

Jesus Preaches

Introduction

Royal wedding

Charles, William, George, Charlotte, Lois, Harry

Luke 4:42-44 ESV

42 And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, 43 but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." 44 And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

Jesus's purpose in coming to earth was to preach the good news of the kingdom of God as prelude to Him become the King of God through His work of redemption.

↳ desolate place
↳ kept him from leaving
emphasizer
⇓
"I must preach"

↳ lecture vs. sermon ⇒ Kingdom of God

What is the Kingdom of God?

Concrete v Abstract Nouns

- Hamburger
- Justice

Definition

- God's royal reign over creation and his redemptive reign through Jesus.
- God's sovereign rule over creation and his saving rule through Jesus.

2 Phases

Geographic – Genesis 1-3

John 18:36 ESV

³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."

Redemptive – Genesis 3-Revelation

Redemptive Reign – Saving Rule

Not Realm or Subjects

- John Piper notes the Kingdom of God is not the realm, and not the subjects, but the reign and the rule of God.

OT - Dynamic and relational not geographic

Psalm 145:11 ESV

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,

Psalm 145:13 ESV

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

NT – dynamic, relational reign centered on Jesus

The kingdom has to do with Jesus – the redemptive reign and saving rule are all about Jesus

1. Jesus inaugurates the kingdom.

“the kingdom begins not in the coronation of a mighty king but in the birth of a crying baby”.

Mark 1:14-15 ESV

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

2. Jesus is the kingdom.

Luke 17:20-21 ESV

²⁰ Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, ²¹ nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

3. Jesus purpose is the kingdom.**Luke 4:43 ESV**

⁴³ but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose."

4. Jesus declares the kingdom.**Luke 8:1 ESV**

8 Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him,

- Parables

5. Jesus demonstrates the kingdom.**Luke 11:14-20 ESV**

¹⁴ Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶ while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷ But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸ And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

6. Jesus deploys the kingdom.

Jesus sends his followers out as ambassadors of the kingdom to herald its arrival. This deployment happens in Luke 10 as Jesus sends out the 72

Luke 10:8-11 ESV

⁸ Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'

What is the Kingdom of God in Luke's Gospel?

In Luke's Gospel:

1) The kingdom of God is eternal.

Luke 1:32-33 ESV

³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

2) The kingdom of God is disputed.

Luke 11:14-20 ESV

¹⁴ Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,"¹⁶ while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven.¹⁷ But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸ And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

3) The kingdom of God is at the center of Jesus' agenda.**Luke 4:43 ESV**

⁴³ but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose."

4) The kingdom of God is revelatory in terms of human recognition of its presence**Luke 8:10 ESV**

¹⁰ he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.'

5) The kingdom of God is at the core of the disciples' ministry.**Luke 9:2 ESV**

² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

6) The kingdom of God costs everything but rewards handsomely.**Luke 18:22-30 ESV**

²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²³ But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. ²⁴ Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." ²⁸ And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." ²⁹ And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life."

What is the Good News of the Kingdom of God?

Colossians 1:13-14 ESV

¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Darkness

Baker's Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology

Darkness connotes everything that is anti-God:

- the wicked
- judgment
- death

2 Childhood Stories

- 1) Bayfield
 - a. fear
 - b. futility
- 2) Komoka
 - a. harm

Darkness is the realm in which there is almost no trace of God, and from which falsehood, discord, hatred, and moral blindness emanate and propagate

But, salvation brings light to those in darkness.

Isaiah 9:2 ESV

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

Acts 26:16-18 ESV

¹⁶ But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you,¹⁷ delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you ¹⁸ to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

The good news of the kingdom of God is that through Christ's work in his life, death, resurrection, and ascension a way has been made by which men are transferred from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light; we have forgiveness of sins and reconciliation with God.

GOSPEL

Run to daylight

The way you run to daylight is by putting your faith in God

What does this mean for us?

In light of what we have learned about the kingdom of God, what should we do?

What we have learned:

- God's royal reign over creation and his redemptive reign through Jesus.
- The kingdom of God is all about Jesus.
- The kingdom of God is eternal, disputed, at the very center of Christ's purpose, at the very center of the disciples purpose, requires revelation to see and understand and accept, and for those who see it and understand it and accept it there is a great cost and there is an infinitely greater reward.
- To understand and accept the kingdom means to understand and accept Christ by faith and repentance. Those who accept Christ through faith and repentance are transferred from domain of darkness to the kingdom of Christ.

What do we do about this?

Enter it:

John 3:1-8 ESV

3 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Proclaim it:**Acts 28:23-31 ESV**

²³ When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets. ²⁴ And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved. ²⁵ And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: "The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet:

²⁶ "Go to this people, and say,
 "You will indeed hear but never understand,
 and you will indeed see but never perceive."

²⁷ For this people's heart has grown dull,
 and with their ears they can barely hear,
 and their eyes they have closed;
 lest they should see with their eyes
 and hear with their ears
 and understand with their heart
 and turn, and I would heal them.'

²⁸ Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen."

³⁰ He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, ³¹ proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

Worship:**Hebrews 12:28 ESV**

²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,

Worship = gratefulness, reverence and awe (fearful amazement)