

# JESUS, THE CHRIST THE CHURCH AND THE KINGDOM 1

## Introduction:

Eph.3:3-11.

1 Pet. 1:18-20.

Acts 20:28.

Matthew 3:2

Acts 20:28

Matthew 5:17-18

John 6:15 Acts 1:6

17:20-21

1 Corinthians 12:12-20

1 Pet. 2:9

John 18:3. ***Jesus answered, My kingdom is not from this world; if my kingdom were from this world, then my attendants would fight that\* I might not be given up to the Jews, but now my kingdom is not from here.***

## **I. CHURCH AND KINGDOM: DEFINITION OF TERMS.**

**“called out ones.”**

The word **"church,"** - "Composed of **'ek,'** meaning **'out,'** and **'kaleo,'** **'to call,'** it literally meant a called-out assembly."

**"church"** or **"churches"** - Matthew 16:18; 2Cor.8:1; Rev. 1:4; 2:1,8, 12.

**"church of God"** or **"churches of God"** - I Cor. 1:1; 11:16; 1 Tim. 3:15.

**"churches of Christ"** - Rom. 16:16.

**"church of the lord"** - Acts 20:28, ASV.

**"the church"** - Acts 2:47.

**"church of the firstborn"** - Heb. 12:8.

The word **"kingdom"** refers to the power, sovereignty, or rule of God in the lives of those who are his people.

**"The word 'kingdom'"** appears in about six different contexts in the New Testament.

The word **"kingdom"** appears 157 times in the New Testament, and the word **"kingdoms"** is found three times.

- A. First the word **"kingdom"** is used in reference to a secular, earthly, political rule. Matthew. 4:8.
- B. Second, it is used in reference to the kingdom of Israel. God was the king of Israel, and Israel was His kingdom. Matt. 8:12.
- C. Third, it is used simple in reference to the power or rule of God. Matt. 12:28.
- D. Fourth, it is used in reference to the church, the special rule of God on earth today. Matthew 16:18; John 3:5.
- E. Fifth, it is used in reference to heaven as the eternal kingdom of God. Luke. 13:28.
- F. Sixth, it is used of Satan's realm of dominion. Matthew- 12:26.

The New Testament presents the following designations.

- A. "kingdom" - Acts 1:6; 1 Cor. 15:24; Heb. 12:28.
- B. "kingdom of God" - Mk. 9:1.
- C. "kingdom of Heaven" - Matt. 16:19.
- D. "kingdom of the son of his love"- Col. 1:13-14,ASV.
- E. "kingdom of Christ and of God" - Eph.5:5.

## II. THE CHURCH AND THE KINGDOM ARE ONE AND THE SAME INSTATUTION.

- A. Identifying marks for the church and the kingdom are given by God.
- B. The Bible teaches the kingdom and church are one and the same institution.

KINGDOM	IDENTIFYING MARK	CHURCH
Matt. 13:19	<b>Seed</b>	Acts 18:8
Isa. 2:2	<b>Date</b>	Acts 2:16-21.
Mic.4:1-2	<b>Place</b>	Luke24:47
Dan 2:44	<b>Boundary</b>	Mk. 16:15.
John 18:36	<b>Owner</b>	Matt. 16:18.
1 Tim.6:15	<b>Ruler</b>	Eph. 5:23.
Isa 2:3	<b>Law</b>	Acts2:38-47.
Matt. 16:19	<b>Keys</b>	Matt. 16:18.
John 3:5	<b>Pardon</b>	Acts 2:38.
Col. 1:13	<b>Membership</b>	Col. 1:2.
Matt.26:29	<b>Worship</b>	1Cor. 11:20-27.
Isa- 2:2-3	<b>Glory</b>	Eph.3:21.
Matt. 25:31-34	<b>Reward</b>	I Cor. 15:58.
1 Cor. 15:24.	<b>Deliverance</b>	I Thess.4:16-17.

### C. Matthew 16:18-19.

**"Upon this rock "**

- a. It teaches the certainty of it - **"I will Build my church."**
- b. It teaches the intimacy of it - **"I will build my church."**
- c. It teaches the invincibility of it - **"The gates of Hades shall not overpower it."**
- d. It teaches the authority of it - **"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven."**

## III. THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM IN PROPHECY.

- A. 2 Sam.7:12-17; I Chron. 17:11-15.
- B. Dan. 2:31-45.
- C. Isa.2:2-3.
- D. Joel 2:28-29.
- E Mic.4:1-2.
- F. Zech. 6:12-13; 13:1
- G. Ezek.34:11.22-23.
- H. Amos 9:11- 12.

#### IV. THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM IN PREPARATION.

- A. Reliable, inspired men spoke of it as yet to come.
  - 1. John the Baptist - Matt 3: 1-2.
  - 2. Jesus Christ - Matt 4:17;
  - 3. The Twelve - Matt. 10:7.
  - 4. The Seventy - Lk. 10:9.
  - 5. Matt 11:11.
- B. Some in Jesus' time were still looking and waiting for the kingdom.
  - 1. The thief on the cross – Luke 3:42 - **before Christ died.**
  - 2. Joseph of Arimathea - - Mk. 15:43 - **after Jesus died**
  - 3. The Disciples. Acts 1:6. (**after resurrection of Jesus and before his ascension**)
- C. The final stage of preparation for the kingdom - Lk 24:44-53
- D. Come with power - Mk. 9:1.

#### V. THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM ESTABLISHED.

- A. When exactly, was the kingdom/church established?
  - 1. Jesus spoke of it as future - Matt 16:19; Acts 2:47 as present;
  - 2. Established when Holy Spirit came down - Luke.24:49; Mk.9:1; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4.
  - 3. Established when the “**last days**” began - Isa.2:2; Joel 2:2:28; Acts 2:16-21.
  - 4. Church established during Roman rule - Dan. 2:M.
  - 5. Was to come in apostles lifetime - Matt. 16:28.
- B. How was the church established?
  - 1. By the preaching of the gospel - Acts 2:22-36.
  - 2. By sinners rendering obedience to gospel - Acts 2:37 -41.
  - 3. By God adding the forgiven obedient ones to the church - Acts 2:47.

#### CONCLUSION:

- 1. The church of Christ and the Kingdom of God are one and the same institution.
- 2. The Old Testament prophets prove the coming and establishment of the church on the day Pentecost after the resurrection of Christ. Every scripture speaking of the kingdom before Acts 2 speaks of it as being in the **FUTURE**.
- 3. Every scripture speaking of the kingdom AFTER Acts 2 speaks of it as being in **EXISTENCE**.
- 4. Membership in the kingdom of Christ/church of Christ is essential to salvation!