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Scripture: Matthew 4:17

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." NIV

The Bible is not just a religious or devotional book. The Bible is a testament which is a covenantal, legal document. The Bible is about a King and His kingdom and His covenant toward us to include us in this Kingdom of Heaven.

The message of the Kingdom is central to Scripture and the teachings of Jesus. The Kingdom of Heaven is a recurring theme in the book of Matthew.

### **Kingdom Theological Views**

1. The Kingdom of Heaven is Futuristic
2. The Kingdom of Heaven is Now: Dominion Theology
3. The Kingdom: Past - Present - Future

### **The Kingdom Theme in the Gospel of Matthew**

The teachings of Jesus were designed to show men how to enter the Kingdom.

The parables of Jesus were word pictures or stories that taught truths about the Kingdom.

Matthew addresses life in the Kingdom and the principles and priorities of the Kingdom.

We are to seek first the Kingdom of God.

The miracles of Jesus were proof that the Kingdom of God had come.

What does it take to be great in the Kingdom.

The return of the King of the Kingdom.

Jesus said, "Our Father who art in heaven, holy is your name. Your KINGDOM come, Your WILL BE DONE on earth as it is in heaven.

### **RESOURCE BOOKS:**

*The Kingdom of Heaven, A Devotional Commentary on the Discourses of Jesus in Matthew*  
by Edward B. Allen

*The Coming of God's Kingdom* by Kay Arthur & Pete DeLacy