

The kingdom of God which is the Kingdom of Heaven

These 2 expressions are used 102 times in the New Testament, not once in the Old.

Luke 16:16 (Jesus) **The law and the prophets were until John (the baptist).**

Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached...

What is the Kingdom of God? The word Kingdom means dominion, or control, or rule, or ownership. God's Kingdom only exists where God is in control and His will is done.

Who among us then is actually living in God's Kingdom and currently belongs to Him?

1 Jo 3:10 **By this the children of God and the children of the devil are revealed anyone who does not practice righteousness does not belong to God,**

If I practice righteousness I belong to God, I'm in His Kingdom. What does this mean?

Matt 7:21 (Jesus) **Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but those who do the will of My Father in heaven.**

To practice righteousness is to consistently do God's will, as God's child, But 1 John 3:10 above says those who don't practice righteousness, God's will, for they do their own will, are the devil's children. To not do God's will but do mine, the bible calls sin.

Isa 53:6 **...We have turned, every one, to our own way...the sin of us all.**

1 Jo 3:8 **Whoever continues to sin belongs to the Devil...**(are in his kingdom)

God says the whole world is under the influence of and in the kingdom of the devil. How does the devil exercise control over people? God tells us it is through thoughts secretly imparted by wicked spirits into people's thought lives to induce them to do their will and not God's. How does God exercise control over those in His Kingdom? He tells us it's through thoughts openly communicated to our spirits by His Holy Spirit

2 Cor 2:11 **Lest Satan gets the advantage over us...(through) his thoughts.**

Amos 4:13 **He who forms mountains...declares to people what are His thoughts;**

Rom 8:16 **For His Holy Spirit speaks to us deep in our hearts (our spirits)...** TLB

Rom 14:17 **The kingdom of God is...in the Holy Spirit (when a person has allowed God to free, save their soul, their will, from self's control to God's control).**

God's kingdom is light, people can see, Satan's kingdom is darkness people can't see

In God's Kingdom of light, God is the light, people's spiritual eyes, the eyes of their spirits, can see God who is invisible naturally. In Satan's kingdom of darkness, where God, the light, is absent, the people, the whole world, cannot see spiritually. They do not know where they are or to whom they belong. This is why, God, love sends us to:

Acts 26:17-18 (Jesus) **"...I now send you, to open their (spiritual) eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an (eternal) inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith which is in Me."**