

Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to encounter one coming against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. Luke 14:31-32



Which Kingdom will YOU serve?



You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. James 4:4

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever. 1 John 2: 15-17



The Laws of the Kingdom of God have been sent from Heaven to Earth. And God desires to rescue men from the kingdom of darkness and adopt them as sons of His Kingdom.

The Laws of God's Kingdom are opposite of the kingdom of the world. Here is a sample:

It is more blessed to give than to receive ... Treat others the same way you want to be treated ... To be greatest in the Kingdom of God, you must be servant to all ... Love everyone, even your enemies ... You must forgive others for God to forgive you ... Blessed are the poor; cursed are the rich ... To be a friend of the world makes you God's enemy.

The kingdom of darkness consists of power, wealth, possessions, pleasures, entertainment, politics, tribalism, patriotism, denominationalism, and even religion. The Kingdom of God consists of love, service, generosity, and a total commitment to obey the King's Laws. To be saved from slavery to Satan, the ruler of the kingdom of the world, we must repent, or turn our allegiance from the kingdom of darkness to God's Kingdom.

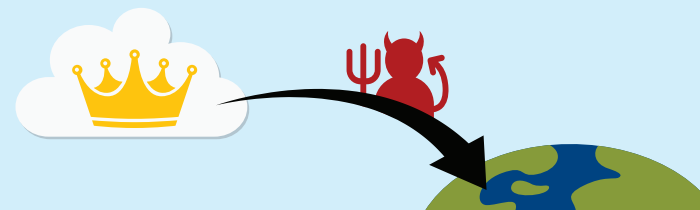
THE TWO KINGDOMS



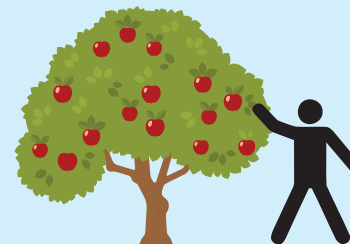
WHOM WILL YOU SERVE?



GOD'S KINGDOM, FIRMLY ESTABLISHED IN HEAVEN



And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Revelation 12:9

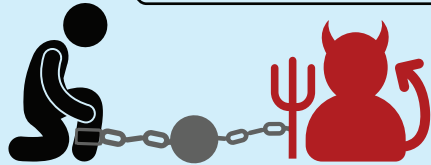


The Law of Sin and Death

The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." Genesis 2:16-17

Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? Romans 6:16

Man sinned and became enslaved to Satan



Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. Hebrews 2:14-15

TEMPTATION

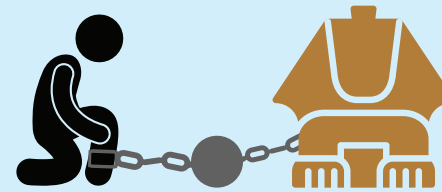


And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours." Luke 4:5-7

KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

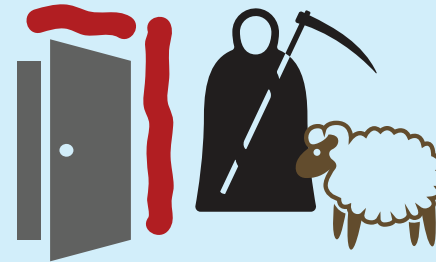


Example of the Israelites



ENSLAVED

Death passed them by the blood of the lamb



They were baptized through the Red Sea

RED SEA



FREEDOM

But they did NOT enter the Promised Land, but rather the Wilderness. Out of 660,000 adult men, only 2 made it all the way to the Promised Land.

WHY?

For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and all ate the same spiritual food; and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness. Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved. Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and stood up to play." Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents. Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. 1 Corinthians 10:1-12.

