

Two Kingdoms

by Dean Taylor

The sermon emphasizes the importance of understanding the concept of the two kingdoms and living out the teachings of Jesus in a way that is consistent with God's teachings.

Duration: 54:40

Scripture: Judges 9:8-15, Isaiah 2:2-4, Isaiah 9:6-7, Daniel 4:17, Hosea 13:9, Matthew 4:17, Matthew 5:17-20, Matthew 6:33, Luke 4:18-21, John 3:3, Acts 28:23

Topics: "Kingdom Of God", "Christian Living"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of understanding the concept of the two kingdoms, highlighting the need to grasp the teachings of Jesus. It delves into the historical context of seeking God's kingdom first, the significance of being born again to comprehend Jesus' teachings, and the call to live out the kingdom of God on earth. The sermon challenges listeners to be ambassadors of Christ, representing the heavenly kingdom in their daily lives.

Transcript

It's a blessing here. We're beginning of a day that we're going to be sharing for Three messages today So y'all do please pray for me that we make it through all three of these sessions and my voice Hold out and all those things today's messages is very important and it's important because this concept of the two kingdoms if You don't get this you're not going to get the teachings of Jesus and when I when I was in the army and when It was reading the things that had to do with the two kingdoms that that really started to make things click and here's also one of my concerns a lot of you have inherited a Teaching of standing for non-resistance, but to be honest, I think you're getting there from the wrong direction You got there in a wrong way. You were inherited of you got a beautiful heritage But because you just inherited and praise God for that The the whole emphasis of what Jesus wants you to be on this earth is not being lived out in its fullness if you get a hold of This two kingdom concept you'll take these teachings of Jesus and you'll go forward.

Well, I'm going to start with this little story I Told you during the during the time when we had to go and become a conscious objector. There's several different Obstacles we said different people you got to go through you have to go see a psychologist You got to go to a chaplain. You got it.

You got to do your packet. You have to have the trial well, the psychologist was one of the most intimidating of the Obstacles that we went through and I thought it was just gonna be not much. It was go

there She was supposed to tell you, you know, if you were mentally sane enough to be saying what you're saying But as I went in I found that she was really challenging me And so I walked in this room not this is just a picture But I walked into the room and where the psycho the psychologist was there, you know And it's it was a small little army room.

And as I went in there, she said something like you're not gonna be here Very long. I don't think you even need to sit down So I was okay. This is this is kind of interesting.

And so I said, well, what do you mean? And she said to me I got you and I thought okay this is gonna get kind of serious right from the beginning so I Took it to sit down and and I sat there and I said, okay What do you mean you got me she said I got all of you consciences objectors As okay. So what do you mean? She said, okay I'll ask you some questions and I was kind of shaking in my boots a little bit and She said, okay I'm gonna ask you a couple of questions you say you want to get out of the army because you don't want to support The army and what it represents. Is that correct? And I said, well, yes, ma'am.

That's correct And he said, okay. I'll ask she said I'll ask you the next question. Do you pay taxes? And I said, well, yes, ma'am.

I do. I believe in paying taxes. See you're done.

You're inconsistent So and all of you have conscious objectors are inconsistent and I kind of thought and prayed a little bit there and I said well, ma'am Can I explain something to you? And you know, I was kind of new in the faith and these types of things and I said ma'am you see I live by the ways of a book and That book is the Bible and I may not Understand all these things but this Bible instructs me to love my enemies and pay my taxes And that's what I want to do from that. She just kind of got upset and went on Kind of in a strange way. She started going off to all these different things She does apparently she was some kind of a Christian and she started saying do you know who I am? I said no, ma'am, and she said she started going through she said I volunteer for this I teach Sunday school on that night and she went through all these things Volunteers for and this does and she ends up and I'm not making this up and she says and I am a card carrying Methodist I thought well and I should have done this but I said could you just repeat all that and she got kind of upset with me and and and And after that she just sort of dismissed me but what I realized is that thinking about that interview that this psychologist had unwittingly hit on a very Fundamental dividing line and the understanding of the two kingdoms and this dividing line is Something that makes the Bible form into something that's used by Empires and leaders where it's something that used by people who want to follow Christ in a radical way now Here's the the famous passage perhaps the most well-known and often misquoted passage concerning the idea of two kingdoms and our Relationship with the two kingdoms comes from that passage in Matthew 22 where the Pharisees are trying to trip up Jesus About who do you pay taxes and he has a famous quote where he says render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar and things unto God the things that are God and through the ages It's been it seems like the church has had difficulty deciding which things go to Caesar and if there's anything left to give to God But as I begin to look at the early church, I begin to see that they Put that dividing line with a pretty decisive stroke and And the idea that when the people have mixed up these two kingdoms really bad things has happened like this You know when Hitler and all the different Emperors before him usually always mix up some sort of a kingdom of God with the kingdom of the state mixed together Here this belt buckle that every Nazi soldier went around with says got mit uns So you German people? What does that translate to? God with us and truly the worst atrocities Ever inflicted upon mankind and it's including today have often been committed by men who think they do God a service So what is the Christian life supposed

to be like in the world that we live in that this the Bible writers and their scriptures really talk about it in a very a very distinct Sojourning way.

