

A Tale of Two Kingdoms

The Kingdom of Caesar contrasted with the Kingdom of God:

- The length of rule and geographical extent of each kingdom.

Four uses of the word “kingdom” in relationship to God.

1). Everything over which God rules including all of creation and all of time.

¹³ **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion *endures* throughout all generations.**
Psalms 145:13 (NASB)

¹⁹ **The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, And His sovereignty rules over all.** Psalms 103:19

2). Those who God rules over through his Son Jesus

¹³ **For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,**
¹⁴ **in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.** Colossians 1:13-14 (NASB)

¹¹ **"Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen *anyone* greater than John the Baptist!
Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.** Matthew 11:11 (NASB)

3). God's sovereign rule through the Jews before Jesus came.

Matthew 8:5-12

⁴² **Jesus *said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER *stone*; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE Lord, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?** ⁴³ **"Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it.** Matthew 21:42-43 (NASB)

4) Jesus' 1000 year rule on the Earth

⁴ **Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I *saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.** ⁵ **The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.** ⁶ **Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.** Revelation 20:4-6 (NASB)

- The nature of each kingdom.

John 18:33-38

¹⁷ **for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.**
Romans 14:17 (NASB)

- How you become a citizen of each kingdom.

John 3:1-8

- The rights of the citizens of each kingdom.

1) Access to the ruler

¹⁴ **Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.** ¹⁵ **For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are, yet* without sin.** ¹⁶ **Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**
Hebrews 4:14-16 (NASB)

2) Rewards for sacrificing to enter the Kingdom.

Luke 18:24-30

3) A secure inheritance.

³ **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,** ⁴ **to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,** ⁵ **who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.** 1 Peter 1:3-5