

YOUR KINGDOM COME | PART 1

Kingdom Now: Session Summary

This opening session of the “Your Kingdom Come” series explores the central theme of Jesus’ ministry: the Kingdom of God. Jesus transformed the ancient narrative from a “soon coming Kingdom” to the revolutionary declaration of “Kingdom NOW” – announcing that the long-awaited King had arrived and His eternal Kingdom had begun.

We examine what God’s Kingdom actually is: not a physical place with thrones and castles, but the spaces, places, and people where God’s will is outworked and His rule extends. The key insight comes from the Lord’s Prayer itself – “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done” – revealing that wherever God’s will is enacted, His Kingdom has come.

As modern disciples, we’re not waiting for a future Kingdom to arrive. Instead, we partner with Jesus in His ongoing mission to extend His Kingdom to every person and place. This means proclaiming the good news, healing the sick, bringing freedom to captives, and demonstrating heaven’s rule on earth – doing everything that King Jesus is about.

The session challenges us to understand that our submission to God’s will and our enacting of it through the Holy Spirit’s empowerment is how we actively participate in answering the prayer “Your Kingdom come.” Kingdom NOW means Jesus waits for us to take who He is and what He has done into all our worlds, so His will might be done there and His Kingdom would come – today.

Key Scriptures:

Matthew 6:9-15 (The Lord’s Prayer), Matthew 4:17, Mark 1:15, Isaiah 9:6-7, Luke 1:30-33

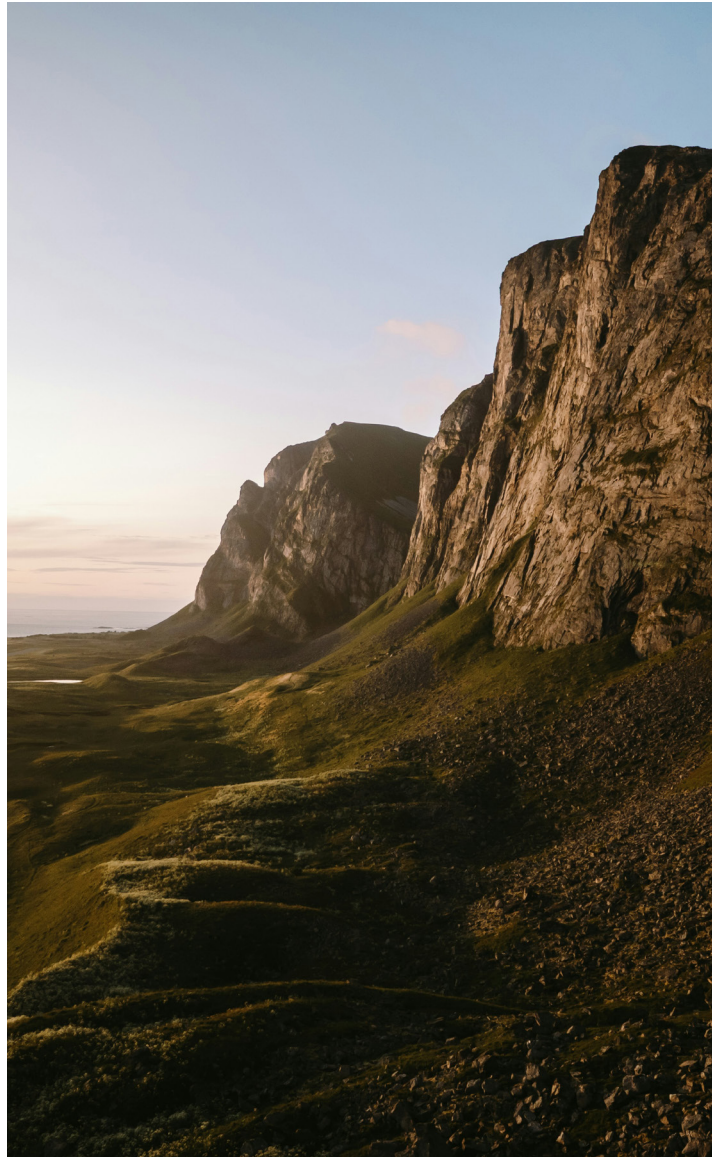
Kingdom Now: Transcript

Welcome today we’re so glad that you’re here with us as we begin a 5 part exploration and study into the Kingdom of God. The Title for this study is Your Kingdom Come, which are the words of King Jesus in the prayer that He taught to His disciples saying this is how you should pray.

