't experience any of these things
- Its all in the Holy Spirit
- He is the Administrator and Executor of the Kingdom
- He is the Governor of God's Government.
- And we get to know the Kingdom of God and the things of God only through and by the Holy Spirit

• So now that we have been introduced to the Kingdom of God - God's foundation of Power

• How do we receive it?

• What do we do to be governed by it?

1 Corinthians
2: 11-14

→ New series - Kingdom Within