

Sermon Handout

The King Arrives

Matthew 3:1-3

I. Announcing the Kingdom

- a. John the Baptizer
The Kingdom is near! Mt 3:2
- b. Jesus himself
The Kingdom is near! Mt 4:12, 17. Mk 1:14-15; Lk 4:16-21
- c. The Kingdom is not something that appears in the far distant future
Mk 9:1 *cf.* Mt 24:1-3, 32-34
- d. The Kingdom is not strictly heavenly; it is on earth as well
Mt 6:9-10 *cf.* Mt 28:18-20; 5:3, 5, 10
- e. The Kingdom is entered through Jesus
Mk 10:13-15; Mt 19:14 *cf.* Jn 1:12: 3:3

II. The Kingdom Prophesied

- a. The Kingdom is the Lord's Ps 22:26-28 *cf.* Mt 5:3, 5
The context is of the Suffering Savior vv. 1, 7-8, 14-18 *cf.* Mt 27:33-35
- b. His Kingdom is above all earthly kingdoms Dan 2:44; 7:13-14
Anticipated in Jesus' time Lk 1:67-79; 2:25-32, 36-38; 23:50-51
- c. Jesus is God's appointed King Ps 2:1-7; 110:1-2, 5-7
Jesus makes explicit reference – Mt 22:41-46 (Mk 12; Lk 20)
Melchizedek (v. 4) is **King of Salem** (Peace) Gen 14:18 *cf.* Isa 9:6

III. Lessons for the Church

- a. Christ's rule is a certainty – He has already defeated all enemies.
- b. We are already in the Kingdom of Jesus.
The **consummation** is future, but the Kingdom is now.
- c. We must not fear unrighteous rulers – they fall under God's condemnation.
Ultimately, they shall bow to Jesus' rule or they will be destroyed.
- d. Like John, Jesus & the Apostles, we are to proclaim Christ as King of Kings.
Men are to be called to repentance and faith, and so enter the Kingdom.