

Doctrine of the Kingdom of Heaven

1. John the Baptist proclaimed that the kingdom of heaven was at hand and so men should repent.
 - *Matthew 3:2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*
2. Jesus also preached the present reality of the kingdom of heaven and commanded individuals to repent.
 - *Matthew 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*
3. The kingdom of heaven belongs to those who are poor in spirit.
 - *Matthew 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
4. The kingdom of heaven is for those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.
 - *Matthew 5:10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
5. A person's position in the kingdom of heaven is determined by faithfulness to the commandments of God.
 - *Matthew 5:19 Whosoever 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 whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*
6. It is an imputed righteousness, the righteousness of Christ, and not one's personal righteousness that shall allow an individual to enter into the kingdom of heaven.
 - *Matthew 5:20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.*
7. Some people will be surprised they are not allowed into the kingdom of heaven.
 - *Matthew 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*
8. The kingdom of heaven includes Gentiles as well as Jews. Christ saves all men without distinction if not without exception.
 - *Matthew 8:11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.*

9. Every Christian in general, and every minister in particular, is to preach the kingdom of heaven in the same manner as John the Baptist and Jesus.

- *Matthew 10:7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

10. Greatness among men is not the same as greatness in the kingdom of heaven.

- *Matthew 11:11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.*

11. Only the humble shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. ?

- *Matthew 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.*
- *Matthew 18:4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*

12. Passion to the point of violence is to characterize those who are citizens of the kingdom of heaven.

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

13. A true disciple of Christ can know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.

- *Matthew 13:11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.*

14. The Lord presented word pictures to explain what the kingdom of heaven is like.

- The kingdom of heaven is like a sower of seeds. *Matthew 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a tiny seed. *Matthew 13:31 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:*
- The kingdom of heaven is like hidden leaven. *Matthew 13:33 Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.*

- The kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure. *Matthew 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great price. *Matthew 13:45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a net used for fishing. *Matthew 13:47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a king overseeing his servants. *Matthew 18:23 Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a creative householder. *Matthew 13:52 Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a trusting child. *Matthew 19:14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a householder hiring laborers. *Matthew 20:1 For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a marriage banquet. *Matthew 22:2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,*
- The kingdom of heaven is like five wise virgins. *Matthew 25:1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.*
- The kingdom of heaven is like a travelling man. *Matthew 25:14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.*

15. The keys to the kingdom of heaven were entrusted to Peter.

- *Matthew 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*

16. Some people will find it difficult, though not impossible, to enter into the kingdom of heaven. Among this group are the rich, not because they are rich, but because they trust more in their wealth than in the Lord. The Pharisees are also shut out of the kingdom of heaven.

- The rich. *Matthew 19:23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.*
- The Pharisees. *Matthew 23:13 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.*