

Living As Kingdom Citizens

The word “Kingdom” when talking about God’s rule is explicitly referred to 112 times in the Gospels.

I. What is Kingdom?

Dr. Myles Munroe defines a kingdom as the governing influence of a king over his territory, impacting it with his personal will, purpose, and intent, producing a culture, values, morals, and lifestyle that reflect the king’s desires and nature for his citizens.

The Kingdom of God possesses these characteristics...

1. A King

2. A Territory

The word “kingdom” in fact is a fusion of two words— king and domain.

3. Constitution

4. Laws

5. Citizens

6. Rights and Privileges

7. Army

8. Commonwealth

II. What does living as Kingdom citizens look like?

If we claim to be living the Kingdom life, we can't constantly be forming our own little groups to advance our own opinions or to challenge the Word of the King!

Dan. 2:44 (ESV) - And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to

another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever,

Mt. 10:1 (ESV) - And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.

Mk. 3:14-15 (ESV)

14 And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach

15 and have authority to cast out demons.

Matthew 10:7-8 (ESV)

7 And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.

Lk. 10:8-9 (ESV)

8 Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you.

9 Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Lk. 9:1-2 (ESV)

1 And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases,

2 and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

Mark 6:12-13 (ESV)

12 So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent.

13 And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

1. Relationship (his presence)

2. Power (ministry, warfare, kingdom authority)

Mt. 4:23 (ESV) - And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every

disease and every affliction among the people.

Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom, then he manifested the reality of the Kingdom!

Matt. 12:28 (ESV) - But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

The Kingdom of God is real, it rules over the kingdom of the devil!

So the gospel has 2 sides...

A. Saying what Jesus said.

B. Doing what Jesus did.

1 Cor. 4:20 (ESV) - For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power.

The Kingdom of God is not just a concept or theory to be grasped intellectually...

But the Kingdom of God is a kingdom of Power!

Jesus is the King and the Holy Spirit is the Power!

The Kingdom of God is the rule, the dominion, the authority of Jesus manifesting through us by the power of the Holy Spirit to prove to the world that Jesus is alive!

Rom. 1:16 (ESV) - For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

A Gospel devoid of the power of God is not really the Gospel!

Rom. 14:17 (ESV) - For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

A Gospel devoid of the character of God (Fruit of the Holy Spirit) is not really the Gospel!

You can't WELCOME sin in your life and continue to operate in Kingdom authority and Power indefinitely!

God in His grace and mercy will at some point bring humbling consequences!

Remember Samson!

No one can just join this Kingdom like it's some kind of club...

You must be born into it!

Jn. 3:3 (ESV) - Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Jn. 3:5 (ESV) - Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

If you want Kingdom Power, you have to passionately pursue the Power source!

Matt. 11:12 (ESV) - From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.

Matthew 11:12 (NLT) And from the time John the Baptist began preaching until now, the Kingdom of Heaven has been forcefully advancing, and violent people are attacking it.

The Holy Spirit is the one who manifests the Kingdom of God!

Acts 1:4 (ESV) - And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me;

Acts 1:8 (ESV) - But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

If we are going to be true credible witnesses to Jesus being alive, we have to have His Power!

Acts 4:33 (ESV) - And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

Acts 4:29-30 (ESV)

29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,
30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

1 Cor. 2:1 (ESV) - And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.

1 Cor. 2:4-5 (ESV)

4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

When the Kingdom of God manifests, it does so with Power!

Acts 10:38 (ESV) - how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

"Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!"

2 Cor. 5:20 (ESV) - Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Ambassadors are sent forth with full power and authority to represent the Kingdom that sends them!

Jn. 17:18 (ESV) - As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

Lk. 10:19 (ESV) - Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and

scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.

1Jn. 3:8 - Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL.