

“The Kingdom of God is at Hand”

Mark 1:14-15

JESUS BEGINS HIS MINISTRY IN GALILEE. v.14

1. Galilee is a region in the northern part of Israel, near the Sea of Galilee.

- John’s ministry was in the wilderness of Judea & surrounding areas (1:5). Ref. Luke 3:23

2. Jesus began his ministry after John the Baptist was arrested.

- “Now after John was arrested...” (Mark will return to this event. The story is told in 6:14-29.)

→ Why did Mark include this bit of information? God is orchestrating everything in accordance with his will.

3. Like John, Jesus’ ministry was one of proclamation.

JESUS PROCLAIMS THE GOSPEL. v.15

1. The time is fulfilled.

- God is working out his plan... of history, of the OT & the prophets.

2. The kingdom of God is at hand.

3. Repent and believe in the gospel.

- Repent (‘change your mind’) and believe (place your faith in) the good news (*this* good news)
- This was the same message of the OT prophets: Change your ways and believe in/trust the LORD.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

1. Basic introduction.

- There is a kingdom. There is a King of the kingdom.
- Definition: “The redemptive rule and reign of God”

2. The kingdom involves conflict.

- Conflict with our wrong way of thinking – repent = change of thinking // change of direction of life. v.4,15
- Conflict with our sin – the people came confessing their sins before baptism. v.5
- Conflict with evil – Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness. v.13
- Conflict with earthly authorities – John was arrested. v.14

3. The arrival of the kingdom of God.

- The kingdom of God is “at hand”. ESV, KJV, NASB (w/note: ‘has come near’); NIV ‘has come near
- 4:30-32: The kingdom of God is like a gradually developing mustard seed—both present and future.
- **The kingdom of God is present: Matthew 5:3; 12:28; 19:14; Luke 17:20-21**
- **The kingdom of God is future: Matthew 7:21-23; 25:34; 26:29**

→ How are Christians to live in this world?

THE COMMAND OF THE KINGDOM: REPENT AND BELIEVE

- Revelation 11:15: Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”