

## Already/Not Yet Understanding the Kingdom of God

Luke 17:20 - 25

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## Overview

- The kingdom of God cannot be discovered by empirical observation
- The kingdom was present in the person of Christ
- The kingdom of God is present in one sense and future in another
- The coming of the future Messianic kingdom will be visible to all
- A Biblical overview of the doctrine of the kingdom of God

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
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## They do not discern the hand of God at work in the person of Christ

- **Luke 17:20**

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;"

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There is no localized kingdom of God to be found

■ **Luke 17:21**

nor will they say, “Look, here it is!” or, “There it is!” For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst.

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“Son of Man” means “Messiah who will have dominion”

■ **Luke 17:22**

And He said to the disciples, “The days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.”

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Do not be deceived by people who claim they can find the kingdom

■ **Luke 17:23**

They will say to you, “Look there! Look here!” Do not go away, and do not run after them.

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The “day” of the Son of Man will be visible to all when it comes

■ **Luke 17:24**

For just like the lightning, when it flashes out of one part of the sky, shines to the other part of the sky, so will the Son of Man be in His day.

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The Son of Man must *dei* be rejected by Israel’s wicked leadership

■ **Luke 17:25**

“But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.”

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Implications and Applications

1) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the kingdom of God

2) We must be sure that we are under the reign of the King

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### The promise of a king and a kingdom

■ **2Samuel 7:13, 14a**

He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me;

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### David's response to Nathan's prophesy

■ **2Samuel 7:18**

Then David the king went in and sat before the Lord, and he said, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far?"

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### The near and the far, the one and the many

■ **2Samuel 7:19**

"And yet this was insignificant in Your eyes, O Lord God, for You have spoken also of the house of Your servant concerning the distant future. And this is the custom of man, O Lord God."

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Gabriel alludes to 2Samuel 7:13, 14

■ **Luke 1:32, 33**

“He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

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Hebrews cites 2Samuel 7:14a as prophesy about Christ

■ **Hebrews 1:5**

For to which of the angels did He ever say, “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You”? And again, “I will be a Father to Him And He shall be a Son to Me”?

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The “Son of Man” prophecy

■ **Daniel 7:13**

I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him.

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### The “Son of Man” prophecy

- **Daniel 7:14**

“And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and men of every language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.”

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### Suffering Servant prophecy

- **Isaiah 53:10**

But the Lord was pleased To crush Him, putting Him to grief; If He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, And the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand.

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### How God gathers people to serve the Son of Man

- **Isaiah 53:11**

As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities.

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The kingdom was present in the person of the King

■ **Luke 11:20**

But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

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The kingdom is also future and not good news for everyone

■ **Luke 13:28, 29**

In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but yourselves being thrown out. And they will come from east and west and from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God.

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The future kingdom includes a restored, national Israel

■ **Acts 1:6, 7**

So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;"

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The preaching of the Gospel to all nations is the means that God uses to bring people from all nations under the reign of the King

■ **Acts 1:8**

but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.

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The King is now reigning in heaven at the right hand of God

■ **Acts 2:34, 35**

For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.’”

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The promise of the future kingdom is not good news for the wicked

■ **Matthew 13:41, 42**

The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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Citizens of the kingdom are being gathered from all nations

■ **Colossians 1:13, 14**

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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2) We must be sure that we are under the reign of the King

■ **Mark 1:14b, 15**

Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

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2) We must be sure that we are under the reign of the King

■ **2Peter 1:10, 11**

Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

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