

Key Text: Psalms 145:13

Your **kingdom** is an **everlasting kingdom**. Your empire endures throughout every generation.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD DEFINED:

The “kingdom of God” & the “kingdom of heaven” are synonymous references *for the territory where God’s power and authority are exercised*. The word kingdom comes from combining the words “King” with “Domain”. Jesus is the obvious king and His territory is unlike any other king’s domain. Here are some important qualities of the Kingdom of God:

King Jesus

Why is Jesus believed to be the King of the Kingdom of Heaven?

- His Birth and Reign were predicted and fulfilled just as it was predicted.

- He said that He was God.

- The Bible states the He is the physical embodiment of God.

- The Bible states that through Jesus everything was created and is sustained.

- He was proven as Lord by His miraculous power & His resurrection.

- All authority in Heaven & Earth was given to Jesus after His resurrection.

- He commands the Armies of Heaven!

- He is seated on a Throne!

(Micah 5:2-5; Colossians 1:15; 2:19; Matthew 28:18; Luke 1:30-33; John 8:58; Romans 1:1-5; Hebrews 1:1-13; Revelation 5:11-14; 19:11-16)



The Kingdom...



■ The Kingdom of God is **EVERLASTING** just like the King. (Psalms 145:10,13; Daniel 4:3)

■ The Kingdom of God is **“All-encompassing”**. The entire universe, demons, angels, and earthly kings are all under God’s control and dominion. Nothing could exist or act without His sustaining power or authority. (see. *Psalms 45:6; 103:19; 145:10-13; Matthew 6:10; Luke 23:42*).

■ The Kingdom of God **is Sovereign**, ruling over kingdoms. This includes both spiritual kingdoms and earthly kingdoms. (*Daniel 4:30-37*)

■ The Kingdom of God is a **Spiritual kingdom**. This means that it is first established “WITHIN” a heart. (*Luke 17:20,21; 1 Peter 3:15*)

■ The Kingdom of God is **not of this world**. The “culture” of God’s kingdom is in direct contrast with the worldly cultures which are known & instituted among men. (*John 18:36*)

■ The Kingdom of God is **filled with the evidence of the Holy Spirit**. (Romans 14:17 & Galatians 5:22)

■ The Kingdom of God is **POWERFUL**. (1 Corinthians 4:20; 2:4)

■ The Kingdom of God can only be entered into if... **YOU ARE BORN AGAIN**. (*John 3:3,5; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Matthew 19:24*)



THY Kingdom COME...

...THY Will BE DONE...



HOW IS THE KINGDOM EXPRESSED?

Throughout time, **God's authority & His power have been expressed on the earth in three clear ways.**

First, through individual people. The first example of this was in "Eden". God shared His authority and dominion with Adam over every "moving" thing. (*Genesis 1:26,28*). Later on, individuals like Abraham, Issac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Samson, Gideon, and Elijah were all used to express God's rule and reign on the earth. **The Second expression was the nation of Israel.** The earthly nation of Israel was "chosen" to express God's dominion & His power. (*Exodus 19:5,6*) Another evidence of God's choice is that King David's throne, his blood-line, his tribe have all continued on with Jesus Christ. (*Matthew 1:1-17; 2 Samuel 7:11-16*) **The third and most vivid expression of God's kingdom is "The Church".** Now it is through the Church, which is also called the Body of Christ, that God is constantly exercising His authority & dominion on earth. Notice a parallel with the previous expressions. One, the Church is comprised of "Individuals" and two, these individuals form a "New Nation of Priests unto God". (*1 Corinthians 12:27; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 5:10*) The Church must also be defined as both "Universal" and "Local". The Universal church is comprised of all those "Born again" of the Holy Spirit through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior. (*Matthew 16:15-19 These verses speak of the Spiritual & Universal Church.*) (*Matthew 18:15-20 Speaks of a "Local" & visible expression of the Church.*) **The Local church is comprised of Individual believers who gather in a specific location for worship, teaching, fellowship & service.** The local church can be joined or left by individuals but those who gather together are to be marked with these qualities. 1. **A Confession of Faith & Baptism.** 2. **A disciplined life.** 3. **A commitment to sound doctrine.** 4. **The taking of Communion.** 5. **An Orderly structure which is governed by local leaders** and is in fellowship with other local churches. (*Ephesians 1:15-23; Colossians 1:18*). God is still building His universal and local church. Church is not going to end even if a local church closes its doors or if church attendance becomes unpopular. Why? **God loves His church, (Eph. 5:25) and He is going to return for His church, and the church will be mature and ready!** (*The church is called "the bride" Rev. 21:9; 22:17; Matt.25:1-13*) The kingdom of darkness will not prevail against the church. (*Matt. 16:18*)

...ON Earth AS IT IS IN Heaven!

THE KINGDOM OF GOD STARTS "IN" YOUR HEART

By choosing to give God rulership of their lives, all who believe in Christ become a willing part of the kingdom of God (*Matt. 5:3; 13*). "From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it." (*Matt. 11:12*) A paraphrase of this verse could be... **whoever wants the benefits of God's Kingdom will stop at nothing to get it!** Surrendering to Christ as King is the way everyone inside His kingdom lives. It is also the reason that some people will not enter His kingdom. For those people, surrender to Christ as king is not an option. (*Mark 10:25*). *There is a mission that God has given to all who are part of the Kingdom of God. That mission is to SPREAD THE NEWS about the Kingdom to every person. Jesus began this by preaching everywhere... "Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand!" His followers have all been sent out to make more disciples from all nations. And Lastly, each Christian is to prepare themselves for the return of Christ our king!*

IS HE LORD IN YOUR HEART?



**...THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND:
REPENT YE, AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL. MARK 1:15**