

# Already / Not Yet of the Kingdom of God

DAY 20

## Meta-Narrative of Scripture:

- Creation
- Fall
- Redemption
- Restoration

## Major Motifs of Scripture:

Exile & Homecoming → Jesus experienced the ultimate exile

God & His Covenants → Jesus established a New & Better Covenant

The Kingdom of God → Jesus in-augurated the Kingdom



## The 5 characteristics to the Kingdom of God that were declared by Isaiah were:

1. Light (God's Presence)
2. Joy
3. Deliverance (salvation)
4. Peace
5. Justice

**A.** The kingdom to come was a hope to the Jewish people of a time when God was going to break in to time, space, and history and act on their behalf. This Kingdom would mean the overthrow of their enemies and the rule would be like the time of David's rule, but better. And so - The Kingdom of God became a great hope and expectation for the Jewish people.

### Jewish Eschatology

- This Age (Satan's rule & reign)
- The Age to Come (God's rule & reign)

**B.** From the time following Isaiah's prophecy (post Babylonian exile) till the time of Jesus' arrival, many would be messiahs rose up to try and lead the Jewish people in to fulfilling the establishing of the Kingdom of God, through means of revolt, violence, and the systems of man. Every one of them failed.

**C.** It is into this context that the NT Scriptures and narratives are born. There was a great expectation for the Kingdom to come, but once again, that expectation was tainted by the ideas of how all kingdoms of the world came.

# Jesus



**Mark 1:14-15** “Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Gospel → Good news, announcement, something to be heralded

Time → Promise & fulfillment, eschatological, Messianic Age / End of an Age → Beginning of a New Age

At Hand → Present Reality (No longer considered far off or in the future)

## Challenge in Understanding The Kingdom:

Modern Thought - Realm – Place → Geography

Ancient Jewish Thought - Time – Rule → Reign

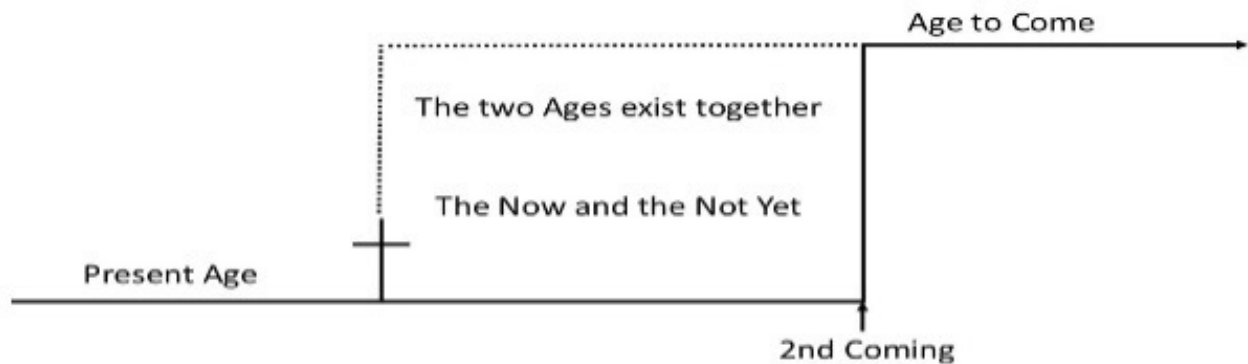


**D.** So in the gospels, Jesus isn't so much as concerned about where the Kingdom will take place, but rather when?

**E.** The Gospels don't just tell a story about how to get to heaven or how to be forgiven of sin. The Gospel narratives make the announcement that because of Jesus, the establishing of the Kingdom of God has in fact begun.

It is imperative that we see that Jesus spoke of the Kingdom of God as both a present reality and a future event.

## "Already / Not Yet"



## "Already, But Not Yet"

(Oscar Cullman)

**D-Day – June 6, 1944**

**VE-Day – May 8, 1945**

**VJ-Day – Aug. 15, 1945**

**F.** At the cross and in the resurrection -> The devil had a D-Day and there is a V-Day coming in the 2nd coming of Jesus where he will bring to full realization what begun over 2k years ago.

“So, we now live in the time between the times”

What is your one takeaway from this session?

