

The Universal Kingdom of God
Part 4
November 6, 2013

The Universal Kingdom of God is the sovereign reign of God over all things since the first moment of creation.

7 most important characteristics of the Universal Kingdom of God

#1 It exists without interruption through all time

#2 It is unlimited in scope; covers all creatures and all creation

#3 It is generally exercised thru His providence.

#4 It has been exercised by supernatural interruptions beyond providence.

#5 It is irresistible and unstoppable, existing efficaciously regardless of the attitude of its subjects.

#6 It is administered, governed or ruled through His Son, with a goal of the summing up of all things in Christ.

#7 It is NOT identical with the kingdom we pray would come.

a. Compare Psalm 103:19 with Mat. 6:10

b. Our duty?

c. So what does Mat. 6:10 mean?

i. Context tells us – it's a kingdom reign on _____!

ii. Adolph Saphir in his book *The Lord's Prayer*: "The petition refers primarily and directly to the Messianic kingdom on earth, of which all Scripture testifies. The King of this kingdom is the Lord Jesus, the Son of David; the subjects of it are Israel and the nations, - the chosen people fulfilling the mission which, according to the election of God, is assigned unto them, of being the medium of blessing unto all the nations of the earth; the center of the kingdom is Jerusalem, and the means of its establishment is the coming and visible appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ. When we pray, "Thy Kingdom come", our true meaning is, "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly!"

iii. Ellicot: "This prayer reflects the Messianic expectations of God's people "embodied in the picture of the ideal king ... long familiar to all who looked for the consolation of Israel. The kingdom of God was nigh at hand and the Teacher of this prayer knew Himself to be Head or King of that kingdom."

- iv. From the Greek text of Mat. 6:9-10:
 1. the verb is emphatic and aorist imperative, thus indicating single or instantaneous action; “calls for action viewed as a single whole, for action to be done in its entirety on that occasion”. It involves a sense of urgency in petitions. Daniel Wallace, Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics: An exegetical syntax of the NT.
 2. The prayer itself recognizes the kingdom has not come and is yet future
 3. it’s coming to earth will be a definite crisis in history, not a long and gradual process; this is as predicted by the OT prophets and in contrast with the present Universal Kingdom.

- d. When the Mediatorial Kingdom has fully accomplished it’s purpose, it will end as a separate entity and merge into the Universal Kingdom of God.
 - i. SEE I Cor. 15:20-28

 - ii. AKA the eternal state; more precisely, the new heavens, new earth and new Jerusalem (Rev. 21-22).

 - iii. Renald Showers distinguishes between the earthly M.K. and the eternal state after the M.K. to show that we can’t go straight to the eternal state after the return of Christ:
 1. During His reign Messiah will have dominion from sea to sea (Ps. 72:8 and Zech. 9:10) but eternity future will have no sea (Rev. 21:1)
 2. Unsaved are present during MK (Isa. 11:4 and Rev. 20:8-9) but not in the new heavens/new earth (Rev. 21:8)
 3. Some will die during the MK (Isa. 11:4 and Jer. 31:29-30) but no death in eternal state (Rev. 20:14 and 21:4)
 4. Children born during the MK (Jer. 30:19-20; Ezek. 47:22), but not during eternal state.