

Lesson 19 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 Jewish leaders. But now my Kingdom is from another place.”

by Royce Hutain

The Kingdom of God is mentioned 162 times in the New Testament. Most people do not have a good grasp of what the Kingdom really is. Jesus gave us some clues:

1. The Kingdom is not of this world. Jesus said if it was, His servants would fight.
2. The Kingdom of God is not coming with signs.
3. The Kingdom of God is not found in time or space.
4. The Kingdom is invisible.

John Calvin reminds us the tasks to which we as Christians must do is to make the invisible, visible. So what is a Kingdom? It is God's universal reign as Creator and His exhaustive work as our Redeemer.

Psalm 24:7 lets us know, “The earth is the Lord's and all it contains, the world and those who dwell in it.” Psalm: 24:3 Who can ascend into the hill of the Lord and stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood. Be lifted up, Oh ancient door that the Kingdom of glory may come in!”

There is the answer: The Kingdom is now, ***if*** we allow the King of Heaven and all the earth to cleanse our hearts and minds and our hands. The Kingdom is within us who receive Him.

So, the question we need to ask is do we desire to be **citizens of the King** or subjects of a king not of this world? The end question is how do I make the Kingdom visible? I do it by a continuing transformation of my heart and mind; to change my attitude and actions that lift Christ up; to draw attention to the light of Christ to those still in darkness.

Let's pray: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy **Kingdom** come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day Our Daily Bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen