
Matthew 13:33 ... "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough."

1 Corinthians 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

■ *John 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."* ■

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

■ *Acts 14:22 ...strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said.* ■

James 2:5 Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

Upside-Down Kingdom Entrance

Luke 23:42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

■ ⁴³ *Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."* ■

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The Upside-Down King and Kingdom

The Upside-Down Kingdom—part 1

November 28, 2021

■ The clash of two mighty kingdoms

 ■

- The kingdom of darkness

*Ephesians 2:1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed **the ways of this world** and of **the ruler of the kingdom of the air**, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.*

■ *2 Cor. 4:4 The **god of this age** has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.* ■

- The kingdom of God

■ *Col. 1:13 For he (Christ) has **rescued** us from **the dominion of darkness** and brought us into the **kingdom of the Son** he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.* ■

The kingdom of God is the rule of God
in the hearts of people.

The Upside-Down King

Jesus, the coming king

Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the **government** will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of **the increase of his government** and peace there will be no end. **He will reign** on David's throne and **over his kingdom**, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Jeremiah 23:5 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, **a King who will reign** wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

A king has come

Matthew 2:1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been **born king of the Jews?** We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born.

Matthew 2:5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: ⁶ "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'"

Matthew 2:7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

Matthew 2:8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

Matthew 2:9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

The Upside-Down Kingdom

The kingdom of God

John 18:36 Jesus said, "**My kingdom is not of this world.** If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now **my kingdom is from another place.**"

Matthew 13:31 ... "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."
