a study of the Gospel of Matthew

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Jesus is the King of Kings who has absolute authority over all things.

His <u>Word</u> and <u>way</u> is the law of the Kingdom. As Kingdom citizens, we get to have absolute allegiance to our King and and the advancement of His <u>Kingdom.</u>



What and where is the Kingdom of Heaven?

• The Kingdom of heaven is the <u>rule</u> and <u>reign</u> of Jesus in the world, present where the <u>presence</u> of Jesus is.



Is the kingdom of heaven a present or future reality?

• Parts of the <u>blessings</u> and <u>power</u> of the Kingdom are available now, but parts are not yet; parts of <u>sin</u> and <u>struggle</u> can be overcome now, but parts cannot yet



Is the kingdom of heaven a present or future reality?

 The decisive <u>battle</u> against disease, disaster, death, demons, suffering, sin, and Satan has been <u>fought</u> and <u>finished</u> by the King in His <u>death</u> and <u>resurrection</u>. The War is <u>won</u> but there are still battles to be fought.







Why did Jesus speak in parables?

Jesus spoke in parables to both <u>reveal</u> and <u>conceal</u> His <u>truth.</u>



- 1. The Parable of the Sower
 - <u>Worry</u> and <u>love</u> of <u>wealth</u> can wreck your faith and fruitfulness
 - <u>Hearing</u> and <u>understanding</u> the Word of God will grow your faith and fruitfulness



The Kingdom Way requires a response:

will you <u>accept</u> or <u>reject</u> the seed of God's Word so that the fruit of the Holy spirit can be produced <u>in</u> and <u>through</u> you?



2. The Parable of the Wheat and Weeds
 "Pretend Christians" will not have lasting <u>fruit</u> and can even be <u>poisonous</u> to people and the Church.



3. The Parable of the Mustard Seed & Leaven
God brings the growth as we abide in Jesus



4. The Parable of the Treasure and Fine Pearl

• The kingdom of God is worth <u>all</u> that you have



5. The Parable of Net

• The gospel requires a <u>response;</u> Kingdom citizens daily <u>surrender</u>



As a Kingdom citizen, are you more like an <u>owner</u> or a <u>renter</u>?

 The Church is both a <u>preview</u> of what is to come and an agent of <u>renewal</u> as the eternal kingdom is established among us



<u>Everyone</u> who eats the Bread of Life will not only be saved but deeply and eternally <u>fulfilled</u>

God <u>provides</u> abundantly for us *before* any trial we encounter through His:

- <u>Provision</u>
- <u>Prayers</u>
- <u>Presence</u>
- <u>Peace</u>
- <u>Power</u>



Jesus never rejects us, but He will use instances to <u>correct</u> us





Jesus stands over the <u>chaos</u> and <u>evil</u> in our lives and the world



Where do you need Jesus' complete and perfect <u>provision</u>?