We’re going to get into that passage in just a moment, but before we do I want to highlight that our goal here in all of our discipleship content, isn’t for us just to learn things about Him, but to come to know Him and become more like Him. The discipleship process starts with Head – information, moves to Heart – transformation, fully maturing and outworking, with Hands – demonstration.

Our prayer then in all these studies is always the same, that we would be becoming fully matured apprentices, and disciples of King Jesus. Knowing Him and becoming more and more like Him. Today we begin, with what was back over two thousand years ago and for some today, a fresh idea – Kingdom NOW.

As soon as Jesus was baptised, being led then into the wilderness to be tempted, coming out victorious, He begins His public ministry preaching this message:



Mat 4:17 NIV “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Mark 1:15 NIV “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

In just a surface level look across the Gospels it becomes evident very quickly that Jesus has an agenda and it is the Kingdom of God. This would be the central theme to His ministry. So much of what Jesus spoke about was on The Kingdom of God. The other thing that we take note of is the shift in the century’s long narrative about kingdom, from a soon coming Kingdom, to Kingdom Now.

For so long the nation of Israel had waited for this King and Kingdom, believing at times that He and it was here, only to discover, that it was still yet to come. Those kings and kingdoms had end, but one was coming that would be established for ever. God through the prophet Isaiah forecast this coming King

Isa 9:6-7 NIV 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. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

His government, His rule, His reign will have no end! And this also is exactly what the angel came to tell Mary the mother of Jesus, that she is about to give birth to that one, to the one that they had been waiting for, waiting for, for so long. The King with the everlasting Kingdom.

Luk 1:30-33 NIV But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 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, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

His Kingdom is one with no end. And now Jesus baptised and triumphant, boldly declares “The Kingdom of God has come near. The everlasting Kingdom is NOW because the everlasting King has come to take up His throne. And Jesus says that King is me.

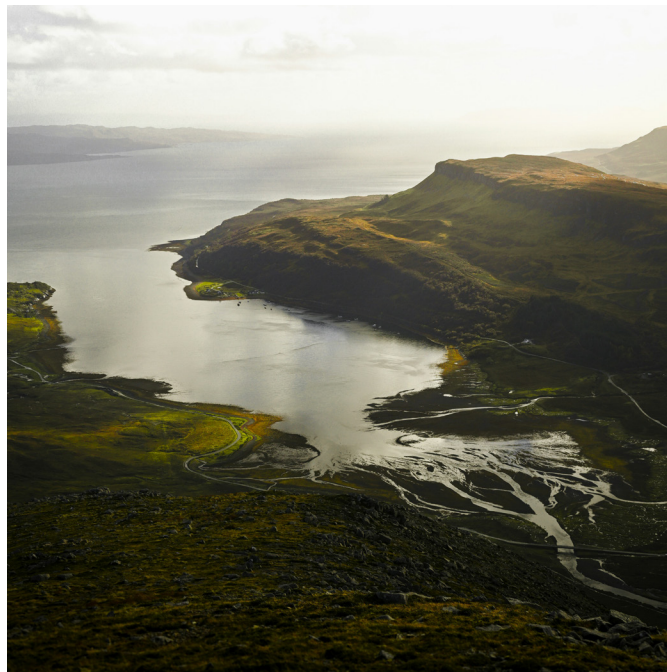
You might begin to appreciate here why the religious establishment struggled so badly with this at the time. For so long they had been waiting and then ‘this guy’ in their eyes, is saying it’s me, I am that one, the wait is over, The King is here. Understandable as their struggle was, the wait was over because the King had come – it was Kingdom NOW.

