

Matthew 5 “*The blessed of the LORD*” Genesis 26:29, Isaiah 65:23

Table Matthew 5:3-11

- 3 *Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
- 4 *Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*
- 5 *Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.*
- 6 *Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.*
- 7 *Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*
- 8 *Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.*
- 9 *Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.*
- 10 *Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
- 11 *Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.*

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Matthew* pp 75-79 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 151, 1241, 1254, 1287-1288, 1298, 1589, 1602. Note that “the kingdom of heaven” Matthew 5:3, 10 as a *physical* kingdom, see remarks under Matthew 5:3, should not be confused with “the kingdom of God,” which is a *spiritual* kingdom delineated by God's righteousness as Paul states. “For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost” Romans 14:17. See the attached study **The Kingdom of God and Kingdom of Heaven**.

1. **Matthew 5:3.** The term “Blessed” refers to the Lord's riches of strength, faith, peace and joy that He can and does bestow upon His saints.

“The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace”  
Psalm 29:11.

“The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it” Proverbs 10:22.

“Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?” James 2:5. See remarks below with respect to “heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him...”

The Lord identifies “the poor in spirit” who are the spiritual equivalent of “the queen of Sheba” seeing “Solomon in all his glory” Matthew 6:29, Luke 12:27 typifying “the Lord of glory” 1 Corinthians 2:8, James 2:1 in 1 Kings 10:4-5 “And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her” with 2 Chronicles 9:3-4 in Isaiah 66:2 “For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.”

The expression “theirs is the kingdom of heaven” would refer doctrinally to the Lord's reward bestowed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent on those who cared for “my brethren” according to Matthew 25:34-40 “Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or na-

ked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The remainder of Matthew 25 shows that the *salvation* of "the righteous" Matthew 25:37 is *dependent* on them caring for "my brethren" as Paul calls them "my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh" Romans 9:3. Their inheritance is as Peter describes it "new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" 2 Peter 3:13.

By contrast that of *today's* believer for whom salvation is predicated on simply "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" Acts 16:31 is "the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband...the bride, the Lamb's wife" Revelation 21:2, 9 insofar as Paul declares for today's believers "...for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ" 2 Corinthians 11:2.

*Devotionally* today's believer may make application of Matthew 5:3 according to 2 Timothy 4:7-8 "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

2. **Matthew 5:4.** Matthew 5:4 "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted" is well exemplified for today's believer with respect to a right attitude against personal sin by Luke 18:13-14 "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."
3. **Matthew 5:5.** "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth" is well illustrated devotionally and practically for today's believer by King David in 2 Samuel 16:10, 12 "And the king said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, because the LORD hath said unto him, Curse David. Who shall then say, Wherefore hast thou done so?...It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day."

Note then how the Lord requites David for his meekness with a promise whereby the fulfilment of which is *yet future*. "And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever" Ezekiel 37:24-25.

Matthew 5:5 will be fulfilled prophetically and visibly at the Second Advent in the widest sense for the Lord Jesus Christ and including King David's reign and for today's believer who has shown meekness as the opposite of haughtiness as John bears witness of the Lord Jesus Christ "...Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth" Revelation 5:9-10 according to Isaiah 2:2, 17, 29:19 "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it...And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low; and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day...The meek also shall increase their joy in the LORD, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel." In addition for the Lord Jesus Christ note:

"Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously" Psalm 96:10.

**“And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one”** Zechariah 14:9.

Further for today’s believer who should show meekness *as the Lord Jesus Christ did and note the outcome above* see 1 Peter 2:20-23 **“For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.”**

4. **Matthew 5:6.** Matthew 5:6 **“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled”** will be fulfilled perfectly for saints who have fulfilled Matthew 5:3-5:

- **At the Second Advent.** **“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted...to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified”** Isaiah 61:1-3. Note the outcome of righteousness for the saint with respect to genuine **“peace and safety”** 1 Thessalonians 5:3 both materially and spiritually.

