

THE MESSAGE OF THE MESSIAH KING

Matthew 5-7 Part 1

A suggested outline of Matthew 1-13

Chapter

The Credentials of the King

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| 1 | Legal right to the throne | Genealogical Record |
| 2 | Royal right to the throne | Astronomical Prophetic Signs |
| 3 | Divine right to the throne | Spiritual Anointing |
| 4 | Moral right to the throne | Spiritual Testing |

The Creed of the Kingdom

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| 5-7 | Judicial right to the throne | Understanding of the Law |
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The Compassion and Power of the King

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| 8-9 | Prophetic right to the throne | Proof of prophesied miracles |
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The Crisis of the King

- 11 Rejection of the King The unpardonable sin
- 12 Postponement of the literal Kingdom
- 13 Parable of the Mystery form of the Kingdom

1. Inauguration of Jesus Ministry

A. Jesus' Presentation

- 1). Baptism by John the Baptist (Matthew 3:13)
- 2). Anointing of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:16)
- 3). Acknowledgement by the Heavenly Father (Matthew 3:17)

B. Jesus' Testing

- 1). Preparation by prayer and fasting (Matthew 4:1,2)
- 2). Temptation by Satan (Matthew 4: 3-10)
- 3). Imprisonment of John the Baptist (Matthew 4:12)
- 4). Rejection by His own townsfolk (Luke 4:16-30)

C. Why Jesus relocated to Capernaum to begin His ministry (Matthew 4:13; Luke 4:30)

The significance of Jesus' selection of Capernaum first was that it was selected by God and prophesied as we saw quoted by Simeon at Jesus' presentation as an infant (Luke 2:25-32). The prophecy of Isaiah 9:1,2 was repeated in Matthew 4:13-15. This region was where the borderline of two of Israel's tribes, Zebulon and Naphtali, connected with the shoreline of the Sea of Galilee which was first mentioned by Moses "And the border shall descend, and shall reach unto the side of the sea of Chinnereth eastward" (Numbers 34:11). The Sea of Galilee is known in modern Israel as Lake Kinneret which comes from Chinnereth, its original name.

The strategic significance of Capernaum (known as *Kafarnahum*)

- It was and still is the largest fresh-water reservoir in Israel and the Decapolis/ Jordan
- Capernaum sat on what is called the Via Maris trade route from Egypt to Damascus.
- It was a main trading location for fresh fish, produce and grain from the fertile region.
- The commercial traffic made tax collection profitable for the Roman Government. (Matthew 9:9)
- Capernaum means the Village of Nahum and was known as a “City of Comfort.” Nearby were seventeen natural mineral hot springs. During Roman times, it was recorded as being well-known for those seeking relief from ailments.ⁱ Jesus came to minister where hurting people were.
- The Capernaum Synagogue was a center for many Jewish leaders, the foundation of the one Jesus taught in is still visible. A fourth-century synagogue is built on its foundation.
- It was known as Galilee of the Gentiles because of the predominant Gentile population bordering the Jordan Valley to the east in the modern territory of Jordan and southern Syria. There were ten Gentile cities in the Decapolis region. Many people from there came to hear Jesus (Matthew 4:25).
- In the days of Herod Antipas, (who was Tetrarch of Galilee from 4BC – 39 AD - Luke 3:1), some of the most religiously orthodox Jews, refused to settle there because they opposed the Hellenization, (Greek cultural influence) on their followers. Herod Antipas settled many non-Jews to the Sea of Galilee region from other parts of his domains in order to populate his new capital in Tiberias founded in 18-20 AD. The prestige of Tiberias became so great that by the time Jesus started His ministry, the Sea of Galilee was beginning to be called the Sea of Tiberias; (John 6:1;21:1) however, the Jewish population continued to call it *Yam HaKineret*, its traditional name.^[17]



Galilee description by Flavius Josephus “their soil is universally rich and fruitful, and full of the plantations of trees of all sorts.. by its fruitfulness; by its richness of soil...it is all cultivated by its inhabitants, and no part of it lies idle. Moreover, the cities lie here very thick, and the very many villages there are here are everywhere that the very least of them contain above fifteen thousand inhabitants.”ⁱⁱ

The Timeline

Jesus had just spent the night in prayer and then chose His twelve disciples (Luke 6:12-16).

