

Friday Evening, Nov. 5
Breakout Lecture Session

8:10 p.m.
Auditorium

Jesus: My King Mike Winkler

“Are You a king then?’ ‘...For this cause I have come into the world’” (John 18:37). Jesus, the King of kings, placed a great emphasis on His kingdom: He preached it was at hand, He described its nature, He proclaimed its coming, He established it and He showed the importance of putting it first in our lives. The kingdom must be as important to me as it is to my King!

Introduction

1. The nature of the church is seen and understood by the various descriptions identifying her, including:
 - a. The “household” [i.e. family] of God (Eph. 2:19; 1 Tim. 3:15).
 - b. The “building” whose foundation is Jesus (1 Cor. 3:9-11).
 - c. The “bride” of Jesus (Eph. 5:23-27).
 - d. The “kingdom” of Jesus [over which He is reigning, today] (Eph. 5:5; cf. Matt. 16:16-19; Col. 1:13; 1 Cor. 15:24-26).

I. When the Kingdom of Jesus Was Not Established

- A. The kingdom of Jesus was not established by John the Baptist
 1. John preached the kingdom was “at hand” (Matt. 3:1-2).
 2. John was never a part of the kingdom of Jesus (Matt. 11:11).
- B. The kingdom was not established during the personal ministry of Jesus. Rather, it was still spoken of as in the future, as seen in:
 1. Matt. 6:9-10 – The disciples were to pray for its coming.
 2. Matt. 10:7 – The disciples were to preach it was “at hand.”
 3. Matt. 16:18 – Jesus promised to build His church/kingdom.
 4. Mark 1:15 – Jesus preached the kingdom “was at hand.”
 5. Mark 9:1 – The kingdom was promised to come in their lifetime.
 6. Luke 10:9 – Limited Commission—“the kingdom is near.”
 7. Acts 1:6 – The kingdom hadn’t come prior to Jesus’ ascension.

II. When the Kingdom of Jesus Was Established

- A. The kingdom was to begin and the “law” was to go forth from Jerusalem (Isa. 2:2-3; Luke 24:47).
 1. The “law” [i.e. the gospel] went forth from Jerusalem on the first Pentecost following Jesus’ resurrection (Acts 2:22-47).
- B. The kingdom was to come with “power” (Mark 9:1).
 1. The power was to come in Jerusalem (Luke 24:49).
 2. The power was to come with coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).
 3. The Holy Spirit came on Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4.
 4. Therefore, on Pentecost the church/kingdom had her beginning.

- C. REMEMBER: After Pentecost in Acts 2, the church/kingdom is always spoken of as being in existence (5:11; 8:1,12; 11:22,26; Col. 1:13)!

III. The Kingdom of Jesus Must Be First in Our Lives

- A. The kingdom of Jesus must be first in our lives because of **WHAT IT IS**. For example: The kingdom or the church is:
 1. The flock which Jesus purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:28).
 2. The one body of which Jesus is the Head (Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4).
 3. The one body of which Jesus is the Savior (Eph. 5:23).
 4. The bride for which Jesus loves, cherishes, nurtures and sacrificed Himself (Eph. 5:25-29).
 5. The family of God, of which we are children (1 Tim. 3:15; 1 John 3:1; cf. Rom. 8:16-17).
- B. The kingdom of Jesus must be first in our lives because of **WHOSE IT IS**. For example: The kingdom/church belongs to Jesus because:
 1. He is her builder (Mt. 16:18-19; 1 Cor. 3:9-11; Acts 4:10-11).
 2. He died for her (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:25, 33).
 3. She wears His name and not the name of another man, method or organization (Rom. 16:16; cf. Heb. 12:23; Acts 11:26).
- C. The kingdom must be first in our lives because of **ITS PURPOSE**. For example: The kingdom or the church is to:
 1. Proclaim the good news of Jesus, locally and globally (John 17:18; Acts 1:8; Mark 16:15; Matt. 28:19-20; cf. Col. 1:23).
 2. Edify the saints (Acts 14:20-22; Rom. 14:19; 15:1-2).
 3. Assist the poor, needy and hurting (Jas. 1:27; Rom. 12:13; Gal. 6:9-10; 2:10; Eph. 4:28).

IV. Attitudes That Will Help Strengthen the Kingdom

- A. The apostle Paul identified several attitudes every citizen in the kingdom must possess and exhibit toward her. They include:
 1. Be thankful for all the kingdom does – locally and globally (1 Thess. 1:2; 2:13-16).
 2. Be encouraged by what we hear regarding the kingdom (1 Thess. 1:8-10; 3:6-8).
 3. Always love her, cherish and protect the kingdom (1 Thess. 2:8; 3:5; cf. Eph. 5:25-29; 2 Tim. 2:24-26).
 4. Anticipate every opportunity given to be with and to fellowship with the citizens of the kingdom (1 Thess. 2:17-20).
 5. Always be concerned about its welfare (1 Thess. 2:17-3:5).
 6. Never, never stop praying for it (1 Thess. 2:2-4; 3:9-13).



Mike Winkler has been preaching the gospel for 40 years. He currently preaches for the Madison church of Christ in Madison, Alabama. He and his wife, Pam, have three children and five grandchildren.