

# MATTHEW

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*Advent of the King*



# Matthew 4:12-17

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Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. <sup>13</sup> And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup> "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup> the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned." <sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

# Matthew 4:23-25

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<sup>23</sup> And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. <sup>24</sup> So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. <sup>25</sup> And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

# Outline

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1. The nature of the kingdom
2. The gospel of the kingdom
3. Our response to the kingdom

# 1. The nature of the kingdom

Matthew 4:12-17

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What is the kingdom?

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What is the kingdom?

- a) The kingdom is God's saving reign revealed in his Son
- b) The kingdom is God's heavenly reign confronting our world
- c) The kingdom is God's gracious reign extended to the nations



## 2. The gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

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- b) Because it brings healing to the broken



This life, therefore, is not righteousness but growth in righteousness, not health but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.

—Martin Luther

## 2. The gospel of the kingdom

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Why is God's reign good news?

- a) Because it brings light to those in darkness
- b) Because it brings healing to the broken
- c) Because this king will die for his subjects

# 3. Our response to the kingdom

Matthew 4:17

# 3. Our response to the kingdom

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What is repentance?

- a) Repentance is not just changing your mind, but changing sides

# 3. Our response to the kingdom

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What is repentance?

- a) Repentance is not just changing your mind, but changing sides
- b) Repentance is not a job description, but a doctor's prescription



# 3. Our response to the kingdom

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## Application

- a) Are you taking God's side against sin and evil?

# 3. Our response to the kingdom

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- a) Are you taking God's side against sin and evil?
- b) Are you following the Doctor's orders?
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  - ✓ Eliminate bad habits → lay aside "every weight" (put away hindrances)

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- b) Are you following the Doctor's orders?
  - ✓ Accept necessary intervention → mortification (put sin to death)
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  - ✓ Eat a balance diet → feeding on Christ (word & sacrament)

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- b) Are you following the Doctor's orders?
  - ✓ Accept necessary intervention → mortification (put sin to death)
  - ✓ Eliminate bad habits → lay aside "every weight" (put away hindrances)
  - ✓ Eat a balance diet → feeding on Christ (word & sacrament)
  - ✓ Get both rest & exercise → disciplines of both withdrawal & engagement

# Summary

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1. The nature of the kingdom
2. The gospel of the kingdom
3. Our response to the kingdom



Give up yourself, and you will find your real self. Lose your life and you will save it. Submit to death, death of your ambitions and favorite wishes every day and death of your whole body in the end: submit with every fiber of your being, and you will find eternal life. Keep back nothing. Nothing that you have not given away will be really yours. Nothing in you that has not died will ever be raised from the dead. Look for yourself, and you will find in the long run only hatred, loneliness, despair, rage, ruin, and decay. But look for Christ and you will find Him, and with Him everything else thrown in. (C. S. Lewis)