**“And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places”** Isaiah 32:17-18.

- **For today’s believer now through the Lord Jesus Christ.** **“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption”** 1 Corinthians 1:30.
- **At the conclusion of “the times of restitution of all things” Acts 3:21.** **“Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness”** 2 Peter 3:13.

**“...and a threefold cord is not quickly broken”** Ecclesiastes 4:12.

5. **Matthew 5:7.** For a Biblical definition of **“mercy”** see Ezra 9:9, 13 **“For we were bondmen; yet our God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and to repair the desolations thereof, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem...And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that thou our God hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this.”**

The most relevant *practical* application of Matthew 5:3 for today’s believer and indeed for the End Times believer would appear to be the exercise of the principle of mercy with respect to making allowances for *individual shortcomings* rather than castigating them as *iniquities* according to Ephesians 4:2 **“With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love”** as James exhorts. **“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much”** James 5:16.

6. **Matthew 5:8.** Matthew 5:8 has its particular fulfilment for End Times believers at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent according to Hebrews 12:14 **“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.”** Those impure in heart will be trying to hide from the Lord. **“And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him**

**that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?**” Revelation 6:15-17.

King Solomon exhorts all saints on pureness of heart, Paul is explicit for today’s believer and John declares the outcome with respect to seeing God at the Lord’s Return. All **“...the body of Christ, and members in particular”** 1 Corinthians shall see the Lord at His Return for them but John shows that individual reactions to His Coming are predicated on individual applications of King Solomon’s and Paul’s exhortations with respect to **“pureness of heart”** because **“He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend”** Proverbs 22:11.

**“Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day”** 1 Kings 8:61.

**“Flee also youthful lusts; but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart”** 2 Timothy 2:22.

**“And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming...Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure”** 1 John 2:28, 3:2-3.

7. **Matthew 5:9.** Matthew 5:9 is fulfilled for *millennial Israel* when **“...he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more”** and therefore **“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!...And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children”** Isaiah 2:4, 52:7, 54:13.

Today’s believer is among those of whom Paul states **“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus”** Galatians 3:26 and is a peacemaker in the sense of 2 Corinthians 5:19-20 **“To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.”**

8. **Matthew 5:10-11.** Matthew 5:10-11 are fulfilled for End Times saints *falsely* accused as Paul was in Acts 24:5 **“For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes”** – whereas Paul testifies that **“...yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more”** 1 Corinthians 9:19 - and victimised but vindicated at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent in Revelation 20:4 **“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”**

Noting that **“...the kingdom of God is...righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost”** Romans 14:17 today’s believer should apply Matthew 5:10-11 via 1 Peter 3:16-17, 4:14 **“Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing...If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.”**

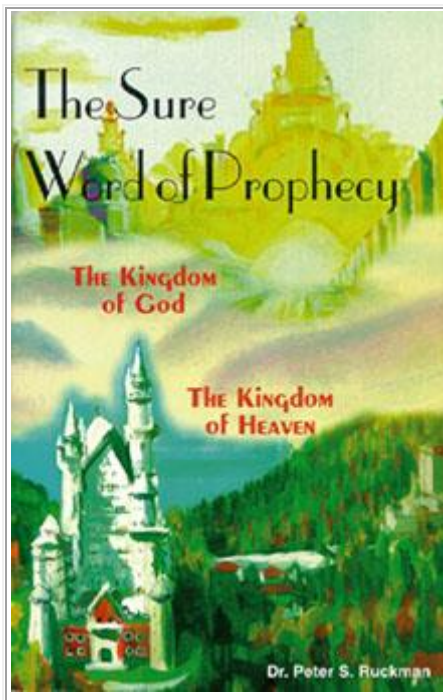
## Conclusion

**“Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD”** Psalm 119:1.

## The Kingdom of God and Kingdom of Heaven

### Introduction

The definitive work on the subject of **The Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven** is undoubtedly that of Dr Ruckman's. See item below available from [www.timefortruth.co.uk/ruckman-material/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/ruckman-material/).



