



# BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW

The kingdom is “the multi-dimensional reign of God through Jesus.”

“The kingdom is the ultimate goal of the cross, and the cross is the means by which the kingdom comes.

“The kingdom of God is established on earth  
by Christ’s atoning death on the cross.”

Jeremy Treat

“On the day after his death, Jesus is no hero, savior, or redeemer.

“He is dead and gone, convicted as a sinner, a rebel and blasphemer, who has paid the price of tragic failure.

“He simply died, and his cause died with him,  
quite falsified and finished.”

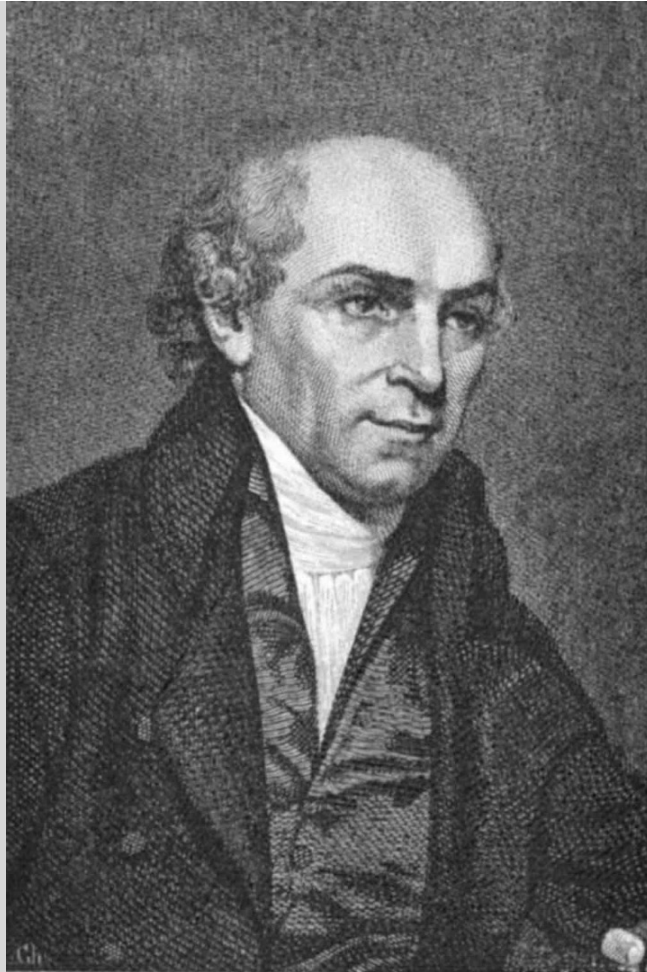
Alan Lewis

The growth of Christ's kingdom may start **small** and seem **obscure** and even **improbable**, but it will prove **unstoppable**.



1. The **unveiled** nature of the kingdom:  
the parable of the mustard seed (31-32)





2. The **veiled** nature of the kingdom:  
the parable of the leaven (33)

The kingdom is not only seen with the eye as it grows; it is something hidden from sight yet working from the inside out.

The kingdom of God is **within you.**

The kingdom of God is within you.

The kingdom of God is **multi-dimensional**.

It is both visible and invisible.



It is both visible and invisible.

It is both external and internal.

It is both visible and invisible.

It is both external and internal.

It is both already happening and will  
someday happen in all its fullness.

“The beginnings of the gospel were exceedingly small ... It was a religion which seemed at first so feeble and helpless and powerless that it could not live.

“Its founder was a poor man who ended his life by dying a criminal’s death on the cross.

“Its first adherents were a small group of people who probably numbered less than a thousand when our Lord left the world.

“Its first preachers were a few fishermen and tax collectors who were for the most part uneducated and ignorant men.

“Its first starting point was a despised corner of the earth called Judea, a petty province in the vast Roman empire.

“Its first doctrines were calculated to provoke enmity from the natural heart; Christ crucified was a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Greeks.



“Its first followers were persecuted on all sides, Pharisees and Sadducees, Jews and Gentiles, ignorant idolaters and self-conceited philosophers all united in hating and opposing Christianity.

“This sect was spoken against everywhere. These are not empty assertions. They are simple historical facts no one can deny.

“If ever there was a religion which was a little grain of seed at the beginning, that religion was the gospel.”

J.C. Ryle

The kingdom of God is within you.

The kingdom of God is multi-dimensional.

The method of advancement was **illogical**.

“All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable.

“This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet: ‘I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.’” (34-35)

“Then the disciples came and said to him,  
‘Why do you speak to them in parables?’

“And he answered them, ‘To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.



“For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

“This is why I speak to them in parables,  
because seeing they do not see, and hearing  
they do not hear, nor do they understand.

“Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

“You will indeed hear but never understand,  
and you will indeed see but never perceive.

“For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed,

“lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.

“But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and  
your ears, for they hear.

“For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.” (10-17)



The growth of Christ's kingdom may start small and seem obscure and even improbable, but it will prove unstoppable.

video

“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation,

“from all tribes and peoples and languages,  
standing before the throne and before the  
Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm  
branches in their hands,

“and crying out with a loud voice, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’

“And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

“saying, ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.’”

Revelation 7:9-12

“What if we prayed ‘your kingdom come’ every morning and then lived as if we believed that God would answer that prayer?



“What if we stopped trying to build our own kingdoms and started living for the glory of God’s kingdom?”

“What if we sought first the kingdom of God and saw everything else in our lives through the lens of God’s gracious reign?”

“‘Your kingdom come’ is a dangerous prayer. But we must pray it, for the kingdom of God is the only hope for a world darkened by sin and pain.

“In my heart, divided by sin, let your grace prevail, bring peace within. Reign in my soul, your will be done. In my heart, your kingdom come.

“In my life, filled with distraction, let your mercy have its way, be my satisfaction. Rule over my thoughts, my feelings, every one. In my life, your kingdom come.

“In our family, whatever may pass, let your love remain, a bond that lasts. Guide your children, conform us to your Son. In our family, your kingdom come.

“In the church, the bride of Christ so pure, let  
your truth stand firm, the gospel the cure.  
Lead your people, in the race to be run. In  
the church, your kingdom come.

“In this world, longing for restoration, let  
your healing break in, the joy of the nations.



“The creation groans, knowing grace will overcome. In this world, your kingdom come.”

Jeremy Treat