

James 2:5

Listen, my beloved brothers, *has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom*, which he has promised to those who love him?

C. Earnest & Bold Witness

Revelation 1:4a, 5-7

Grace to you and peace...from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and **made us a kingdom**, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold, **he is coming** with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and *all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him*. Even so. Amen.

Matthew 13:44-46

What is the Gospel? The Gospel of the Kingdom of God

November 22, 2009

Sermon Outline

Notes

I. Introduction

A. The Gospel is for Christians

Romans 1:15

I am eager to *preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome*.

If there's anything in life we should be passionate about, it's the gospel. And I don't mean passionate only about sharing it with others; I mean passionate in thinking about the gospel, reflecting upon it, rejoicing in it, allowing it to color the way we look at the world and all of life. – C.J. Mahaneyⁱ

B. Proclaiming *the Gospel of the Kingdom*

(Matthew. 4:23; 9:35)

Matthew 24:14

And this *gospel of the kingdom* will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Key Idea

Why is the coming of God's kingdom such good news? For those given eyes to see, it *is* very good news indeed!

C. Good News?

Matthew 13:44-46

⁴⁴ “*The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

⁴⁵ “*Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl*

ⁱ C.J. Mahaney, *The Cross Centered Life*, p.67

ⁱⁱ Ed Welch' *Addictions: A Banquet in the Grave*, p.8

of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

II. The Authority of the True King

A. The Call of the King

Mark 1:14-15

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming *the gospel of God*, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and *the kingdom of God is at hand*; repent and believe in *the gospel*.”

Romans 10:16 (Cf. Acts 17:30-31)

But they have not all *obeyed the gospel*. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?”

B. Is this Good News?

1. Proper Authority not Tyranny

Matthew 21:23 (Cf. Lk. 20:1-2; Parable of the Tenants)

And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what *authority* are you doing these things, and who gave you this *authority*?”

Matthew 21:43

Therefore I tell you, **the kingdom of God** will be taken away from you and given to a people *producing its fruits*.

Revelation 14:6-7

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with **an eternal gospel** to proclaim to *those who dwell on earth*, to *every nation and tribe and language and people*. ⁷ And he said with a loud voice, “**Fear God and give him glory**, because the hour of his **judgment** has come, and **worship him** who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

2. His Rule Brings Healing to All Who Believe

Matthew 4:23 (Cf. Matt. 9:35; Luke 9:6)

And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming *the gospel of the kingdom* and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

1 Thessalonians 2:12

...we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who *calls you into his own kingdom and glory*.

3. There is still Time!

III. Gospel Centered Thinking & Living

A. Beware of Double-mindedness (James 4:1-10)

Romans 2:16

...on that day when, *according to my gospel*, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:33

But *seek first the kingdom of God* and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Jim's two sets of beliefs were clearly in conflict. ... he might have been able to give an orthodox statement of his theology, but his behavior and speech indicated that he was a devoted member of Jimism, a religion that justified his anger and judgment of God.

Yet Jim didn't see that all these things were going on just beneath the surface of his conscience. – Ed Welchⁱⁱ

1 Corinthians 6:19b-20a

You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price.

B. Kingdom Identity