### The Sure Word of Prophecy

(Otherwise called The Kingdom of God versus the Kingdom of Heaven). This book is a Christian political history, or a Christian philosophy of history. It draws the line between the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven, and proves conclusively that they are different and never have been (nor ever will be) the same. The origin, development, history, and consummation of both Kingdoms are given, and then secular history is placed alongside for an enlightening comparison.

- Full colour cover
- 303 pages
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What follows is a summary study of these two kingdoms that grew out of correspondence with another Bible believer on the parable of the pearl. See below. It is hoped that this study will prove helpful to the reader as Paul exhorts.

**That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints** Ephesians 1:17-18.

### ***The Parable of the Pearl***

On the parable of the pearl, Matthew 13:45-46 state **Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.**

This parable of the pearl I think has a dual application as some of the kingdom of heaven parables do. I took the pearl to be Israel as a nation on the basis that Israel is God's **peculiar treasure** Exodus 19:5, Psalm 135:4.

Note also Isaiah 43:1, 3-4 **But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine...For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee. Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.**

However, Peter Ruckman in his commentary *The Book of Matthew* p 247 makes spiritual application to the church, which is **a peculiar people** 1 Peter 2:9, for which the Lord also paid a great price.

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot 1 Peter 1:18-19.

### ***The Mysteries of the Kingdoms***

I think both of the above applications are valid for this particular parable of the pearl. However, the application to the church would appear to be one of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven Matthew 13:11 where the kingdom of heaven exists in the church age *not as a literal kingdom* but in a separate *mystery* form. Note also the expressions the mystery of the kingdom of God Mark 4:11 and the mysteries of the kingdom of God Luke 8:10. All three expressions follow on directly from what the Lord called the parable of the sower Matthew 13:18 introduced in Matthew 13:3 **And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow.** This parable pictures *soul-winning in the church age by dissemination of the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation* Ephesians 1:13 where the best outcome is as Luke states And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold...But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience Luke 8:8, 15. They are the best example of those in the church age who receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls James 1:21.

The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven Matthew 13:11, the mystery of the kingdom of God Mark 4:11 and the mysteries of the kingdom of God Luke 8:10 are centred in how that salvation is effected for the church age. The mysteries are conjoined in the mystery of Christ as Paul states.

...by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power Ephesians 3:3-7.

That central element of salvation effected in the church age is as Paul said during the church age Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved Acts 16:31 because the Lord Jesus Christ is God...manifest in the flesh 1 Timothy 3:16 and in turn the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe 1 Timothy 4:10.

*Precisely* how belief on the Lord Jesus Christ results in salvation and all that then pertains to the church age believer in Christ...a new creature 2 Corinthians 5:17 comes about are *mysteries* after the manner that Solomon describes. As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all Ecclesiastes 11:5. Church age salvation is among the works of God as Paul states For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them Ephesians 2:10.

Though mysteries, salvation and its results of course happen for real and are delineated in the scriptures as Paul states ye are washed...ye are sanctified...ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God 1 Corinthians 6:11. The association with the kingdom of heaven Matthew 3:2 and the kingdom of God Matthew 6:33 for the church age believer in Christ...a new creature 2 Corinthians 5:17 is that he becomes a subject of both kingdoms, to be fully revealed at the Second Advent. See below.

The believer in effect becomes one of those of whom the Lord, Who is called The everlasting Father Isaiah 9:6, states Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father Matthew 13:43, which is his kingdom Matthew 13:41, 16:28, consisting of both the kingdom

[of heaven](#) Matthew 3:2 and [the kingdom of God](#) Matthew 6:33 because the Lord Jesus Christ is King of *both* kingdoms in that [our Lord Jesus Christ...is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords](#) 1 Timothy 6:14-15.

Those that resist are those of whom the Lord said [The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth](#) Matthew 13:41-42.

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Matthew* pp 226-233, 388-397 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1240-1246, 1254, 1259-1262, 1268, 1273, 1298.

That said, while [the kingdom of heaven](#) Matthew 3:2 and [the kingdom of God](#) Matthew 6:33 and indeed their respective mysteries merge in the Lord Jesus Christ, they are nevertheless distinct as will now be explained in more detail.

