

The Crown Age of the Kingdom

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FOREWORD

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In Himself, God is invisible and unknowable, completely beyond our imagination and comprehension. Therefore, if we are to know Him, He must reveal Himself to us in a way that we can understand. He has given us this revelation in Jesus Christ. The Bible says that Jesus is the “Word” of God (John 1:1, 14; see Hebrews 1:1-3). God speaks to us in a language we can understand. A word is the expression of a thought. Jesus is the physical manifestation of God the Father, just as a word that we speak is the physical manifestation of our inner thoughts. In His teachings,

Jesus also spoke in a language that we can understand. From the outset of His ministry, the kingdom of God was the heart of His message, and He both verbalized and demonstrated its meaning. Contrary to the popular expectations of the people that the kingdom of God was a territorial realm over which Israel would reign, with all enemies vanquished, Jesus proclaimed the kingdom as God’s sovereign rule over the lives of people, demanding total surrender to Him.

Instead of defining the kingdom, Jesus illustrated it. Through His miracles, He showed the power of the kingdom, and through His parables He described its features. It’s like someone sowing seed. It’s like good seed growing alongside weeds. It’s like a tiny grain of mustard seed that grows into a huge tree. It’s like yeast, working its way steadily through the dough. It’s like a field containing a treasure trove that a man blew all his savings on so as to acquire it. It’s like the dealer in pearls who sold up everything when he finally got the chance to buy the Big One. It’s like a great catch of fish that ultimately had to be sorted into the acceptable and the rejects. And all those illustrations are from the thirteenth chapter of Matthew alone.

An understanding of those stories shows us that the kingdom has small beginnings. It advances slowly and unspectacularly. It works in an unseen way, like the yeast in the dough. It grows side by side with evil and error. Its members are drawn from every part, for it is a universal kingdom. When discovered, it is the source of true joy and fulfillment.

It out-prices everything else in sight. It requires sacrifice and surrender. It culminates in an eternal separation of the good from the evil, of the true from the false.

A kingdom must have a king, and a king must have authority, demonstrated by his crown. In this book, the author does not plod through an exhaustive study of the kingdom of God. Rather, he concentrates on the crown, the pinnacle of life in the kingdom. From both Old and New Testament Scriptures, he shows how God, long before the world's foundation, preordained a kingdom inheritance for His subjects. However, most kingdom citizens fail to realize the significance of the gift God bestowed upon them. Consequently, they are living beneath the level of authority and power and fellowship that God ordained for His subjects. In this volume, the author begins at Eden and leads readers through the Bible, unlocking the way of escape from amundane level of citizenship into a realm of spiritual grandeur and power that comes only from an intimate relationship, a sacred union, with the King. This book creates a desire and issues a challenge to reach the higher plane of the realm of the crown.