



YOUR KINGDOM COME ...

- And he said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name. **Your kingdom come**’” (Luke 11:2 ESV).
- The nations were angry, and your wrath has come. **The time has come** for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small— and for destroying those who destroy the earth” (Revelation 11:18 NIV).

**KINGDOM COME!
ON EARTH
AS IT IS IN HEAVEN!**

THE MYSTERY OF GOD ...

- **The mystery of God** of which the angel spoke is that of “the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.” It is the consummation of God’s plan in bringing His glorious kingdom in Christ to fulfillment. It involves the salvation of the elect and their place in His glorious kingdom and all that goes with that. It includes the judgment of men and demons. The mystery previously hidden refers to all the unknown details that are revealed from this point to the end of Revelation, when the new heavens and new earth are created. [MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1999). *Revelation 1–11* (pp. 286–287). Chicago: Moody Press.]
- (Ephesians 1:9–10 ESV) Making known to us **the mystery of his will**, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.
- (Colossians 2:2–3 ESV) That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of **God’s mystery, which is Christ**, in whom are hidden all the trea-

asures of wisdom and knowledge.

- (1 Corinthians 2:7–9 ESV) But we impart **a secret and hidden wisdom of God**, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him.”

THE GOD OF THIS WORLD ...

- (2 Corinthians 4:4 ESV) In their case **the god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- (John 12:31 ESV) Now is the judgment of this world; now will **the ruler of this world** be cast out.
- (John 16:7) Concerning judgment, because **the ruler of this world** is judged.
- (Ephesians 2:2 ESV) In which you once walked, following the course of this world, following **the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience.

- It is significant that special attention is called to the judgment of those who “destroy the earth.” God’s first great commandment to mankind had included an injunction to “subdue the earth” (Genesis 1:28). Man was to exercise dominion over all the earth, but this was to be a dominion of stewardship and service—not one of despotism and exploitation. Adam and his descendants were to organize and utilize the creation for man’s benefit and God’s glory. [Morris, H. M. (1983). *The Revelation Record: A Scientific and Devotional Commentary on the Prophetic Book of the End Times* (pp. 209–210). Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale.]
- “And the time of the dead, that they should be judged” takes us to the very end of God’s prophetic program. In one sense, every day is a “day of the Lord” because God is always judging righteously. God is long-suffering toward lost sinners and often postpones judgment, but there will be a final judgment of sinners and none will escape. This judgment is described in Revelation 20:11–15. [Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *The Bible exposition commentary* (Vol. 2, p. 601). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.]
- Then, why are the nations angry? Because they want to have their own way. [Ibid.]

- “And to destroy those who are destroying the earth.” The twenty-four elders petition God to destroy those wicked persons who are constantly engaged in morally ruining the inhabitants on the earth. [Kistemaker, S. J., & Hendriksen, W. (1953–2001). *Exposition of the Book of Revelation* (Vol. 20, p. 345). Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.]
- In John 18:36 Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world” but “from another place.” Now that dichotomy is ended, and the heavenly kingdom has replaced the earthly as the true reality. This is a major emphasis of apocalyptic thought, that the true reality is the heavenly rather than the earthly. The wonderful message here is that at the eschaton the heavenly kingdom will be the only reality! [Osborne, G. R. (2002). *Revelation* (p. 441). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.]
- That mystery is the full revelation of the consummation of God’s plan. It was prophesied by the Old Testament preachers, but its fullness was never revealed until the book of Revelation. [MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1999). *Revelation 1–11* (p. 308). Chicago: Moody Press.]