

The Counterfeit Kingdom, I



Sermon Video Link: The Kingdom of Heaven

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_3NIIQxqk5lgRpkMpc6DF11wus4ygbdd

Sometimes it is easier to break down a very large topic by starting with what something IS NOT. Therefore, we shall engage our focus during Weeks 1, 2 & 3: The Counterfeit Kingdom, by beginning with what the Kingdom of God is NOT and work our way through the revelations so that no vital element is overlooked or missed.

The Authentic Kingdom will be explored beginning in Week Six.

Before we dive into the deep end of the Kingdom pool, we will peel back the layers of what **AUTHENTIC** means and shine the light forward and unveil how Satan is using his **COUNTERFEIT** kingdom and its offspring to ensnare people and keep them in bondage.

Write out the definition of AUTHENTIC:

NOT FALSE! That's what authentic means in the simplest terms. That's what God's Kingdom is --- NOT FALSE!

False: not according with truth or fact; incorrect; appearing to be the thing denoted; deliberately made or meant to deceive.

Our foundational scriptures for the 'Kingdom' study are found in Matthew 24:4-14 KJV:

⁴And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

⁵For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

⁶And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

⁷For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

⁸*All these are the beginning of sorrows.*

⁹*Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.*

¹⁰*And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.*

¹¹*And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.*

¹²*And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.*

¹³*But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*

¹⁴*And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*

[Watch Video Clip beginning @ 19:15-35:00 and write down the Greek words along with their definitions.](#)

CHRIST =

DECEIVE =

John 14:5-7 KJV

⁵Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

“When you are no longer ‘in the way’, you are no longer in Jesus.”

⁶Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

⁷If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

HEAR - _____

WARS = _____

TROUBLED = _____

NATIONS = _____

RISE = _____

KINGDOM = _____

PESTILENCES = _____

EARTHQUAKES = _____

AFFLICTED = _____

INIQUITY = _____

GOSPEL = _____

PREACHED = _____

COUNTERFEIT: made in exact imitation of something valuable or important with the

intention to deceive or defraud; a fraudulent imitation of something else; a forgery.

A fraudulent imitation . . . that describes Satan's kingdom to a T! The kingdom of darkness is his attempt to copy God's Kingdom, but with glaring flaws and insidious protocols that keep it up and running.

The kingdom of darkness' protocols can be compared to the layout of a "fun house" or a "house of mirrors" that one finds at a carnival. Those mirrors are set up in a maze fashion causing many reflections all at once and in many directions.

Some of the mirrors have special assets built-in; such as, distortion of appearance: height, weight, width and so on. Other mirrors have been broken, causing even more distortions and distractions.

Just as the Authentic Kingdom has strategies to build, Satan has strategies to tear down - to prevent expansion of the Kingdom of God in any area.

For example, when the church [His body of believers] is separated for extended periods time, imprisoned and isolated, this can lead to doubt and disbelief. Even one of the greatest, John the Baptist, after being in prison for an extended period of time and awaiting his execution began to doubt if Jesus was the Messiah.

Luke 7:19-20 KJV

¹⁹And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? Or look we for another?

²⁰When the men were come unto him, they said, John the Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? Or look we for another?

In prison. Dirty. Exhausted. Hungry. Sentenced to death. All everyday items of convenience and comfort were taken away. His thoughts bombarded by the impending beheading that was to come.

John was taking a long walk through the kingdom of darkness' house of mirrors! Each image he

looked at, something distorted was looking back at him. That can wear anyone down and out!

It isn't too much of a stretch for us to understand why Satan used that multifaceted strategy to break John's belief system down because it would greatly affect how he was going to respond.

What are some of the ways that you respond when the pressure gets intense?

In contrast, here is Jesus setting up His future disciples with some Kingdom how-to's, setting them up for success while operating in the Kingdom of God's protocols. Check out His first sermon:

Matthew 4:17 KJV

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

What a tremendous invitation to receive - the invitation to be part of His Kingdom! He continues to teach and unveils the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6.

Matthew 6:9-13 KJV

⁹After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

¹⁰Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

¹¹Give us this day our daily bread.

¹²And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

¹³And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Notice the wording, "In Earth" not on the Earth but IN it. We are made from the dust of the Ground.

The earth itself cannot be the Kingdom, *it is IN humanity that the Kingdom of God exists because*

we are to subdue the Earth. To direct; to control;
and to cultivate it.

Write out Genesis 1:26 in your own words.

Gen. 1:26 KJV

*²⁶And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have ***dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."*

***Dominion: ruling or controlling power.**

We are carriers / ambassadors of the Kingdom of God. People who cross our paths should experience the Kingdom of God IN us because it flows FROM us.

The Kingdom of God is Equality

Galatians 3:26-29 KJV

²⁶For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

²⁷For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The Kingdom of God is for whosoever will believe that Jesus is LORD and that God raised Him from the dead – confessing these points brings salvation and eternal life immeasurable!

Choose to embrace the JOY of the Kingdom of God. Truly, it is a lifestyle of love and freedom and not a fear-based, works-driven house of broken mirrors with nothing to offer but confusion, distortion, chaos and death.

Review *Matthew 24:4-14 KJV*

