

The Coming of the Kingdom in the Lord's Prayer

By Robert I. Adams

Let's investigate a prayer Jesus taught His followers that makes mention of the Kingdom of God, and its coming.

In Matthew 6:9-10, Jesus taught his disciples to pray:

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

As disciples of Jesus, we are to pray that the Kingdom of God will come. What did Jesus mean by that? As we shall see, the Scriptures provide us with clues and conclusive evidence concerning what Jesus was referring to.

In this prayer, Jesus is indicating that where the Kingdom of God is, there the will of God is done. God's will is done in heaven, but the earth is where God's will needs to be done. That is the reason we are to pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

The answer to this prayer concerning the Kingdom of God has two levels.

The first level is in the here and now. The apostle Paul wrote in Colossians 1:13:

"He [God] has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed [transferred] us into the kingdom of the Son of His love."

This speaks of a present, invisible, and spiritual kingdom of God that believers in Jesus Christ have come into. Paul is saying here that the Kingdom of God is also the Kingdom of God's Son, Jesus Christ. In Ephesians 5:5, Paul calls it, "The kingdom of Christ and God." Paul mentioned this present, invisible, and spiritual kingdom also in Romans 14:17, where he stated, "The kingdom of God is . . . righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

In Matthew 13:31-32, Jesus spoke of the growth of the present, invisible, and spiritual kingdom. He said:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree . . ."

The kingdom of God started very small with the disciples of Jesus and has now grown until it encompasses millions of people in all parts of the world.

On a side note, the expression 'the kingdom of heaven' is merely another way of saying 'the kingdom of God.' This can be seen in Matthew 19:23-24, where Jesus says:

“Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter *the kingdom of heaven*. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter *the kingdom of God*.”

The kingdom of God Jesus spoke of in the prayer He taught in Matthew 6 has also a second level. That is, the hereafter; a future, visible, and physical kingdom.

In Luke 19:11-12, we read:

“He [Jesus] spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately. Therefore He said: ‘A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.’”

In the parable Jesus proceeds to tell, He says that the kingdom of God will appear when He returns.

Then in Luke 21:27, Jesus spoke of the end time and His return. He said:

“Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”

In the same chapter, when Jesus was referring to end time events leading up to His Second Coming, He said in verse 31:

“. . . when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near.”

Jesus is saying that the Kingdom of God will be manifested at His Second Coming.

The apostle Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 4:1:

“The Lord Jesus Christ . . . will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom.”

In the same way as Jesus, Paul connects the return of Christ with the manifestation of the Kingdom of Christ.

The reality of the coming physical and visible kingdom of God on earth was revealed to the prophet Daniel. An angel told him:

“They shall take away his [the Antichrist’s] dominion, to consume and destroy it forever. Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.” (Dan. 7:26-27)

What was revealed to Daniel, is also brought to light in the book of Revelation, where it is said of redeemed people, “You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth” (Rev. 5:10). This will be a reality when Jesus returns. In Revelation 11:15, we see what will take place at the return of Christ. There it says:

“Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!’”

The last chapter of the Revelation says of the saints:

“And they shall reign forever and ever.” (Rev. 22:5).

The book of Revelation then ends with a prayer:

“Come, Lord Jesus!” (Rev. 22:20)

From what we have looked at, this prayer has ultimately the same meaning as the prayer Jesus taught His followers to pray in Matthew 6:

“Your kingdom come . . .”

For more insight into the end time, you are welcome to view a new book/eBook I have written entitled “THE COMING - The Testimony of the Bible Concerning the Return of Christ.”



In this book, we uncover what Jesus and His apostles taught about His return. We also see how all this ties in with what the prophets wrote in the Scriptures about the coming of the Lord in the end time.

You can take a look at it at [Amazon](#).

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