

LESSON 17: The Life Of Christ – Ten Lepers Healed and Concerning the Kingdom

1

LUKE 17:11-37
FEBRUARY 2, 2022

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

2

Luke 17:20-21, "And being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God cometh, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo, here! or, there! for lo, **the kingdom of God is within you.**"

- ▶ The Pharisees did not understand the true nature of the Messianic kingdom.
- ▶ "When an earthly prince visits different parts of his territories, he does it with pomp. His movements attract observation, and become the common topic of conversation." (Barnes' Notes)
- ▶ This does not mean there would be no evidence of the coming kingdom. (cf. Isaiah 2:2-3; Mark 9:1; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 12:28)

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:20-21, "**the kingdom of God is within you.**"

Romans 14:17, "... the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit"

- ▶ The kingdom is made up of more than eating, or not eating, certain meats. When we try to satisfy our own selfish desires, we act contrary to our purpose in Christ. Serving Christ has nothing to do with either abstaining from or eating meat. Of what then does the kingdom consist?
 - **Righteousness** - right and proper conduct toward one another.
 - **Peace** - consideration of my brother. Actions that will ensure peace among brethren and with God.
 - **Joy** - our concern for others results in joy--for them, and for us--instead of grief.

Concerning the Kingdom Luke 17:20-37

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Luke 17:20-21, "**the kingdom of God is within you.**"

This is the principal teaching of the gospel!
Titus 2:12

1 Corinthians 4:20, "... the kingdom of God is not in word but in power" *Changed lives!* (cf. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

John 18:35-36, "Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence."

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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Spiritual kingdom. (The Church)

- Jesus promised to establish such a kingdom and the apostles were to be in it. cf. Matthew 16:18-19; Mark 9:1
- ▶ **Preached "at hand" by:**
 - John the Baptist. Matthew 3:2
 - Jesus. Matthew 4:17
 - The apostles. Matthew 10:7
 - The seventy. Luke 10:9

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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NOTE: The ministry of Christ begins and ends with teaching about the nature of the kingdom.

The Beginning Of His Ministry. John 3:1-16

- ▶ "Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (verse 3)
- ▶ "How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter a second time into his mother's womb, and be born?" (verse 4)

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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John 3:1-16

- ▶ *"Jesus answered. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God!" (verse 5)*
- ▶ *"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." (verse 6)*
- ▶ *"Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?" (verse 9)*
- ▶ *"Art thou the teacher of Israel, and understandest not these things?" (verse 10)*

The Nature Of The Kingdom

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John 3:1-16

▶ Jesus taught five things about the kingdom of God.

1. The kingdom is not of "earthly things," but of "heavenly things." (verse 12)
2. The kingdom would come after He ascended up to "heaven." (verse 13)
3. The Son Of Man must be "lifted up" as Moses lifted the serpent. (verse 14)
4. The kingdom would consist of "believers" in Him, not of physical descendents of Abraham. (verse 15)
5. God was moved to establish this kind of a kingdom because of His love for "the world," not His love for Israel. (verse 16; cf. John 6:44-45)