

THE KINGDOM - CONTENTS

1. The Kingdom in the New Testament – September 3, 2018
2. The Coming of the Kingdom and Its Process – October 8, 2018
3. God's Goal Is the Kingdom – November 12, 2018
4. The Seed of the Kingdom – February 18, 2019
5. The Sowing of the Seed of the Kingdom – February 18, 2019
6. The Growing of the Seed of the Kingdom – February 18, 2019
7. Image and Dominion – April 19, 2019
8. Two Kingdoms – May 20, 2019
9. The Battlefield of the Two Kingdoms – July 1, 2019
10. The Kingdom and the Soul-life – August 5, 2019
11. The Mysteries of the Kingdom (1) – (3) – September 2, 2019
12. Growth, Transformation, and Building
13. The Development of Growth, Transformation, and Building
14. The Harvest of Growth, Transformation, and Building
15. Transformation—A Seed in the Parable of the Ten Virgins
16. Transformation—Its Development in the Epistles
17. Transformation—Its Harvest in the Book of Revelation
18. Baptized into the Triune God
19. Principles of the Kingdom (1) – (3)
20. From Rejection to Glory (1) – (3)
21. Some Practical Matters concerning the Kingdom Life
22. The Reward of the Kingdom
23. Ambition for Position Being Contrary to the Kingdom Life
24. Christ versus Religion, Politics, Doctrines, and Law
25. Christ Resurrected, Ascended, and Reigning
26. The Reality of the Kingdom (1) – (3)
27. The Appearance of the Kingdom
28. The Manifestation of the Kingdom (1) – (3)
29. The Transfer of the Reality of the Kingdom into Its Manifestation
30. The Lord's Dealing with the Believers at His Coming Back
31. The Lord's Dealing with the Gentiles and the Jews at His Coming Back
32. The Lord's Judgment of the Gentiles after the War at Armageddon
33. The Growth and Harvest of the Reality of the Kingdom
34. The Growth and Harvest of the Appearance of the Kingdom
35. The Kingdom Revealed in Hebrews
36. The Harvest of the Kingdom in Revelation
37. Different Aspects of the Kingdom
38. Life under the Ruling of the Kingdom
39. The Exercise of the Kingdom
40. A Rich Entrance into the Kingdom

Church in Regina

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THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM (1) – (3)

Matthew is a book concerning the **kingdom**. As we have seen, John the Baptist proclaimed **the kingdom of the heavens**; the Lord Jesus later followed this preaching and taught His disciples to **do the same**. He sent out the twelve and also the seventy to preach the **kingdom of the heavens** (10:5-7; Luke 10:1,9)...Matthew is not merely a book of stories or of doctrines; it is **a book on the kingdom**....Many people pay attention to the doctrines, but neglect the mystery of the kingdom. The kingdom of the heavens is **a mystery**. Even man himself contains many mysteries. Outwardly, we can behold a man's physical characteristics... Because all these external features are quite evident, they are not so mysterious. Man himself, however, **embodies several mysteries**. One is the mystery of his physical life...A further mystery concerns man's heart...Man embodies many mysteries. The human life, the human spirit, and the psychological heart are all mysteries. Our mind, emotion, will, and conscience are **mysteries**.

2514 Truesdale Dr. E, Regina, SK
September 2, 2019

Scripture Readings (Matthew 13:1-46):

1 Cor 3:9	For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.
Gal. 1:15	But when it pleased God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me through His grace,
Gal. 1:16	To reveal His Son in me that I might announce Him as the gospel among the Gentiles, immediately I did not confer with flesh and blood,
Gal. 2:20	I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
Gal. 4:19	My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
Eph. 3:17	That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
Exo. 19:5	Now therefore if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My personal treasure from among all peoples, for all the earth is Mine.
Psa. 135:4	For Jehovah has chosen Jacob for Himself, / Israel for His personal treasure.
1 Cor. 10:32	Do not become a stumbling block, both to Jews and to Greeks and to the church of God;
Acts 20:28	Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among whom the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers to shepherd the church of God, which He obtained through His own blood.

Hymn (#829)

1 The Church's seed is nought but Christ Himself
Sown into human hearts as life, thereby
Growing as wheat, producing flour fine
For bread both God and man to satisfy.

2 But Satan hath the false believers sown
Among the saints as tares among the wheat,
To bring confusion and to hinder growth
That they may not fulfill God's plan complete.

3 The Church's life just as the herb must be,
Grown out of Christ, who is the mustard seed;
Hidden and transient, little on the earth,
But good for food the hungry ones to feed.

4 But Satan came and made the little herb
To change its nature and to change its form,
That fully grown it did a tree become
Where many evil ones may lodge and swarm.

5 Satan has also used the fallen "church"
Evil and heathen practice to include,
As leaven mingled with the meal of wheat,
Thus to corrupt its purity as food.

6 But Christ as life would so transform the saints
That they may be as pearl and precious stone,
As the materials suitable to build
Into His Church to make His Kingdom known.

7 Such an assembly grown in Christ as life,
Transformed and built with Christ in them annealed,
Is as the goodly pearl for preciousness
And as the treasure hidden in the field.

8 Lord, separate us from the devil's "tares,"
Each one deliver from the monstrous "tree,"
From all the "leaven" may Thou purify,
That we may be as food to man and Thee.

9 Cause us to grow in life divine each day
That we may be transformed and built by Thee
Into a body to express Thyself,
That Thou in us Thy Church and Kingdom see.