### ***The Distinct Kingdoms***

One reason that [the kingdom of heaven](#) Matthew 3:2 and [the kingdom of God](#) Matthew 6:33 are distinct is that the expression [the kingdom of heaven](#) appears only in Matthew's Gospel. When the King [our Lord Jesus Christ...is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords](#) 1 Timothy 6:14-15 is here, as at the First Advent, as Dr Ruckman points out, *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1298, both kingdoms meet in Him so He gives similar-sounding messages but with distinctly different meanings.

### ***The Kingdom of Heaven***

Note first [the kingdom of heaven](#):

[From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand](#) Matthew 4:17. The Lord will impose this kingdom as a military dictatorship by force at the Second Advent, unilaterally, brutally, decisively – the Biblical Jesus, that is, not the evangelical Jesus that loves everybody indiscriminately and for whom all passages on literal, physical, visible warfare must be spiritualised or devotionalised to defuse them of their prophetic military reality.

[Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion...Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel](#) Psalm 2:6, 8-9 with Isaiah 2:4 [And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.](#)



The UN [chucklarsen.com/2011/03/30/beat-their-swords-into-ploughshares/](http://chucklarsen.com/2011/03/30/beat-their-swords-into-ploughshares/) is vainly trying to bring in the kingdom without the King by wresting Isaiah 2:4 **unto their own destruction** 2 Peter 3:16.

(If even Orlando Bloom couldn't bring in the kingdom, the UN cannot hope to do so. See:

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom\\_of\\_Heaven\\_%28film%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Heaven_%28film%29)

[www.rogerebert.com/reviews/kingdom-of-heaven-2005.](http://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/kingdom-of-heaven-2005.))

When the Lord preached **the kingdom of heaven** Matthew 4:17, He set forth its constitution and rules according to the commandments that the Lord enunciated in Matthew 5-7, for anyone seeking to abide in the kingdom as one of the Lord's subjects. Note the Lord's admonition to that effect in Matthew 5:19 **Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.** That is never said of **the kingdom of God** Matthew 6:33.



Note that nothing in Matthew 5-7 applies explicitly to **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved** Acts 16:31 according to **the gospel of the grace of God** Acts 20:24 **That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise** Ephesians 1:12-13. Matthew 5-7 is doctrine for abiding in **the kingdom of heaven** Matthew 4:17 as the Lord set it out at the First Advent, *not* Pauline doctrine for the church age and **preaching the kingdom of God** Acts 20:25, 28:31 and **the gospel of God** Romans 1:1, 15:16, 2 Corinthians 11:7, 1 Thessalonians 2:2, 8, 9 as Paul did.

Following a two-millennia postponement, the Lord Jesus Christ visibly and physically brings in **the kingdom of heaven** as follows at the Second Advent.

**And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever** Revelation 11:15. They won't necessarily submit to the Lord immediately but they will submit:

**These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful** Revelation 17:14.

**And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war...And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS** Revelation 19:11, 14-16.

King David sets out in summary the terms and conditions for remaining in **the kingdom of heaven** for those on earth at the Second Advent who were not among **they that are with him...called, and chosen, and faithful** by for example becoming **in Christ...a new creature** 2 Corinthians 5:17 in the church age. Note that these terms and conditions are directly imposed on surviving national leaders. See also Matthew 13:41-42 above for the fate of dissenters.



That said, note the blessing in what follows for those who opt to become *loyal* subjects of the King.

**Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him** Psalm 2:10-12.

### ***The Kingdom of God***

Note now **the kingdom of God**:

**Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel** Mark 1:14-15. This is a spiritual kingdom entered now by the new birth, which is in effect **the gospel of the kingdom of God** Mark 1:14, **the gospel of the grace of God** Acts 20:24, **the gospel of Christ** Romans 1:16, **the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation** Ephesians 1:13 and **the gospel of God** Romans 1:1, 15:16, 2 Corinthians 11:7, 1 Thessalonians 2:2, 8, 9.