For those of us who have grown up in the West, the concept of King and Kingdom is largely lost on us. I mean we get it, we understand it, but not having grown up in that system of rule and governance it doesn’t represent much to us. It is however extremely important that we get it as followers of Jesus though, because that’s the picture, that’s the model, that’s the reality. He is King and He is all about the establishment and extension of His Kingdom.

So, what and where is His Kingdom then? If there is a King, then there is a Kingdom. How big that Kingdom is, depends entirely on the space where that King has dominion. That’s all that Kingdom is, the spaces, places, and people over which that King has dominion. Where His rule and reign extends, where His will is outworked in the lives of His subjects, that’s Kingdom.

Say my address is 45 Coast Street and of that place I am king. From the front to the back, from the left to right side of that block, that’s my kingdom. I get to do what I want and exercise my will upon all that is within those borders. Now 43 Coast Street is a different story, I have no say whatsoever, because for reasons unknown to me they are unwilling to come under my rule and see my kingdom extended. My Kingdom does not exist there, because my will is not outworked there.

So, now to our key text. King Jesus, in two recorded accounts, teaches how to pray, and what the priority and posture of His Kingdoms subjects should be. In Lukes account (Luke 11:1) we hear the disciples ask Him the question, Lord teach us to pray, and in response to this and in Matthew’s gospel King Jesus says we are to pray like this.



Mat 6:9-15 NIV “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And 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 if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive

others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

So much in this powerful prayer pertaining to life in Him and Kingdom focus and priority, that you could spend a lifetime learning and growing, but for today we land on that one petition – Your Kingdom come.

If you've ever stopped to consider this passage and posture of prayer I'm sure you've picked up on the 'at first glance', opposing realities. King Jesus said His Kingdom has come, so why are we instructed to pray your Kingdom come.

When we pray God your Kingdom come, were not waiting like our brothers and sisters over centuries past for the soon coming King and Kingdom, because Kingdom is Now, King Jesus has come. What we are praying is that it would come 'there' to that space, to that place, to that person, to those people. To go back to my property analogy, my kingdom has come to 45 Coast Street, I'm praying that it would come to 43 Coast Street.

Jesus' mission, and now ours as "subjects" of The Kingdom of God, is seeing His Kingdom come to every person and every place. But where specifically is His Kingdom? Because it's not so much seen in a physical throne, castle, crests, and walls (Luk 17:20). We find the answer in the words of King Jesus right after He says Your Kingdom Come, He says – YOUR WILL BE DONE!

Wherever Gods will is outworked is where

His Kingdom has come. Therefore, His Kingdom continues to come, to, in and through spaces, places, and people who outwork His will.

The Kingdom of God is only built and extended through those who do the will of The Father.

That's where His Kingdom is, so what then is God's Kingdom will? What message is to be spread, what goal is to be achieved, what ground is seeking to be won?

That all would repent and receive and proclaim Him as Lord and King. That the sick would be healed, that the blind would see, that there would be release from demonic possession and oppression, that freedom would come to the captives (Luke 4:18-19) and that heavens rule and reign would come to earth. What's the message to be shared and the goal to be achieved?

Mat 4:17 NIV "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Mat 9:35 NIV Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.

That's His Kingdom will, and further on from that, that we also would go and do the same.

Mat 10:7-8 NIV As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

Everything that King Jesus is about, is everything that we are to be about. His mission as King, is to be our mission as subjects of the King - His Kingdom come, Now, to every place to every heart!

Today we are not waiting for a King and that Kingdom to come, rather He waits for us to take who He is and what He has done out into all our worlds that His will might be done there, that His Kingdom would come there, to that place and to those people - Now.

So, as we wrap this up today, we pray your will be done and your Kingdom come knowing that our submission to your will and our enacting that in our lives through the empowerment of Holy Spirit is such a large part of the answering of that prayer. Amen. Your Kingdom Come.

Well thanks for joining in today and we look forward to unpacking what His will, rule and reign looks like in our worlds over the next few weeks, we'll see you then.

