

February 25th 2018

Being Kingdom-minded

Matthew 4:12-25

Introduction:

- What is the first thing that comes to your mind when you wake-up?
 1. Generally, we are people of r_____.
 2. Specifically, Christians must have a proper m_____.
- Matthew 4:12 begins the topic of the kingdom
 1. Luke's gospel records events in c_____ order.
 2. Matthew's gospel records events in t_____ order.
 - a. Matt 1-2 – Jesus as the r_____ Christ
 - b. Matt 3-4:11 – Jesus as the s_____ Christ
 - c. Matt 4:12 – the kingdom of Christ
- Aim of the message – that we all would be motivated to keep the kingdom at the center of our focus as we live out our daily lives.

Who is the only Savior? – The P_____ of the Kingdom (12-16)

- Jesus makes His base of ministry the city of C_____ (13)
 1. Because John the Baptist was _____ in Jerusalem
 2. Because He was r_____ in His home town of Nazareth.
 3. In order to f_____ the prophecy of Isaiah 9:1,2
- The prophecy of Isaiah 9:1,2
 1. The land of Zebulun and Naphtali was historically treated harshly by God because the Jewish people i_____ with the Gentile population.
 2. The region was called “G_____ of the Gentiles” because it was heavily populated by Gentiles. Jews who lived in this region were looked down upon by other Jews.
 3. Isaiah prophesies of God bringing glory to the region by the rising of a great l_____
 - a. The great light is called the Prince of P_____ (Is 9:6)
 - b. Jesus is that light.
 4. The light shines on those sitting in d_____
- What is this darkness?
 1. It is s_____ (John 3:9,10)
 - a. Sin literally means to miss the m_____, which is the g_____ of God (Rom 3:23)
 - b. God's mark is for us to r_____ His glory (light) in all that we do, say, and think. When we don't, that is sin.
 2. It is i_____ (Eph 4:18) – people need to know who the only Savior really is.
- Being kingdom-minded means that I must always remember that Jesus

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is the o_____ Savior and so the only solution to sin and ignorance.

How is one saved? – The P_____ of the Kingdom (17,23-25)

- Jesus preached in the synagogues the g_____ of the kingdom (gospel means g_____ news) and healed every ailment among the people.
 1. He called for r_____
 - a. Literal meaning - to change one's t_____
 - b. Practical meaning – to change your orientation from being “me-centered” to being “C_____ - centered.
 2. He gave the reason for repentance – the kingdom has drawn n_____
 - a. The kingdom had not yet come (Matt 6:10) but was fast approaching.
 - b. Jesus ushers the kingdom in by dying on the cross and rising from the d_____ (Col 1:13).
- What is the gospel of the kingdom?
 1. I Cor 15:1-4 – Christ d_____ for our sins, was buried, and rose from the grave, proving it by appearing to many.
 2. The gospel plainly put – Jesus purposely died on the cross for sins. He was buried and despite the efforts to keep in the grave, He rose from the dead and showed Himself to all His followers. This proves Jesus must be who He claimed to be, God in the flesh. And it proves that Jesus must have accomplished what He came to do, to effectively pay for the sins of all who trust in Him.
 3. God will not save anyone apart from the gospel message (Rom 10:17; Rom 1:16)
- Being kingdom-minded means that I always remember that Jesus saves people through the gospel message.

Why am I saved? – The P_____ of the Kingdom (18-22)

- Jesus called two sets of b_____ to follow Him
 1. They were already f_____ of Jesus (Jn 1:40-43)
 2. This was a call of leaving their v _____ of fishing for fish to fishing for people (i.e. to bring people into the kingdom). Don't carry this metaphor any further than that.
- Jesus calls every believer to follow Him as a total commitment in order to be His w_____
 1. We are to witness by our l_____ (Matt 5:16)
 2. We are to witness by telling our s_____ (1 Pet 3:15)
 3. We are to witness by sharing the g_____ (Acts 1:8)
- Being kingdom-minded means to l_____ as His witness.