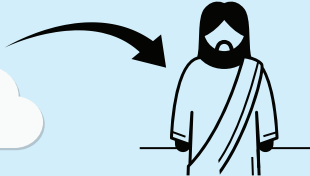
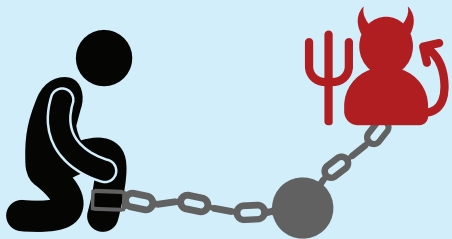
See also Hebrews 3:16-4:1 and Jude 5.

Immorality Disobedience
Unbelief Idolatry

Egypt was still in their heart!

PROMISED LAND

RIVER JORDAN



For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3: 16

For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time. 1 Timothy 2:5-6

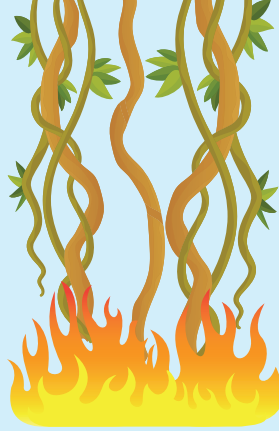
... just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28

"Then He will also say to those on His left, Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; Matthew 25:41



3. Citizens

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. John 15:1-10



Citizens get on the Vine through repentance and baptism, and stay on the Vine by obeying Jesus' teachings. The unfruitful are cut off and burned!

But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. Romans 6:22



But if we walk in the light as he Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1John1:7



But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. Acts 2:24



Since Jesus never sinned, He was not subject to the Law of Sin and Death! He rose from the dead!

4. Laws



If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day. For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak. I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me." John 12:47-50

Jesus' teachings are the exact Laws of Heaven sent to the Earth!

Those who reject the Laws of the Kingdom will be rejected by God!



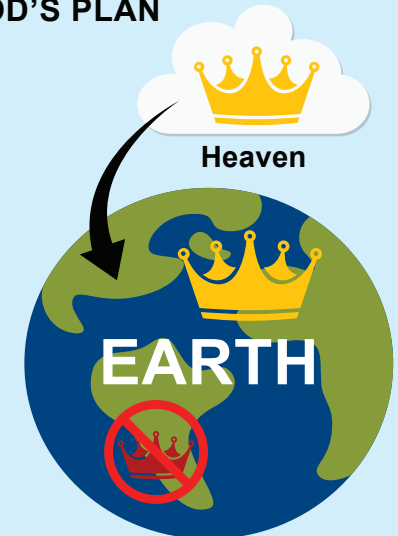
"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.' Matthew 7:21-23

"Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38



Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:5

GOD'S PLAN



Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6: 10



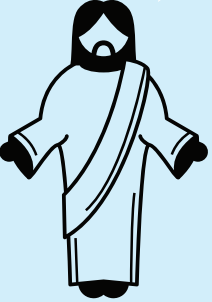
THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Jesus mentions the Kingdom of God about 100 times in the Bible!



THE KINGDOM OF GOD

After He rose from the dead, all He taught his followers was about the Kingdom of God!



But He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose." Luke 4:43

To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. Acts 1:3



His followers taught the Kingdom

But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike. Acts 8:12

When they had set a day for Paul, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening. Acts 28:23

And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered. Acts 28:30-31

He will not return, until His followers preach the Kingdom in the whole world!



This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. Matthew 24:14

How it all ends!
 Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." Revelation 11:15



What is the Kingdom of God?
 All Kingdoms have 4 things in common

1. A King



2. Territory



3. Citizens



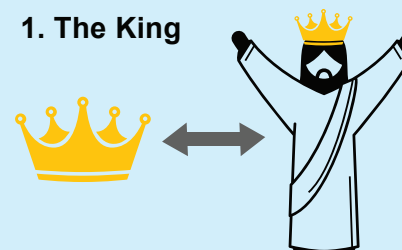
4. Laws



The Kingdom of God is no different

Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, " You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." John 18:37

1. The King



2. Territory



Heaven



...and it is being established on Earth, as it is in Heaven ... But where?

Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or, 'There it is!' For behold, the kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17:20-21

