



# The Mystery of the Kingdom of God

*Season 2 Episode 1*

## **INTRODUCTION: To live a spiritual life requires an understanding of the mysteries of God.**

- The Bible mentions 12 specific mysteries.
  - The Kingdom of Heaven is the mystery that Jesus refers to the most.
  - The Kingdom of Heaven operates differently than the kingdoms of the world.

Living in the Kingdom of Heaven requires us to battle a hidden enemy.

- Jesus has given us 72 parables that compare this spiritual Kingdom with earthly matters.
  - Discovering the meaning of these parables and how they apply to your life will be a battle, but you will be victorious.
  - We have the same battle that Jesus had—to overcome the work of Satan.

The original intent of God was for man to have authority over the earth.

- Man gave away that authority when he sinned and submitted to Satan.
  - Thus making man a subject of Satan's empire.
  - Jesus came to introduce His Kingdom and provide a way for man to become a citizen of it instead.

## **TALKING POINTS: Teaching Session 1**

What has been the Historical thought about the Kingdom of Heaven?

- The Hebrew scribes thought it was a political and territorial domain.
- Albert Schweitzer thought the Kingdom was merely a spot in eternity, a future reality when time is stopped and a new heavenly order began.
- Augustine thought it was the theocratic rule of the Church over all forms of government on earth.



- Others have thought it was Heaven—a place in the sky reserved in the afterlife for those who accepted Jesus while alive on earth.

None of these thoughts accurately depict the Kingdom of Heaven. The Kingdom of Heaven is not just a New Testament thought.

- It began in the Garden of Eden—man was to subdue and take authority over the earth.
- God gave man two rules of the Garden or Kingdom.
- Therefore they had two choices on how to live their life and exercise their God given authority.
  - Tree of Life—a Kingdom based on the harmony of man, God, and creation.
    - It is eternal and allows man to walk in close relationship with God.
    - God, being all knowing, could then talk to us about all we do not know.
    - God will give us what we need to subdue the earth and overcome spiritual darkness as well as attacks from Satan and his minions.
  - Tree of Knowledge—a kingdom based on knowledge, desire, and relationship with darkness.
    - They were told it was good for food.
    - It was beautiful to look at.
    - They were told it could make one as wise as God.
    - It is temporal.
    - It is filled with the idea that man can solve his own problems.
    - Man does not need God to succeed.
    - In fact, God is holding man back.

## **TALKING POINTS: Teaching Session 2**

The Kingdom of Heaven is not like any other kingdom:

- It's the highest Kingdom of all.
- It's a spiritual Kingdom that affects the lesser, physical kingdom.
- It exposes the covert nature of darkness.
- It then destroys that darkness in every form—both physical and spiritual.
- It's ultimately about returning God and man back to their original



relational structure.

What were the necessary steps for God's Kingdom to come?

- The first step of the strategy was that the crucifixion campaign must precede the Kingdom campaign. Why?
- Because it made step two possible—that through the blood of Jesus, atonement was made possible and the chains of Satan the tyrant could be broken.
- The third step would be to destroy the work of the evil one and establish a means whereby man could live a righteous life.

In the exodus of Israel, God revealed that if you deliver people from their bondage without changing their heart the people will return to their old way of thinking and acting—and thus return to bondage.

- So God sent His Son to change the heart of man before the final, visible evidence of the Kingdom would come.
- So Jesus embarked on a seven-fold mission to implement the Kingdom.
  - Change how mankind thought about the Father.
  - He must live a sinless life in order to repeal the earthly sovereignty of Satan.
  - In so doing He would provide a way to atone for sin and redeem the world.
  - As He did He would demonstrate how the Kingdom destroys the works of the evil one.
  - He would prepare the way for the Holy Spirit to come and impregnate the world with the leaven of the Kingdom of Heaven.
  - He would live a life that would reveal to mankind how they might express the Kingdom of Heaven while alive on earth.
  - In so doing He would promote righteousness as the first requirement for the Kingdom to work. In other words, the Kingdom of Heaven would expand at the rate of the expansion of righteousness.

### **TALKING POINTS: Conclusion**

The prophets, like Joel, understood that the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven would take place in the last days. In those last days communication between God and man would increase. No longer would it only be between God and a handful of prophets—"all flesh" would receive revelation like the prophets of old. That means each of you, according to Scripture, in these last days will prophesy,



dream dreams from God, have visions that come to pass, and advance the Kingdom of Heaven through revelation from God.

Before God can advance His Kingdom in you, He has to change your heart. He has to remove the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. He has to impregnate your soul with the very Spirit of the Living God. This new you, this new creation, is now able to do all things through Christ Who strengthens you. You're now ready to advance the Kingdom. What is the proof of this? You pray and the sick are healed. You cast out demons from the demonized. You cleanse the lepers. As you do these things you tell everyone around you that the Kingdom of Heaven has come near them.