

**Acts Chapter 1 | The Kingdom in Review**  
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**I. Introduction – The KINGDOM of GOD is REVIEWED**

**A. Key Verse – V 3**

1. Key Word is *Kingdom*
2. *Kingdom – basaleia – royalty, reign, and rule*

**B. As BORN-AGAIN BELIEVERS, we have SPIRITUALLY been SEATED in God's KINGDOM**

1. **THIS** is the **GOSPEL** that Jesus preached
  - a. He did **NOT** preach the gospel of **SALVATION**
  - b. But people **BELIEVED** and **GOT SAVED** as He preached the **GOSPEL** of the **KINGDOM**

The **KING (JESUS)** brings **His KINGDOM** with **HIM**

**C. That said, there are THREE THINGS TO KNOW about the Kingdom**

1. The **KINGDOM** is a **REALITY**, not a **DOCTRINE**
  - a. **A DOCTRINE** can be **ARGUED**, **REALITY CANNOT**
  - b. The **KINGDOM** brings **DEFINITION** to all **TEACHINGS** of **SCRIPTURE**
  - c. The **KINGDOM** is **MORE** than a simple teaching, but a **REALITY**
2. The **KINGDOM** is **ULTIMATE REALITY**
  - a. It is **RELEASED** from *Holy Spirit*
  - b. It **OPERATES** through those who have come into the **KINGDOM EXPERIENTIALLY**
  - c. This is **BEST RECORDED** in *Book of Acts* – it is an **ACTIVE KINGDOM**, not **PASSISVE**

3. In the **NT**, Jesus spoke of the **MYSTERIES** of the **KINGDOM**
  - a. *Mystery* does **NOT MEAN MYSTERIOUS**
  - b. *Mystery – Open Secret*
  - c. The Kingdom is **NOT SECRETIVE** but rather an **OPEN SECRET** that is available to us to:
    1. be **REVEALED**
    2. be **APPREHENDED**
    3. be **COMPREHENDED**

**Proverbs 25:2** *It is the GLORY of GOD to CONCEAL a matter, but the GLORY of KINGS is to SEARCH out a matter*

**Exodus 19:6** *And you shall be to Me a KINGDOM of PRIESTS, and a HOLY NATION. These are the words you shall speak to the sons of Israel*

**Revelation 1:6** *And He (Jesus) has made us to be KINGS and PRIESTS to His God and Father; to Him be the glory and DOMINION FOREVER and EVER. AMEN!*

The Lord **LOVES US** and **WANTS RELATIONSHIP** with **US** that **INCLUDES US SEARCHING** for **HIM**

**II.** The **KINGDOM** begins in *Genesis* and **CONTINUES** through *Revelation*, either in **WORD Kingdom** or in the **CONCEPT** of the *Kingdom*

- A. In *Genesis 1:28* God tells Adam and Eve to **RULE** and **SUBDUE** under **His AUTHORITY**
  1. He is **not only CREATOR** and **REDEEMER**
  2. He is **also KING**
    - a. He **OWNS** what He made
    - b. He **RULES OVER IT** sovereignly
- B. The **PATRIARCHS** and **PROPHETS** continually **REFERENCED** the *Kingdom of God*

1. **Example of Daniel**

Daniel 7:13 *I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven, One like the Son of Man was coming, and He came up to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. And to HIM was given dominion, glory and a **KINGDOM**, that all peoples, nations, and men of every language might serve Him. His **DOMINION** is an **EVERLASTING** dominion which shall not pass away, and His **KINGDOM** is one which will not be destroyed.*

2. **John the Baptist** – after 400 years of prophetic silence

Matthew 3:2 *Repent, for the **KINGDOM of GOD** is **AT HAND*** (come now)

C. In the **BEGINNING** of the *Book of Acts*, Jesus after being **RESURRECTED** spent 40 days teaching **HIS DISCIPLES** things that pertained to the **KINGDOM** (*Acts 1:3*)

- a. Jesus **BEGAN** with them in Galilee in the body **GIVEN** by His **MOTHER**
- b. He **CONCLUDED** with them in the body **GIVEN** by **HIS FATHER**

D. In **Revelation** He is the **CROWNED KING of GLORY**

III. **Seven THINGS Jesus REVIEWED with His DISCIPLES before His ASCENSION**

A. **The Kingdom of God** is a **PRESENT REALITY**, not just a **FUTURE HOPE**

1. **John the Baptizer** preached, *Repent for the kingdom of God is **AT HAND*** (made near and approachable) – *Matthew 3:2*

a. **When Jesus shows up**, the **King** is **NEAR YOU**

2. **As Son of Man**, He ministered on earth, **EMBODYING** His Father's Kingdom

3. And as Paul says in *Col 1:13*, Jesus is the **ACCESS** for **US** to **ENTER** the present and future **REALITY** of Father's Kingdom by the **Holy Spirit**

*We have been delivered from the authority of darkness and translated (MOVED) into the Kingdom of the Son*

B. The Kingdom of God is the **GOVERNMENT** of God into which we **ENTER** at **SALVATION**

1. We are **NOT** born again into the **CHURCH**, but the **KINGDOM**
  - a. The **CHURCH is US** – Buildings are called churches too
  - b. We **BECOME** the **CHURCH** as **LIVING TEMPLES** of Christ
  - c. So, we **DO NOT** just **GO TO CHURCH**, we **GATHER TOGETHER AS** the Church
2. **Moses** represented the **KINGDOM** in Egypt (*Exodus 12-14*)
  - a. The Israelites **SAW** the Kingdom through Moses' **MIRACLE MINISTRY**
  - b. Israelites were **REDEEMED** by the blood of the lamb on the doorposts

