

HOW TO LIVE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

May 25, 2014 Matthew 4:23-25 by Bob Branch
The Truly Liberated Life, Part 1

MAIN IDEA: Jesus, heaven's king, brought the kingdom of heaven to earth. Whenever and wherever He is invited to reign as King, His kingdom comes... and everything changes.

Kingdom. Maturity. Practice.

“Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, **proclaiming** the **good news of the kingdom**, and **healing** every disease and sickness among the people. News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and **he healed them**. Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.” **Matthew 4:23-25**

“Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, **proclaiming** the **good news of the kingdom** and **healing** every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, **he had compassion on them**, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” **Matthew 9:35-36**

At heart the message of Matthew's Gospel is **JESUS Himself**.

1. **Jesus message was about the KINGDOM...** God's kingdom.

A time when God comes... and makes things here like He wants them (*shalom*)... like they are where He reigns as king.

Jesus comes... brings a kingdom of the heart.

“Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is **in your midst**.” **Luke 17:20-21**

As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven **has come near**.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons.” **Matthew 10:7-8** (Luke 10:9; Matt 13:5)

“But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then **the kingdom of God has come upon you**.” **Matthew 12:28**

MESSAGE of Kingdom: way things work, God sees it.

WORKS or the Kingdom: healing, freedom

A completely new way of doing life WITH JESUS as King.

“Be **perfect**, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” **Matthew 5:48**

“In a word, what I'm saying is, Grow up. You're kingdom subjects. Now live like it. Live out your God-created identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.” **Matthew 5:48** Message

2. **GROW UP to be like Him. Mature. Complete. Finished. Perfected.**

“So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.” **James 1:4** NLT

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into **practice** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **Matthew 7:24**

“These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock.” **Matthew 7:24** Message

3. **Putting these into PRACTICE will make you solid and stable.**

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” **James 1:22** ESV