

THE KINGDOM OF GOD #2
THE KINGDOM HAS A GOVERNMENT

I. THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS A GOVERNMENT.

Government is defined by Merriam-Webster's Dictionary as:
5 a: the organization, machinery, or **agency through which a political unit exercises authority and performs functions and which is usually classified according to the distribution of power within it** b: the complex of political institutions, laws, and customs through which the function of governing is carried out.

The title king implies this kingdom is a "theocracy". It is not a democracy. Jesus rules with a rod of iron.

A. It is an ever expanding kingdom.

Isaiah 9⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders....

⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. NIV

B. It exterminates all previous kingdoms.

Daniel 2⁴⁴ "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. NIV

C. It is an eternal kingdom. Daniel 2:44
"It will endure forever".... "it will never be destroyed."

II. THIS GOVERNMENT HAS A **GOVERNOR**, THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Jesus said that was going away to prepare a place for us in John 14 but promised we would have another Comforter. Until he returns the Holy Spirit is carrying out the King's desire and empowering his church.

John 14 ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you **another Counselor** to be with you forever— NIV

John 16 ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will **guide** you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; **he will speak** only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said **the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.** NIV

The Holy Spirit has been given power and authority to carry out the desires of the King in His government.

III. THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS MADE UP CITIZENS.

1. To become a citizen requires spiritual birth.

John 3 ³ In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

⁵ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.
NIV

2. These citizens are no longer of this world.

Hebrews 11 ¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And

they admitted that they were **aliens and strangers** on earth.
¹⁴ People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. NIV

IV. WE ARE **AMBASSADORS** OF THIS GOVERNMENT.

2Corinthians 5 ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors,....

We represent the Kingdom of God to those on the earth.
Our message is that God wants to reconcile with us.

2Corinthians 5 ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

He has given us the great commission to take this message to every creature.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS A GOVERNMENT WITH LAWS

Galatians 5 ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. NIV

Romans 13 ⁸ Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be,

are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”¹⁰ Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. NIV

Jesus Sermon on the Mount in **Matthew 5-7** is all about kingdom laws.

* The law of Moses dealt with **acts**, Kingdom law deals with **motives**.

- | • Law of Moses | Kingdom law |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Kill-danger of judgment | 1. Anger without cause is in danger of judgment |
| 2. Restitution | 2. Agree before a suit |
| 3. No adultery | 3. Looking in lust is adultery of the heart |
| 4. Bill of divorce given | 4. Divorce only for fornication or adultery |
| 5. Keep an oath | 5. Keep your word |
| 6. Eye for an eye | 6. No retaliation |
| 7. Love neighbor and hate your enemy | 7. Love your enemy |
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- Concerning **Alms giving** Mat. 6: 1-4
 - 1. Give to be seen
 - 1. Give in secret
Rewarded openly
 - On **prayer** Mat. 6:5-15
 - 1. Pray to be seen
 - 1. Pray in privacy
Reward openly
 - 2. Repetitious prayer (like God don't know)
 - 2. God knows before we ask
 - 3. No forgiveness
 - 3. Forgiveness brings an answer to prayer.
 - 4. Fast openly to be seen
 - 4. Fast in private
rewarded openly

- On **trusting** God 6:19-34

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lay of treasures on earth 2. Serve money- Double-minded 3. Worry about basics 4. Judge will be judged 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treasure in heaven 2. Serve God- single-minded 3. Seek first the kingdom Things will be added 4. Judge not
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VI. THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL.

A. Spiritual

Luke 11²⁰ Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation,²¹ nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God **is within you.**” NIV

Jesus told Pilate in John 18³⁶ Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. **But now my kingdom is from another place.**” NIV

That which is spiritual will be manifested physically.

B. The spiritual is made **Physical.**

Rev. 21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone.² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

³ I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no

more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

⁵ And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!” And then he said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.” ⁶ And he also said, “It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. ⁷ All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children. NLT

Be reminded today that you are not of this world. You are a part of an eternal kingdom, aliens of this world, representing a king and kingdom that is coming!