They were **sure** of God because of **HOW** He worked through Moses, but still in **BONDAGE**

- c. Even though they were **REDEEMED**, they were not **SAVED**

They could **NOT** be saved unless they left Egypt and Pharaoh' **GOVERNMENT**

- d. Paul says they were **SAVED** were **BAPTIZED** (Red Sea)
  1. The **RED SEA** represented **WATER BAPTISM**
- e. After their baptism, they were **LED** by the **CLOUD** and **PILLAR of FIRE** – Symbols of the **HOLY SPIRIT in OT**

**So**, they **LEFT** the government of **Pharaoh** and **CAME UNDER** the government of **God** through the **LEADERSHIP** of **Moses**

If you are in the **Kingdom**, you **ARE** in the **CHURCH FAMILY**, but you **can be in the CHURCH FAMILY** and yet **NOT EXPERIENCE** the Kingdom

3. The **KINGDOM of GOD** is **GROWING** in **INCREMENTS** (*slowly but surely growing larger*)

**Moses – Joshua – Judges – Samuel – David – Jesus – Church in Christ – END of CHRONOS – Continuation of KAIROS – Eternity!**

- a. The **PROMISE of a KING** who would forever be seated on David's Throne is **JESUS**
  - b. **Kairos** time is **SPEEDING UP!**
4. The Kingdom of God is **UNIVERSAL** – it is available to **ALL MANKIND – NOT JUST FOR ETHNIC ISRAEL**

**Acts 10:34-36** *I most certainly know now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who honors Him and does what is right is WELCOME to Him. The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching PEACE through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of ALL)*

- a. Father od does **NOT HAVE** favorites in His kingdom
- b. He will **RECEIVE ALL** who come to Him for salvation

#### **Jews and Gentiles ALIKE**

5. The Kingdom wages **WAR** against **DARKNESS** through the **CHURCH**
- a. **Matthew 16:13-19** – Read It – **Church – Ecclesia – Called out Ones**
  - b. War is an **inevitable daily battle** that no one is exempt from

If we are **BORN AGAIN** and **BREATHING**, we will be involved in **WARFARE**

- c. **Good News** is we have **Armor (Eph 6)** and **Keys**
  - 1. Our **KEYS** are **Father's AUTHORITY** to **lock down** the gates of the enemy and to **unlock to open** the gates of Heaven
  - 2. we are to **ALWAYS** be **USING** our **KEYS** to **UNLOCK** the Father's desires and to **LOCK DOWN** the devices of the enemy
- d. **Jesus** has already **DEFEATED SATAN**, but **WE** are **TASKED** with the **RESPONSIBILTY** to **ENFORCE** that defeat

**Because of JESUS' VICTORY, we OVERCOME, and we WIN!**

6. The Kingdom is **EXTENDED** throughout history through the **GREAT COMMISSION**

**Matthew 28:18-20** And Jesus came up and spoke to them saying, All authority has been given to Me in **HEAVEN AND IN EARTH**. Go ye therefore and make **DISCIPLES** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teaching them to observe **ALL** that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the **END OF THE AGE**

- a. **His authority** has been delegated to **US** to not only preach salvation and see people receive Jesus, but also to train and teach them the truths of the Word and the Kingdom so that they may become **DISCIPLES** and **DECIPLERS**.

**Discipleship is LIFE LONG LEARNING**

7. The Kingdom of God is **NOT POLITICAL**, but **SPIRITUAL** and **REDEMPTIVE**

There is no **CHRISTIAN PARTY** in **Congresses** that I know of; but there are Christians strategically **PLACED** into the pollical arena to **INFLUENCE the GOVERNMENT** spiritually and receptively for **REDEMPTIVE** and **GOOD PURPOSES** of the **PEOPLE**

- a. **John 18:36** Jesus told Pilate, *My kingdom is not of this world*
  1. *Of* means *origin* or *source*

**Pilate's source of authority was Rome; Jesus' source of authority is HEAVEN**

- b. So, while the Kingdom of God is **NOT POLITICAL**, it **nonetheless** is **PRESENT** in the earth to **AFFECT** the **POLITICAL ARENA** of nations

The **Kingdom of God** is the **ultimate reality** that **touches everything** in the earth as a **REDEMPTIVE FORCE**

#### **IV. TWO OTHER EVENTS** recorded in **Acts 1**

##### **A. Revelation of the FUTURE KINGDOM – vs 6-8**

1. Disciples **STILL LOOKED** for a **NATURAL KINGDOM** of Israel with Christ as **KING** – Asked for the **TIMING**
2. Jesus **REDIRECTED THEM** to **SEEK** the **SPIRITUAL KINGDOM** and the **EMPOWERMENT** of **HOLY SPIRIT** to become **LIVING**

**MARTYRS UNTIL** there is **NO TIME LEFT** in the **EARTH** for **REDEMPTION**

3. After this, they **MOVED** into Jerusalem to the **UPPER ROOM** where they *continued with one accord in prayer and supplication*

**B. Appointment of Matthias**

1. He was **CLEARLY** one of Jesus' **FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS**
2. He was **BAPTIZED** by John the Baptist
3. Was **ONE of the 70** who were sent out by Jesus
4. After his **Apostolic appointment**, nothing else said about him in scripture

Some say he evangelized in Ethiopia and martyred there – Some say he remained in Jerusalem where he was stoned to death and his head cut off by the Jews.