



THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

On the Kingdom

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Mark 1:14b-15

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Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Turn to your neighbor and describe the color blue.

Jesus never tells us what the kingdom of God *is*, only what the kingdom of God is *like*.

The Kingdom of God is the reign of God breaking into the world through Jesus, where His will is done on earth as in heaven, though not yet in fullness.

The Kingdom of God is like...Something New

Mark 2:18-22

Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?" Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast. No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

The Kingdom of God is like...Something Valuable

Matthew 13:44-46

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."

The Kingdom of God is both adventure and venture.

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Chronos is measurable time. Kairos is a decisive moment in time.

Matthew 11:12

From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it.