“And he **came down with them, and stood in the plain**, and the company of his disciples, and a **great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases**; And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and **healed them all**” (Luke 6:17-19). “and **seeing the multitudes**, He went up into a mountain, and when He was set, his disciple came unto Him:” (Matthew 5:1)

I. MEANING OF THE MESSAGE

- A. Repent- change of attitude toward God evidenced by a change in actions Matthew 3:8, 4:17
- B. Kingdom of Heaven 4:23
 - 1. Literal kingdom on earth established by the God of Heaven Daniel 2:44
 - 2. Literal kingdom anticipated by Israel Luke 2:36-38

II. MORAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KINGDOM CITIZENS

A. Internal attitude	B. External & eternal results
• vs 3 poor in spirit	• kingdom of heaven
• vs 4 mourn	• comforted
• vs 5 meek	• Inherit the Earth
• vs 6 hunger and thirst for righteousness	• filled
• vs 7 merciful	• obtain mercy
• vs 8 pure in heart	• see God
• vs 9 peacemakers	• called the children of God
• vs 10-12 rejoicing in persecution	• reward in heaven

- C. Analogies of the influence of moral practices
 - 1. salt 5:13
 - 2. light 5:14-16

III. COMPARISONS BETWEEN THE LAW OF MOSES AND THE LAW OF CHRIST.

- A. Preface to the comparisons 5:17-20
- B. Laws governing relationships of people to one another
 - 1. concerning murder 5:21, 22; Ex 20:13
 - 2. concerning reconciliation 5:23-26
 - 3. concerning adultery 5:27-20
 - 4. concerning divorce 5:31-32
 - 5. concerning oaths 5:33-37

Appendix A Lesson 4 Rediscovering Jesus Kingdom of Heaven Rediscovering Jesus in the Jewish Gospel

- Summarize the *Kingdom of Heaven/Kingdom of God* message of John, Jesus and His disciples as differentiated from the Gospel of the death, burial and resurrection.
- The *Gospel of the Kingdom* according to John the Baptist was essentially: Time’s almost up. The Messiah’s arrival is imminent, “at hand.” I am NOT He. Repent and believe in Him because He is almost here.

- The *Gospel of the Kingdom* according to Jesus was; Time's up. Ready or not, The Messiah is here. Repent and believe now that I am He, before I return as King Messiah.
- Gospel of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, is from the resurrection until the rapture. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

What is the Gospel by which one is saved? We are poisoned with sin from birth and polluted by sin in our lives. God sent His Son in human flesh to perfectly keep all the righteous demands of God's Law, to redeem them that were under the covenant and curse of that Law. Jesus fulfilled hundreds of prophecies corroborating His Messiahship and Deity as the Son of God. He took the judgment of God for the sins of all humanity as our substitute and sacrifice for sin, by dying on the cross. He was buried and rose from the grave bodily. This was summarized in John 3: 16-18 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." You have a decision to make, whether to place your trust in Jesus and believe in Him to become your Savior and take away your sin or to refuse Him and die in your sins. "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am *he*, ye shall die in your sins." John 8:24

- **The core content of salvation has always been repentance toward God for mercy regarding our sin and faith in God based on blood sacrifice, resulting in atonement, and His imparted righteousness** Rom. 10:3,4.
"For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth." Romans 10:3
- **An analogy of how people are saved before and after the cross**
When O.T. believers were saved by faith, it could be likened to using a credit card. Salvation is received on credit before payment has been made. When N.T. believers are saved by faith it is like using a debit card. Salvation is received and paid for from the resources already on deposit.

What is The Kingdom?

Jesus continued the message of the O.T. Jewish prophets and the message of John, the last O.T. prophet.

- "he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the **glad tidings of the kingdom of God**" Mark 1:14, 15.
- "Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the **gospel of the kingdom**" Matt.4:23.
- Again after his opening ministry of healing on the Galilee, "Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching **the gospel of the kingdom.**" Matthew 9:35.
- *The Gospel of the Kingdom* was preached by Jesus for about two years up until the leaders of Israel rejected Him in Matthew 12:23-32.

Defining "*Kingdom of Heaven*" in Matthew, and "*The Kingdom of God*" used in Mark and Luke.

Matthew only used the phrase *Kingdom of Heaven* as he addressed a Jewish audience, who even to this day in Rabbinic/Pharisaic Judaism, are forbidden to pronounce or even write the name God. It is spelled G-D, for the Hebrew Elohim. If they say it, they purposely mispronounce it "Elokim" to avoid taking God's name in vain. (Jewish lenses clarify) Mark and Luke synonymously use *Kingdom of Heaven* or *Kingdom of God* when recording the teachings of Jesus at the same events.

