

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GLADIATOR



KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

MAY 6, 2005

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The proclamation of the Kingdom

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' (3:2)

'every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.' (3:10)

'From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' (4:17)

'At once they left their nets and followed him' (4:20)

"Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.' (7:21)

The advance of the Kingdom of Heaven

'the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.' (11:5)

1. The incomparable value of the Kingdom

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

(Mat 6:19-21)

‘I consider everything a loss because of *the surpassing worth* of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him’ (Philippians 3:8)

2. Permanent exclusion from the kingdom

‘This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ v48-50

3. The danger of familiarity with Kingdom teaching