

Thy Kingdom Come

Sermon 17 in “the Matthew Series

Matthew 6:10; 6:33

Romans 14:17 (in the context of Christian Liberty) – “For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

I. The Kingdom of God means the Spiritual Rule of God.

A. God’s Sovereignty

B. God’s Kingdom as Israel in the OC and as the Church in the NC

In the OC we see the Nation of Israel established. God says:
Amos 3:2 – “*You only have I known of all the families of the earth.*”

In the OT we can see two distinct kingdoms.
A physical kingdom of Israel.
The kingdoms of this world – who are in opposition to God.

The great promise of the New Covenant is: There no longer is a physical nation that is the sole recipient of God’s blessing and favor. Instead – God has made for Himself a spiritual kingdom that extends all over the world – without regard to race or ethnicity. All in the New Covenant truly know the Lord. Jer. 31:31

So there are still two distinct kingdoms. Augustine – In The City of God “There are two kingdoms: the kingdom of God and the kingdom of man. Each of these two kingdoms has its own ruler, its own people, its own desire, and its own destiny.”

By performing kingdom miracles, Jesus, during his earthly ministry was overthrowing the kingdom of Satan. **Matt. 4:23; 12:22-28.**

C. Three Critical Errors then and Now

1. People misunderstand **how** the kingdom comes.
2. People misunderstand **the purpose** of the Kingdom.
3. People misunderstand **the nature** of the kingdom.

When we pray “Thy kingdom come” – we are not saying His kingdom is not already here. We are praying for it to come in fullness and to advance and for the gospel to progress and be successful here and around the world!

The Final day is the Judgment Day -- **Matthew 25:31-34**

We pray for a kingdom that has already been established, to grow and continue to grow until finally “The Kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ. And He will reign forever and ever.” **Rev. 11:15.**

John Calvin “It is the task of the church to make the invisible kingdom visible.”

II. The Reality of Two Kingdoms -- 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Colossians 1:13-14 – “He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love. , in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

III. How do we Pray, “Thy Kingdom Come”?

(WLC Question 191: What do we pray for in the second petition.?)

Answer: In the second petition (which is, Thy kingdom come), acknowledging ourselves and all mankind to be by nature under the dominion of sin and Satan, we pray, that the kingdom of sin and Satan may be destroyed, the gospel propagated throughout the world, the Jews called, the fulness of the Gentiles brought in; the church furnished with all gospel officers and ordinances, purged from corruption, that the ordinances of Christ may be purely dispensed, and made effectual to the converting of those that are yet in their sins, and the confirming, comforting, and building up of those that are already converted: that Christ would rule in our hearts here, and hasten the time of his second coming, and our reigning with him forever: and that he would be pleased so to exercise the kingdom of his power in all the world, as may best conduce to these ends.