Is the *Kingdom of Heaven/God* spiritual or physical? In some places, Jesus says you will see it in power and glory, and at other times Jesus says you will not see it "with observation," and "It is within you." Both are true but describe different facets of the Kingdom. Two phrases are used to describe it: Universal or Eternal Kingdom. It is God's rule over his entire Kingdom. Nothing happens outside of God's will. These two phrases emphasize two aspects. *Eternal* refers to the time

aspect. At no time past, present or future is God not in control. *Universal* refers to the sphere and scope - everywhere. The Spiritual Kingdom refers to the rule of God in the heart of the believer. It is composed of all believers of all time. The means of the entrance is regeneration by the Holy Spirit. In the present age, the Spiritual Kingdom and the Church are synonymous. The Church was born in Acts 2:1-4 and will last until the Rapture which Paul believed and taught was imminent in His time with no preceding signs. The Spiritual kingdom will continue after the church is raptured. (John 3:3-4; 1 Cor 6:9,10). God's rule over the people of Israel was a theocracy established by Moses at Sinai. The Law was their Constitution. At Sinai, the people of Israel became the nation of Israel.

That theocratic kingdom timeline was recorded in Exodus 19 – 2 Chronicles 36. God's Theocratic rule has three phases. **First, it was Mediatorial.** He ruled through mediators, Moses, Joshua, and the Judges. **The second phase was a Monarchial Kingdom** from King David and ended when Zedekiah was removed by King Nebuchadnezzar and with his Gentile Kingdom of Babylon began the "times of the Gentiles." This started in 586 BC and will last until Jesus the son of David restores the Monarchial Kingdom to Israel and sits on the throne in Jerusalem. **The third phase** of God's Theocratic Kingdom is referred to as **the Messianic or Millennial Kingdom** and is the period of Messiah's rule over Israel and the world from Jerusalem, from the throne of David. "Messianic" refers to the personal aspect of the Messiah, Jesus/Yeshua himself ruling among His people Israel. "Millennial" refers to the length – 1000 years and is the OT basis for and the ultimate fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant to Israel. Jesus validated Himself as the Messiah through fulfilled prophecies and identifying signs and wonders. He offered the Messianic Kingdom to Israel's leaders. It was rejected in Matthew 12. The result was that the offer was rescinded from that generation. The Messianic Kingdom offer was not given to the Gentile church, which still didn't exist until 10 days after Jesus ascended. The Messianic Kingdom ruled by a descendant of David who is David's LORD will sit on the throne of David in Jerusalem. He'll establish a literal earthly kingdom that will last for a millennium, in which Israel will be the center of world attention and admiration. Gentiles who are allowed to enter that kingdom will worship the Messiah, as our LORD and Savior. The Messianic Kingdom prophesied and presently delayed will be reoffered to a Jewish generation who survived the Tribulation who will accept it. "This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." (Matthew 24:14) Until then we are living in the times of the Gentiles.ⁱⁱⁱ Luke 21:24 "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

