

Christ the King Sunday - Free Text - November 23, 2014 - Kieth Bernard Kuschel

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church - 377 E Lincoln Trail Blvd— Radcliff, KY 40160

Matthew 6:10

Your Kingdom Come

Focus on Kingdom when British Royalty wed.

Democracy is better.

Should focus on another Kingdom.

Your Kingdom Come

I. To us

A. Jesus' Kingdom

1. Within Us
2. Based on Jesus' work

B. Paul's definition of kingdom

1. Righteousness, joy and peace
2. Delivered by Spirit through tools

C. Pray

1. Meaning
2. Commitment

II. In Us

A. Citizens in country

1. Get safety
2. Express thanks

B. Citizens in Jesus' kingdom

1. Get blessings
2. Express thankfulness
3. Motivated by Holy Spirit

C. Pray

1. Meaning
2. Commitment

III. Through Us

A. Kingdom

1. More than us
2. Want others in
3. HS uses tools

B. Pray

1. Meaning
2. Thorough people
3. Commitments

Come on Last Day

IA1 Christ the King. Where is Jesus' Kingdom? We should probably let Him answer that question Himself. (Luke 17) Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, "Here it is," or "There it is," because the kingdom of God is within you." On another occasion He said, (John 18: 36,37) "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place." "I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

2 When John the Baptism was getting people ready to meet Jesus, he said, "The kingdom of heaven is near." Jesus is able to be the King inside of us because of the work that He did while He was on this earth. He took our humanity on Himself so He could crush the devil's ability to control us. He took our guilt on Himself and washed it away by the blood which He shed on the cross for us. He experienced death and hell as our Substitute so we are rescued from that punishment for our sins. He rose from the dead to free us for an eternal existence with Him. He can be King in our lives, or to say it from the opposite end, we can be in His kingdom because He has conquered the devil, sin, and death.

B1 St Paul who was taught by Jesus wrote, "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." (Rom14:17) When we are covered with the holiness of Jesus, He is our King. We are in His kingdom. When we feel peace as we think about God because we know that our sins have been washed away in the blood of Jesus, He is our King. We are in His kingdom. When we have the joy of looking forward to being with the LORD forever because of Jesus' resurrection, He is our King. We are in His kingdom.

2 St Paul reminds us in this verse that the Holy Spirit delivers the blessings of righteousness, joy and peace which Jesus won for us. He delivers them into our lives and leads us to say, "Jesus lived and died and rose to give me forgiveness, holiness and eternal life." He delivers them into our lives through tools. The primary tool is the Word of the Gospel, the Good News that Jesus is our Savior. The secondary tools are Baptism and the Lord's Supper to which the Word is attached.

C1 When we pray, "Your Kingdom Come," we are asking the Heavenly Father to continue to send the Holy Spirit into our lives so that Jesus' blessings of forgiveness, holiness and eternal life keep getting delivered so that we stay in the kingdom, or stating it from the opposite end, so that Jesus stays the King of our lives.

2 If the Holy Spirit delivers the blessings of Jesus through the Word of the Gospel and the Word as it is attached to Baptism and the Lord's Supper, our request "Your Kingdom Come," is actually a commitment. A commitment to what? We are committing ourselves to using the Word, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, so God can fulfill our request, "Your Kingdom come."

IIA1 Being citizens in a country which provides us with peace and safety is a wonderful blessing from the Lord. We are thankful for that blessing. We would be thankful for that blessing if we were living in a kingdom instead of in a democracy.

2 How does a citizen express thanksgiving for the blessings which come into our lives from our government? We pay taxes so the government can continue to carry out its function to provide peace and safety for us its people. And we obey the laws so that the peace and safety provided for us by our government continue. Disregard of law will ultimately result in loss of peace and safety.

B1 Being citizens in Christ's kingdom in which Christ our King provides us with every spiritual blessing we need is a wonderful thing. We are thankful for being citizens in the kingdom, something which the Holy Spirit has brought about. We are thankful for the forgiveness, holiness and eternal life which He delivered and which Jesus won for us.

