**His Kingdom**

“Pray, then, in this way:

‘Our Father who is in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven…” (Matt. 6:9-10).

Jesus’ goal was to set up his kingdom upon the earth. He promised that it would be set up in that first generation, in that first century. “And Jesus was saying to them, “ Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.” (Mark 9:1)

Power? The apostles powerfully preached that the king who died for them, was buried, and arose from the grave was sitting at the right hand of God in heaven (Acts 2:29-33). The apostles were preaching with the power of the Holy Spirit which they had just minutes ago received (Acts 2:1-4).

Power? That gospel message was powerful enough for 3,000 people to believe in Jesus, repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of their sins (2:38-41). Being added to the church Paul says, “For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,” (Col. 1:13).

Power? But for the skeptics, non-believers, that was not power enough for them. The skeptics saw 3,000, then 5,000 (4:4), a great many priests become obedient to the faith (6:7), but still it wasn’t enough. They saw the apostles do miracles (3:10, 5:12), but that was not powerful enough.

Power? So King Jesus kept sending his servants to invite them to come into his kingdom and join in the spiritual feast. “But they paid no attention and went their way, one to his own farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his slaves and mistreated them and killed them. “But the king was enraged, and he sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire. (Mat. 22:5-7). Yes he did. Jesus prophesied to them, warning them, “But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. “Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled.” (Luke 21:20-22). Now they felt the power of his kingdom (21:31). It is better to receive the power of his grace than the power of his fire. Jesus is King, every knee will bow, either now, or then.

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