

## The Kingdom of God – Already, But Not Yet

Luke 17:11-37

Pastor Phil Winfield

October 26, 2014

When is the Kingdom Coming?

1. **Dead people** (unsaved) can't see the present Kingdom (v.20-21)
  - a. Stop looking for the kingdom **to come**.
  - b. Open your eyes and see that the kingdom **is here** (v.11-19).
  - c. The Jews couldn't see the kingdom because they were spiritually **dead**. 1 Co 2:14
2. Living people (saved people) must both **live in** and **anticipate** the Kingdom (v.22-37).
  - a. The Day of the Lord would be **delayed** (v.22).
  - b. When Jesus comes in His "days", everyone will see it **at once** (v.23).
  - c. Before Jesus comes in His "days", He would first be **rejected** by that generation (v.25).
  - d. When Jesus comes in His "days", life will be going on like **normal** as if no end would ever come (v.26-30).
  - e. When Jesus comes in His "days", it will be **sudden** and leave no time for last minute preparation (v.31-33).
  - f. When Jesus comes in His "days" it will be **universal** (v.34-36)
3. All people - **get ready** for the King to come!
  - a. It is an inescapable truth and prediction in scripture that Jesus is coming to reign on the earth. Ps. 2:6ff; 2 Peter 3:10 ff
  - b. The kingdom is here **now** - The king has come, the door is open, come now!
    - Believe the gospel and partake of the Kingdom of God **now**.
    - Believe the gospel and enjoy the Kingdom of God **forever**.
    - If you **reject** the gospel you will miss the Kingdom of God forever.
    - He who **hesitates** may miss out forever.

## Bible Reasons to be thankful

- God is thanked for his deliverance (Ps 35:18)
- For loving us and being faithful (Ps 52:9; 107:8)
- For hearing our cry (Ps 118:21)
- For safe arrival after a long, arduous journey (Acts 28:15)
- For other believers and for the testimony of their faith (Rom 1:8)
- For the gift of salvation that enables one not to sin (Rom 6:17)
- For delivering us from our tendency to sin (Rom 7:25)
- For the spiritual gift of being able to address God (1 Cor 14:18)
- For resurrection hope (1 Cor 15:57)
- For testimony, deliverance and victory in the midst of persecution (2 Cor 2:14)
- For the support of a colleague in ministry (2 Cor 8:16)
- For other believers (Phil 1:3; Col 1:3; 2 Tim 1:3; Philem 4)
- For those who respond to God's Word (1 Thess 2:13)
- For being able to serve others for God (1 Tim 1:12)
- For his attributes (Rev 4:9)

Notice that this list includes not one item having to do with things or possessions. The occasions for gratitude all have to do with relationships or circumstances in relationship to others.

(Not an exhaustive list)