

The Gospel Concealed: The Old Testament

Week 3: God Rules – The Kingdom of God

The new is in the old concealed; the old is in the new revealed. -St. Augustine

What is the Kingdom of God?

- The Kingdom of God is a primary theme of the whole biblical story.
 - Jesus’ teachings can be summarized as teaching on the kingdom of God. (Mk 1:14)
- Definitions:
 - Graeme Goldsworthy:
 - “God’s people in God’s place under God’s rule and blessing.”
 - Matt Chandler:
 - 3 D’s: *Dwelling + Dominion + Dynasty*

Kingdom in the Old Testament (categories from *God’s Big Picture* by Vaughan Roberts)

- The Pattern of the Kingdom (**Genesis 1-2**)
 - God’s people (Adam and Eve) in God’s place (Eden) under God’s rule and blessing (God himself dwells with them).
 - Eden the cultivated temple-sanctuary of God:

<i>Creation</i>	<i>Tabernacle</i>
Heavens stretched like curtain (Ps 104:2)	Tent (Exod 26:7)
Firmament (Gen 1:2)	Temple veil (Exod 26:33)
Waters below firmament	Laver or bronze sea (Exod 30:18)
Light (Gen 1:14)	Lampstand (light) (Exod 25:31)
Birds (Gen 1:20)	Winged cherubim (Exod 25:20)
Humanity (Adam) (Gen 1:27)	The High Priest (Aaron) (Exod 28:1)
Cessation (Gen 2:1)	Cessation (Exod 39:32)
Blessing (Gen 2:3)	Mosaic Blessing (Exod 39:43)
Completion (Gen 2:2)	Completion (Exod 39:43)

- (Discussion) What do you think would have happened had Adam/Eve not sinned?
- The Perished Kingdom (**Genesis 3-11**)
 - God’s people (no more), banished from the Eden (no place) void of God’s rule and blessing (disobedience and curse).
 - *Paradise No Longer* by Abraham Kuyper (Pro Rege (I), pgs. 125-128)
- The Promised Kingdom (**Genesis 12-Exodus 18**)
 - God’s people (Abraham’s offspring – [next week]) in God’s place (Promised Land → (all creation)) under God’s rule and blessing (covenant communion).
- The Partial Kingdom (Exodus 18 – 2 Kings 25)
 - God’s people (Israel) in God’s place (Canaan, Jerusalem, temple) under God’s rule and blessing (the law and the king).
- The Prophesied Kingdom (**Isaiah – Malachi**)
 - Northern Kingdom → Amos, Hosea | Southern Kingdom → Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
 - God’s people (the faithful remnant of Israel) in God’s place (a new temple/new creation) under God’s rule and blessing (the New Covenant).

The Gospel Concealed – Case Study #3

Where do we see the Gospel “concealed” in the Munus Triplex

1. Who ruled/had authority in the Kingdom of God?

- Prophets → Covenant enforcers/communicators – speaking truth (foretelling and forthtelling) to the people of God. (Exodus 4:10-16)
- Priests → Covenant mediators/regulators of the religious life of the people of God. (Exodus 28-29, Leviticus)
- Kings → Covenant ruler of the people of God. (1 Samuel 8)

2. How does Jesus Christ relate to these 3 offices?

- He is the BETTER Prophet (Hebrews 1:1-4)
- He is the GREAT High Priest (and sacrifice) (Hebrews 4:14-16; 7-10)
- He is the COSMIC King (Revelation 5)

3. Gospel Application

- Jesus Christ fulfills every and all role and responsibility given to the people of God.
- Under the New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-37), we live in an ALREADY/NOT YET reality, where the Kingdom of God is simultaneously here and coming at the same time.
- As Christ followers, Jesus redeems our position, making us prophets/priests/kings of the New Covenant.
 - i. What does this look like?