



# The Kingdom of Heaven

The Gospel of Matthew

## **The Big Idea**

Jesus' last words to his disciples are "I will be with you." Jesus' personal presence will be with his followers until he finally returns to rejoin Heaven and Earth and usher in the fullness of **God's Kingdom**.

# What is the Kingdom of Heaven?

- Where the King has **Lordship** (rule or sovereignty)
- **Lordship** requires submitting to the will of the Lord.
- **Kingdom of Heaven** is described in two ways in Matthew's Gospel:
  - Inside someone (**the now**) – “My kingdom is not of this world.” John 18:36
  - A real place, in the future (**the not yet**)

**What is the  
Spirit of the  
Age?**

**No one would remember  
the Good Samaritan if  
he'd only had good  
intentions; he had money  
as well.**

*Margaret Thatcher*

# The Spirit of the Age Explained

**Superior German Engineering**

**Inferior East German Engineering**



# Being Kingdom-minded

## The Beatitudes (Matt 5)

### First:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Vs 3

### 2 Timothy 3:2

People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

# Being Kingdom-minded

## The Beatitudes (Matt 5)

### Last:

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness-sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Vs 10

### **John 3:20**

Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.

## Matthew 7:13-23 & Luke 13:24-

<sup>13</sup> “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. <sup>15</sup> “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. <sup>16</sup> By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?”

## Matthew 7:13-23 & Luke 13:24-

<sup>17</sup> Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. <sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

## Isaiah 6:3-5

- “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”
- <sup>4</sup> At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.
- <sup>5</sup> “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

## Matthew 25 Parable of the 10 Virgins

25 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. <sup>4</sup> The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

# Matthew 25 Parable of the 10 Virgins

- <sup>6</sup> “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’
- <sup>7</sup> “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’
- <sup>9</sup> “‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’
- <sup>10</sup> “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

# Matthew 25 Parable of the 10 Virgins

- <sup>11</sup> “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’
- <sup>12</sup> “But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’
- <sup>13</sup> “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

## Galatians 5:19-26

<sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

## Galatians 5:19-26

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

# How to be filled with the Spirit

- Seek God **earnestly and humbly** (pray and ask for an encounter with the living God. Ask Him to reveal to you the depth of your sin and need for him)
- Acknowledge the sin He reveals to you and **commit** to turn from it through repentance.
- Ask God to order your life and your steps and be prepared to obey when the call comes.
- Pray **continually** for guidance and strength. Put down the old man **ruthlessly** as Joshua was instructed to with the Canaanites.
- **Commit** to sharing the gospel with others **however** uncomfortable that may be.
- Place the needs of others before that of your own. Edify others, especially the brethren.
- **Bless and pray** for your enemies as an act of faith.
- Read the word of God daily with **intent and faith**