

*The Gospel According To*

# LUKE

*The Present and Coming Kingdom of God*

*Luke 17:20-37*

# The Kingdom of God

*The universal domain of God over everything*

*God's special relationship with a covenant people*

- Old Testament Covenants
  - *With Adam*
  - *With Noah*
  - *With Abraham*
  - *With Moses*
  - *With David*

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- Old Testament Covenants
- New Covenant
  - Predicted in the Old Testament

**Jeremiah 31:31–34**<sup>31</sup>“Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,...I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people...for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”



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**Ezekiel 36:26** "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you"

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**Mark 1:14–15** <sup>14</sup>Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

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**Luke 22:20** "the new covenant in My blood"



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**1 Corinthians 3:16**<sup>16</sup> Do you not know that you are a temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

# The *Present Invisible* Kingdom of God (vv20-21)

The Pharisees questioned Jesus about when the kingdom of God was coming (v20a)

Jesus said the kingdom of God is already present! (vv20b-21)



# The *Coming Visible* Kingdom of God (vv22-37)

Overview of End Times Events

### Rapture (1 Thess 4:14-17)

- Christ returns to take His church to heaven prior to Tribulation, saved from the wrath of the Tribulation (1 Thess 5:9, Rev 3:10)
- Dead believers are resurrected, all believers given new bodies (1 Thess 4:14-17, 1 Cor 15:51-58)

### Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor 5:10)

- Believers judged/rewarded for their deeds and motives

### Tribulation (Rev 6:1-19:10)

- Time of God's wrath, lasting 7 years, Daniel's 70th week (Dan 9:24-27)
- Purpose is to bring about conversion of Israel, judge unbelieving people/nations

### Second Coming of Christ (Rev 19:11-21)

- Brings glorified saints with Him to earth
- Old Testament/tribulation saints resurrected

### Millennium (Rev 20:1-6)

- Reign of Christ on renewed earth for 1000 literal years, mediated through saints
- A final rebellion by Satan is crushed and the current heavens and earth are destroyed

### Great White Throne (Rev 20:11-15)

- Resurrection of all unbelievers (Rev 20:5,12-13)
- Judgment of all unbelievers (also Matt 13:40-50)

### Eternal state (Rev 21-22)

- New heaven and new earth



# The *Coming Visible* Kingdom of God (vv22-37)

## Aspects of the Return of Christ

- Believers will long to see it (v22)

**Daniel 7:13–14** <sup>13</sup>“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. <sup>14</sup>“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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**Revelation 22:20** <sup>20</sup>He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming quickly.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

# The *Coming Visible* Kingdom of God (vv22-37)

## Aspects of the Return of Christ

- Believers will long to see it (v22)
- False teachers will attempt to confuse believers concerning it (v23)
- It will be unmistakable and obvious to all when it happens (v24)

**Revelation 1:7** <sup>7</sup>BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.



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**Matthew 24:30**<sup>30</sup>“And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.



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- It will be unmistakable and obvious to all when it happens (v24)
- Christ must first suffer and be rejected before it happens (v25)
- It will happen at an unexpected time, when most are preoccupied with daily living and earthly pursuits (vv26-30)
- It will reveal the true affections of every heart (vv31-33)

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- Christ must first suffer and be rejected before it happens (v25)
- It will happen at an unexpected time, **Genesis 19:26** <sup>26</sup>But his wife, from behind him, living and earthly pursuits (vv26-30) looked *back*, and she became a pillar of salt.
- It will reveal the true affections of every heart (vv31-33)



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- It will happen at an unexpected time, when most are preoccupied with daily living and earthly pursuits (vv26-30)
- It will reveal the true affections of every heart (vv31-33)
- It will divide and separate people (vv34-37)



# Questions for Reflection

*Are you part of the spiritual kingdom of God?*

*Are you ready for the return of Christ?*