

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN:  
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

**Sermon Plan**

1. Introduction: The Coming Kingdom
2. The Story of the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 1: Creation
3. The Story of the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 2: The Fall
4. The Story of the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 3: Israel
5. The Story of the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 4: Jesus I
6. The Story of the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 4: Jesus II
7. The Story of the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 5: Church
- 8. Entering the Kingdom of Heaven**
9. Life in the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 1: The Benefits of the Kingdom
10. Life in the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 2: The Core Values of the Kingdom
11. Life in the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 3: The People of the Kingdom
12. Life in the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 4: The Work of the Kingdom
13. Life in the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 5: The Warfare of the Kingdom
14. Conclusion: The Story of the Kingdom of Heaven, Part 6: New Creation

ENTERING THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN  
(ACTS 2:36-39)

- I. Introduction
- II. Acts 2:36-39: Who Jesus Is and What Our Response Should Be
  - A. Some Negative Responses to the Speaking in Foreign Languages (2:13)
  - B. Peter's Sermon Response to that Criticism (2:14-36)
    1. 2:17-21: What is happening is a fulfillment of Joel's prophecy concerning the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the last days (see Joel 2:28-32)
    2. 2:22-24: Jesus was killed according to God's plan and that God had raised him up.
    3. 2:25-35: The resurrection and ascension of Jesus was a fulfillment of prophecies that King David himself had made (see Ps 16:8-11; 110:1).
  - C. The Thing about Jesus That All Israel Must Know (2:36)
    1. Jesus is *Lord*—he is Yahweh
    2. Jesus is *Christ/Messiah*—he is the anointed savior-king from God
  - D. "Brothers, What Shall We Do?" (2:37)

- E. Peter's Answer (2:38-39)
1. What we must do if we want to be saved from the coming judgment.
    - a. "Repent"
    - b. "...and be baptized"
      - i. What is baptism?
      - ii. What does baptizing "in the name of Jesus Christ" involve?
        - (A) It involves *calling* upon the name of Jesus Christ (see Acts 22:16)
        - (B) It involves *receiving* the name of Jesus Christ
  2. The benefits of repentance accompanied by baptism (v 38):
    - a. The forgiveness of sins
    - b. The gift of the Holy Spirit
  3. Those to whom this promise is given (v 39)
    - a. "for you..."
    - b. "and for your children..."
    - c. "and for all who are far off..."
    - d. "everyone whom the Lord calls to himself."

### Questions for Further Discussion

1. What is the meaning of the titles Lord and Christ?
2. What does it mean to repent?
3. What is the meaning of baptism?
4. What is involved in being baptized "in the name of Jesus Christ"?
5. What do we receive as a result of repentance?