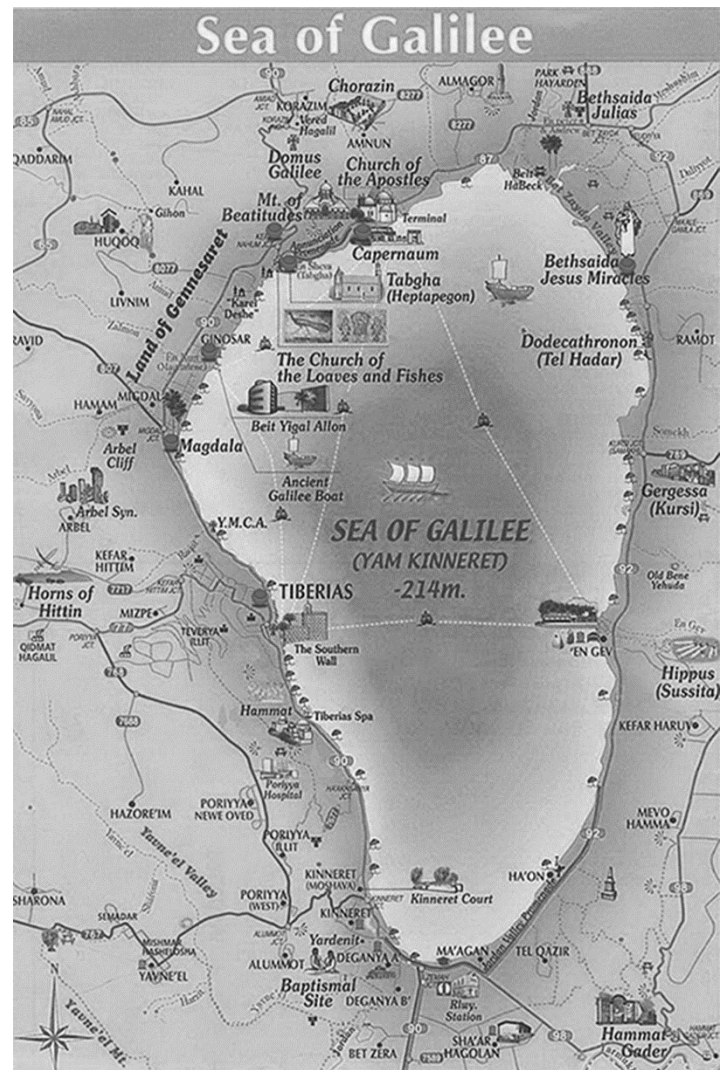
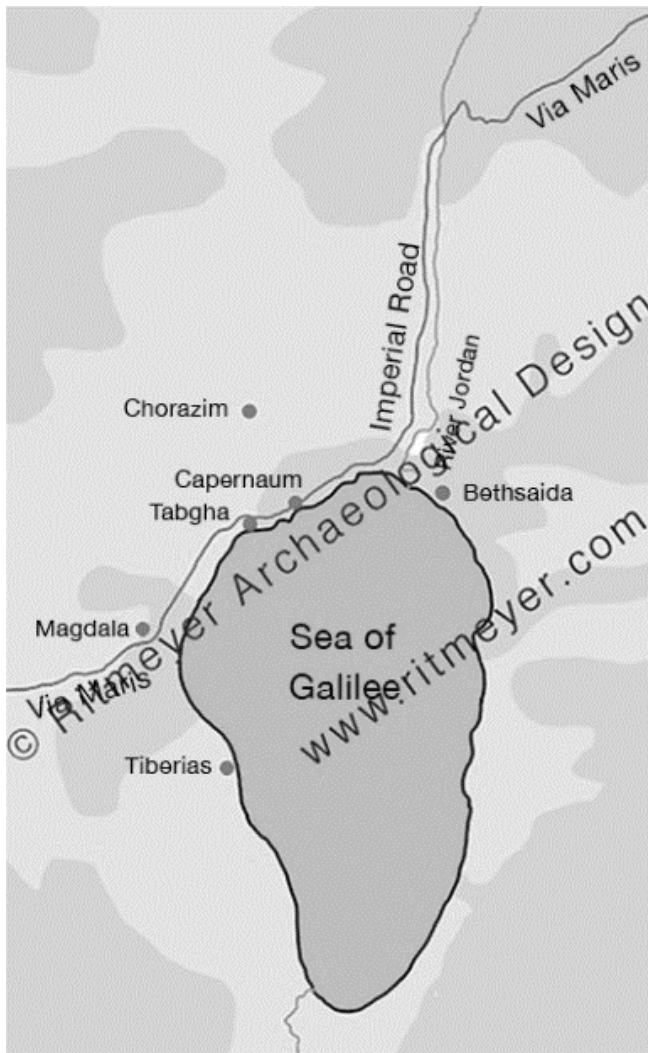
In Matthew 13 Jesus began to teach, the **"Mystery" Spiritual form of the Kingdom** which is a new previously unrevealed facet of God's Kingdom program. (Ephesians 3: 5-9; Col. 1:25-27) Jesus stopped preaching "The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." He began speaking in parables saying, "The Kingdom of Heaven is *like*." "Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes" "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force" (Matthew 11:12). The Messianic Kingdom offer was rescinded from that generation of Israel and will be reoffered to another Jewish generation, "another nation" that is, a reconstituted national entity of Israel.

¹ Tiberias - Wikipedia

¹ A Description Op Galilee, Samaria, and Judea. (biblehub.com)

¹ Arnold Fruchtenbaum, The Parables of the Kingdom, Ariel Ministries, San Antonio, TX

¹ The Archaeological Excavations at Magdala - World History Encyclopedia



Magdala Synagogue^{iv} 2500 coins, many dating from the time of Jesus and pottery corroborate this as an A++ archaeological proofs

Magdala Pulpit Stone Jesus probably taught from it. It has the oldest 7 branch Menorah to date

UNESCO records that 50 Synagogues have been unearthed in the Galilee. This one at Magdala is the oldest so far.

“Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom and healing”

Tiberias - Wikipedia

ⁱ A Description Of Galilee, Samaria, and Judea. (biblehub.com)

ⁱⁱ Arnold Fruchtenbaum, The Parables of the Kingdom, Ariel Ministries, San Antonio, TX

^v The Archaeological Excavations at Magdala - World History Encyclopedia