

THE KINGDOM OF GOD'S DEAR SON

Giving thanks unto the Father, Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son – Col1:12,13

If your life in this world is all that you have then the Bible describes you as “*having no hope, and without God in the world*” (Eph2:12). The God who created you and whom you must meet in judgment after death is unknown to you; he is not *your God* and you are not numbered among his people. His strict justice must condemn you to a dreadful lost eternity and so the empty best you can do for now is to “*eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you die*” (Heb9:27)

But God has a glorious kingdom of peace and righteousness which holds out the firm hope to all who trust in Christ that they shall be there for eternity enjoying the bliss of uninterrupted communion with God and his redeemed people. And not only then, but now as believers in this life, the hope that God gives brings unique comfort; it is hope that confidently expects the realisation of all of God's gracious promises, infallibly underwritten by the saving work of the Lord Jesus Christ and his resurrection from the dead.

Between the two states of being without God and of knowing him, there is a huge chasm that cannot be crossed in any form of human natural strength. But Christ is the ladder who bridges the gap (John1:50,51). He is the only Way into God's kingdom, he is all your qualification for entry into God's kingdom. But you must come to him and, as the disciples when they first heard his call, you must go beyond merely observing and follow him out of this world into his kingdom.

AJ

HEAVENLY COMFORT BEFORE ITS TIME

It is one of the most unwise things under heaven to comfort people who have not yet closed with Christ in heart faith. When people manifest an interest in the gospel and give an ear to our message, we must not allow our love for them and our zeal for their conversion to lead us to offer them rest when they need strong words to shut them up to Christ.

Any friendship with the pastor and church people which gives an unbeliever cheer, fellowship, and ease short of a union with Christ is dangerous. A sinner's main business is to come to CHRIST HIMSELF, to love Christ, to rest in Christ. Then come to church fellowship, rest, and the joys of the body. There is no half-way house before believing in Him!

Henry T. Mahan (bulletin 1987)

WHO WILL YOU BRING? - JOHN 1:42

Andrew never preached like Peter did. But had it not been for Andrew's witness to his brother, Peter would never have preached either. Maybe you can't preach. But you can be an Andrew. Go and tell men what you have experienced, tell them about the Christ of God. Then bring them with you to the place where they are most likely to meet Christ for themselves. Bring others with you to the house of God to hear a man preach the gospel of Christ.

Maybe God will be pleased to use you to bring another sinner like yourself to a saving knowledge of Christ.

What a glorious prospect! Let it inspire you to begin the work today. Andrew brought Simon to the Saviour. Philip brought Nathanael. Who will you bring?

Don Fortner

Knebworth Grace Church

*Preaching the unsearchable
riches of Christ - Ephesians 3:8*

www.knebworthgracechurch.org

*(includes current bulletin and links to our
YouTube Livestream channel)*

Sunday 11th April 2021

10:45 am (GMT+1) Service

John 1:35-51

"From the World into God's Kingdom"

Traditional worship with hymns, prayer, Bible readings and a sermon based on a passage of the Bible. You are welcome to join us via the internet on our YouTube Livestream.

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Reading Isaiah 45:14-25

129 tune 807

J Hart

1 Ye souls that are weak, and helpless, and poor,
Who know not to speak, much less to do more,
Lo! here's a foundation for comfort and peace –
In Christ is salvation; the kingdom is his.

2 With power he rules, and wonders performs;
Gives conduct to fools, and courage to worms
Beset by sore evils without and within,
By legions of devils and mountains of sin.

3 Then be not afraid; all power is given
To Jesus, our Head, in earth and in heaven;
Through him we shall conquer the mightiest foes;
Our Captain is stronger than all that oppose.

4 [His power from above he'll kindly impart,
So free is his love, so tender his heart;
Redeemed with his merit, we're washed in his
blood;
Renewed by his Spirit, we've power with God.]

5 Thy grace we adore, Director divine;
The kingdom, and power, and glory are thine.
Preserve us from running on rocks or on shelves,
From foes strong and cunning, and most from
ourselves.

6 Reign o'er us as King, accomplish thy will,
And powerfully bring us forth from all ill;
Till, falling before thee, we laud thy loved name,
Ascribing the glory to God and the Lamb.

Prayer

Reading John 1:35-51

Prayer

956 tune 464

J Newton

1 Christ has blessings to impart,
Grace to save thee from thy fears;
O the love that fills his heart!
Sinner, wipe away thy tears.

2 Why art thou afraid to come?
Why afraid to tell thy case?
He will not pronounce thy doom;
Smiles are seated on his face.

3 Though his majesty be great,
Yet his mercy is no less;
Though he thy transgressions hate,
Jesus feels for thy distress.

4 Raise thy downcast eyes and see,
Numbers do his throne surround;
These were sinners once, like thee,
But have full salvation found.

5 Yield not, then, to unbelief;
Courage, soul; "There yet is room!"
Though of sinners thou art chief,
Come, thou burdened sinner, come.

Sermon

683 tune 59

W Gadsby

1 Great God! thy kingdom come,
With reverence would we pray;
May the eternal Three-in-One
His sovereign sceptre sway.

2 May grace triumphant reign,
And Christ exalted be;
Sinners, deserving endless pain,
Thy great salvation see.

3 May mercy, truth and peace
Fill each believer's soul,
And the sweet kingdom of thy grace
Their raging lusts control.

4 [May love and harmony
Among thy saints abide;
Thy presence set each bosom free
From enmity and pride.]

5 Go on, thou mighty God,
Thy wonders to make known,
Till every sinner bought with blood
Shall trust in thee alone.

6 Thus let thy kingdom come,
And free salvation reign,
Till all thy saints arrive at home,
And never part again.