

INTRODUCTION

- * As we have begun to study the ministry portion of Jesus' life recorded in Luke's account, we have seen a couple of times that Jesus has declared that His purpose is to declare the good news of "the Kingdom."
- * Today, we are going to take a one-week detour from our verse-by-verse exposition of the Book to consider the topic of "The Kingdom of God." This term is used 69 times in the Bible; 32 of those occurrences are in the book of Luke! Hence, as we begin to see its usage and references to it, it would behoove us to understand exactly to what Jesus was referring, and how it specifically applies to our lives as believers.
- * In fact, as we move forward into chapter 8, Jesus declares to His disciples: "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God ..." So, let's consider some of the facts that we see regarding the Kingdom of God in the Scriptures - and the impact this should make in our lives.

INSTRUCTION

I. THE G _____ OF THE KINGDOM

- A. It is The Message That Jesus Proclaimed (cf. Luke 4:17-19; 4:43; 7:22; 8:1; 9:11)
- B. It is the Message That He Told His Disciples to Proclaim (cf. Luke 9:2; 9:60)

II. THE I _____ OF THE KINGDOM

A. What is a Kingdom?

1. IN THE O.T. (cf. Genesis 10:10; 20:9; Numbers 32:33; Deuteronomy 3:4,13; 17:18-20)
2. IN THE N.T. (cf. Matthew 4:8; Matthew 12:25-28; 24:6-14)

B. What is the Kingdom of God?

1. THE PHYSICAL REALM

- a. He Reigns over all of C _____ (cf. Psalm 103:19; Isaiah 66:1)
- b. He Reigns over all of the N _____ (cf. Ezra 1:1-2; Dan 4:3; Psalm 22:28; Jer 18:6-10; Zech 14:9; Romans 13:1; 1 Peter 2:13-16)
- c. He Reigns over I _____ (cf. 1 Samuel 8:4-7; Isaiah 9:7; 43:15)
- d. He Shall Reign on the E _____ (cf. Luke 22:16-18, 29-30; Luke 14:15)

2. THE SPIRITUAL REALM

- a. He Reigns in H _____ (cf. Matthew 6:10; Luke 13:28-29)
- b. He Reigns in the H _____ (cf. Luke 17:20-21; Exodus 19:6; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 5:10; 20:6)

III. THE E _____ TO THE KINGDOM

- A. You Must B _____ (cf. John 3:3-5)
- B. You Must B _____ (cf. Luke 18:16-17)
- C. You Must B _____

1. LOVING GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART (cf. Deuteronomy 6:5; Mark 12:28-34)
2. WALKING AWAY FROM ALL ELSE (cf. Luke 9:57-62; 18:24-27; Matthew 6:24)

IV. THE P _____ OF THE KINGDOM

- * cf. Matthew 6:19-21; 33; Philippians 3:20-21; Ephesians 2:4-6; 2 Corinthians 5:1-9; Luke 18:29-30

INTROSPECTION

- * Are you a citizen of the Kingdom of God? Are you truly born again from above?
- * Are you laying up treasures in heaven or on earth?
- * Are you seeking the expansion of God's Kingdom, or your Kingdom?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * How do we balance being a citizen of the United States and a citizen of God's Kingdom?