The Lord Jesus Christ expressed **the gospel of the kingdom of God** Mark 1:14 in John 3:3 **Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God** and manifested now by the spiritual fruit, namely **love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance** Galatians 5:22-23 – including **faith**, not faithfulness as is wrongly stated by the NIVs, NKJV, the two are different, see *The Fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5 Question 11* [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) – of moral and spiritual righteousness as Paul explains.

**For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost** Romans 14:17.

### ***Definitive Distinction Between the Kingdom of Heaven and the Kingdom of God***

As a definitive and indeed stark distinction between **the kingdom of heaven** Matthew 3:2 and **the kingdom of God** Matthew 6:33, note the Lord's words as follows.

**And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force** Matthew 11:12.

See graphic *Kingdom of Heaven* that typifies the earthly violence associated with **the kingdom of heaven** that will not be ended until as Paul states of the Lord Jesus Christ at the Second Advent **when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet** 1 Corinthians 15:24-25.

**The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it...And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you** Luke 16:16, 17:20-21.

Romans 14:17, Galatians 5:22-23 explain Luke 17:21. **The kingdom of heaven** is *never* said to be *within* an individual but **the kingdom of God** within the individual is as Paul states **What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's** 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. Observe that unlike **the kingdom of heaven**, **the kingdom of God** *cannot* be taken by force because it isn't physical but **every man presseth into it** who genuinely wants in and does not delay, like Zacchaeus once he knew the invitation was there. **And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully** Luke 19:5-6.

### ***The Matching Kingdom Parables***

Note finally that the kingdom parables that match are those of the sower and the seed, the mustard seed and the leaven, Matthew 13:18-23, 31-33, Mark 4:3-11, Luke 8:10-15, 13:18-21. These parables apply to both [the kingdom of heaven](#) Matthew 3:2 and [the kingdom of God](#) Matthew 6:33 because they have both earthly physical and spiritual components. Rome for example, the woman with the leaven, Matthew 13:33, Luke 13:20-21, is both an earthly physical and a spiritual entity – watch out for those birds in Matthew 13:31-32, Luke 13:19, they depict unclean spirits. See below – **and don't have anything, ever, to do with Catholicism, it is all evil and any saved Catholics should leave it according to the Lord Himself And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues** Revelation 18:4. The *Alberto* series [www.chick.com/catalog/comiclist.asp#alberto](http://www.chick.com/catalog/comiclist.asp#alberto) gives unassailable, irrefutable details of both Rome's evil earthly physical and spiritual components.

This is Rome's evil earthly physical component:

**And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication...And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus...And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth** Revelation 17:1-2, 4-6, 18:24. (That last includes the Tunisian victims [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-33304310](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-33304310). The SJ will have orchestrated everything from the shadows, somehow. Note what a 'good' boy the shooter was/is, just like the 7/7 mass murderers [news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/uk/05/london\\_blasts/investigation/html/bombers.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/uk/05/london_blasts/investigation/html/bombers.stm))

**The wine of her fornication** includes fake bible versions, extant (NIVs) and imaginary ('the-Hebrew-and-the-Greek' – there's no such thing, as a single, definitive, authoritative extant entity, those who say otherwise, saved or lost, are bare-faced liars of the first order). Try and get today's professing Christian fundamentalist winos to go on the wagon from their NIVs etc., Hebrew/Aramaic/Greekolatry and originals-onlyism. They'll react like any alcoholic abruptly denied his next 'shot' or like a psychotic cat in desperate need of Jackson Galaxy. ['Our critic'] was a good example and I've seen others since. See:

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My\\_Cat\\_from\\_Hell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Cat_from_Hell)

[www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/) 'O Biblios' – *The Book, King James Bible Supremacy*

This is Rome's evil spiritual component. **The Lord God** will destroy *both* components at His Return:

**And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird** Revelation 18:1-2.

**Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her** Revelation 18:8. Finally:

### ***Church Age Kingdom Promise***

**And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen** 2 Timothy 4:18.