2 How do we as citizens of Christ's kingdom express thanksgiving for those blessings. We obey the laws of the kingdom so we don't jeopardize our standing as citizens. We keep focused on our relationship with Jesus, so apathy doesn't take over. We speak the truth about Jesus, so we don't lose it. We listen to Jesus talk to us through the Bible, so we continue to recognize His voice. We fill our lives with actions done to benefit others, because Jesus has told us to do that. If we don't bother to obey the laws of the kingdom, we are telling God that being part of His kingdom is not important. Disregard of law will ultimately result in loss of citizenship.

3 God the Holy Spirit, reminding us of all that Jesus has done for us, motivates us to be thankful. God the Holy Spirit, reminding us of all that Jesus has done for us, directs us to God's law as our method of thanking Jesus for all He has done for us. God the Holy Spirit, taking up residence in our hearts as we use His Word and Supper equips us to be able to do God's law as our way of thanking Jesus for what He has done for us.

C1 When we pray, "Your Kingdom Come," we are asking the Heavenly Father to continue to send the Holy Spirit into our lives so that we continue to express our thanksgiving to the LORD for bringing us into the kingdom by obeying the laws of the kingdom.

2 If the Holy Spirit, motivates, directs and equips us to thankful, obedient living through the Word of the Gospel and the Word as it is attached to the Lord's Supper, our request "Your Kingdom Come," is actually a commitment. A commitment to what? We are committing ourselves to using the Word and the Lord's Supper, so God can fulfill our request, "Your Kingdom come."

IIIA1 Your Kingdom Come. Although Jesus is my personal King, that is, He rules in my heart through His Word and He rules over my life with His power, the term “kingdom” implies more than just Jesus and one person. Visualizing a kingdom would lead one to think of Jesus the King ruling over many citizens of the kingdom. Jesus’ kingdom includes all the other people for whom Jesus lived and died and rose. It includes all the other people to whom the Holy Spirit has delivered the righteousness, joy and peace that comes from the forgiveness, holiness and eternal life given by Jesus.

2 Since we appreciate being in Jesus’ kingdom, and since we are truly thankful for the forgiveness, holiness, and eternal life which Jesus has given us because of His life death and resurrection, and since we realize the terrible, eternal consequences which result from not receiving the blessings of Jesus, we want the people whom we love, the people around us in life and all the people in the world, for that matter, to be part of the kingdom too. If they are already part of the kingdom, we want the Lord to keep them there.

3 Now remember the Holy Spirit delivers the blessings of Jesus into the lives of other people through tools - the Word & Baptism & Lord’s Supper. So, if we are interested in bringing & keeping people in the kingdom, if we want the Holy Spirit to lead people to believe or keep people believing in Jesus, the Word, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper has to get to people so that can happen.

B1 When we pray, “Your Kingdom come,” we are asking the Heavenly Father to continue to send the Holy Spirit through the Word and Baptism and Lord’s Supper to lead people into the kingdom and to keep people in the Kingdom.

2 How do the Word, Baptism and Lord’s Supper get to people? Christians talk to their friends about sin and about Jesus. Christian congregations publicly present the Biblical truth through worship and education based on the Bible. Christians dedicate 10% of their income so that pastors, teachers, lay ministers, missionaries bring the tools to others. Christians use their money to train people to do those ministries. Christians support the publication and printing of Bibles and other literature and other media vehicles to bring the message about Jesus to others.

3 If the Holy Spirit delivers the blessings of Jesus through Word, Baptism, and Lord’s Supper, and if those tools get delivered to people by other people, when we pray “Your Kingdom Come,” we are making a commitment. A commitment to what? We are committing to use our mouths and our money to apply Word, Baptism and Lord’s Supper to other people so God can fulfill our request, “Your Kingdom come.”

Conc: Finally, because of our confidence through Jesus that we are part of the Kingdom, we can also include the thought, “Lord Jesus, please come back, have Judgment Day, and take us to yourself forever in perfection, when we pray, “Your Kingdom Come.””