



The Kingdom of God prevails against the kingdoms of men.

I. The setting for the invasion. (11-22)

II. The Kingdom proclaimed. (23-28)

- A. Expounding and Testifying (23)
- B. The Response: divided (25-28)
 - 1. Rejection: hearing without understanding
 - 2. Reception: hearing with understanding (28)

III. The Kingdom prevails. (30-31)

- A. The King.
 - Lord: supernatural authority
 - Jesus – Yahweh saves
 - Christ – the Messiah, the anointed and sent One
- B. Without hindrance.

Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:47; 6:7; 9:31; 12:24; 16:5; 19:20; 28:30-31

How does this apply to me?

1) Has Jesus' Kingdom conquered your private kingdom?

2) Are you proclaiming the Kingdom?

INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

BUT GOD

PASSAGE OVERVIEW:

The contrasts couldn't be more stark!

- Dead – Alive
- Wrath – Grace, Mercy and Love
- Fleshly Passions – Good Works
- This World – Heavenly Places

What makes the difference between the hopelessness of verses 1-3 and 4-7? It is found in two simple, profound words: **But God**. God alone takes the dead and makes them alive. He alone can transfer people from the control of the prince of the power of the air in this worldly realm to seat them in the heavens with Jesus, under whose feet are every principality and power.

And how does He do this? Through the work of Jesus; His death, burial and resurrection. Because He lives, we too can live. Because He died, we need not die forever in payment for our sins. This is His work, not ours. And it is all by grace.

So our lives are transformed from dead to alive. The trespasses and sins in which we lived are replaced by good works which God has prepared for us to do.

Jesus' resurrection, grounded in historical fact, becomes personal. Because He rose, He can and will raise us up to a new pattern of life and a new eternity of life, when we accept His saving gift of grace.

But God. This is His work. It is His love. His mercy. His grace.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

Ephesians 2:1-10

