

The background is a composite image. On the right, a close-up of a man's head and shoulders in a prayerful pose, with his hands clasped and head bowed. On the left, a wooden cross stands on a small, grassy hill. The center of the image is dominated by a bright, glowing sunburst or light flare that radiates across the scene, partially obscuring the man and the cross. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Sovereign rule of God over all creation...

Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

I Chronicles 29:11

The Kingdom of God misunderstood

After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

John 6:14-15

The Kingdom of God misunderstood

Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

The Kingdom of God misunderstood

The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

John 4:13-15

The Kingdom of God is Superior

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Matthew 13:44-46

A Radical Transformation

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”...

A Radical Transformation

...Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

John 3:3-6