I love this passage by in first Peter 117 and it says if you call on the father who without respect of person Judges according to every man's work past the time of your sojourning here in fear Do you see yourself as a sojourning in this place? Or do you feel you're part of the world and the Empire and all those sorts of things? You know, I I remember Being in Germany that one of the things that really spoke to us was you were you're very separate the Paul also encourages Timothy he said endure hardness is a good soldier and be not entangled with with the affairs of this life and The idea of that is that we are so committed and so Empowered by the kingdom of God that we're not going to get involved I remember when we were in Germany My wife and I lived off base and we lived amongst the Germans and we we paid of German Utilities we we lived out there, but we but inside we were very clearly Americans living over there in those days we paid our We Voted in American elections in those days of course, we paid our American taxes and all those things and the idea of running for Burgermeister of Hochspeier would have been something that we would have never been involved with because we were clearly Americans and I believe what Peter is wanting us to be here is to be so clearly a part of the kingdom of God That we're not attached to these things in that way and all the biblical writers write this way We are given our own laws that rule and guide our lives and scriptures here we are we have our own King that demands absolute loyalty We are to refuse to obey laws that contradict the laws of God Blatantly, we are commanded Commanded to love feed warm and care and even our very enemies of the countries in which we live We are charged with the impractical marching orders that that command us to go into battle defenseless as lambs before wolves or sheep before the slaughter Explicitly we are told that our weapons are not to be made of earthly things. They are not they are not carnal but mighty furthermore, we are instructed that we do not war in the flesh and Contrast to the Old Testament marching orders to destroy men's lives We now instead have new orders to save them Defeating even death. We are told that dying actually is game for us at the New Covenant and That the cross is our example Simply put we are told that our kingdom is not of this world in the end We are told that we defeat even the Antichrist, but not with bombs and chemical warfare Whether it says by the blood of the Lamb The word of our testimony and by not loving our lives even unto the death to accomplish this These goals that the New Testament writers give us Jesus particularly to accomplish this Jesus inaugurated a kingdom That would live out these teachings and manifest his plan for humanity That's what he wants us to be But To be part of this kingdom to be part of this kingdom.

Jesus said that we must be born again And I know that word has become trite in America the whole concept of being born again Maybe even you it wasn't like and you heard my testimony. It's sort of a superficial thing, but it's something very important It means that you are born of the Spirit of God. And if you don't get that you're not Going to get the teachings of Jesus He says matter of fact in John 1 12 how important it says at the very beginning of the Gospel of John But as many as received him to them gave he power To become the sons of God even to them that believe on his name watch this now Which were born not of blood Nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man but of God that's a new humanity that fulfills these teachings of Jesus Christ on this earth and Jesus said this and The famous passage that we hear in John that you see quoted on football players Stadiums and all this type of thing John 3 16 before we get to that when he was talking to Nicodemus Jesus answered Nicodemus and said in John 3 3 Jesus answered and said to him verily verily I say unto thee Accept a man be born again He cannot see the kingdom of God Do you get the teachings of Jesus? Do you understand them? Perhaps the reason why they they seem like nonsense to you is that you're not seeing the kingdom of God And if you don't get it, it could because you are not born again You must be born of the Spirit and not of the things of this age to

understand the teachings of Jesus Christ He then went on to say verily verily I say unto you accept a man be born of water and of the Spirit.

He cannot enter into the kingdom of God So all these teachings that I'm talking about you cannot have them unless you are a new creature in Christ Jesus a New creature and here's the problem with the way we look at this So Jesus gave us he started a new humanity started a new life and he wants to express this in this kingdom here on this earth and to do this we've kind of turned in Christianity though into this sort of just social club or or a good feeling thing and and artists can't wait to get to heaven and the idea is that sometimes we're We're looking at the Bible the wrong way You ever take a binoculars and you turn it the wrong way and everything's kind of small instead of big you ever done that before Of course you have well It's the same way we look at the Word of God if you look at the Word of God the wrong way and read it the wrong way Sometimes something happens when you read something the wrong way we end up with the wrong Questions and the problem is is that with a little work we actually get the right answers to the wrong question What is the essence? What is the essence of what we have in Christ it's to glorify God and to be his people here on earth if you're thinking of this whole thing is just your life and and The way into you get to heaven then you're looking at it a wrong way and I'm gonna I'm gonna say something a little bit Here to even us from an Anabaptist background if you're not here from an Anabaptist background bear with me But I want to talk about the good things that we do But I I think there's something even in this concept of the two kingdoms that I need to mention Way back in 1921. I came up with a garden city garden city confession of faith And I agree with the garden city confession of faith it's a beautiful expression, but the problem is the frame in which the Anabaptist people we put this in and at the very end after you go through a very Fundamentalist type of explanation of the faith at the very end. There's a article.

What is that 13 called? Restrictions and this is why I said some of you might believe in non-resistance, but you're getting there the wrong way Watch this now in the articles under restrictions after it basically explained the faith like any self-respecting Protestant would Article 14 or what was that? 13 says restrictions and this is where it tax on Praying for the paying taxes church and state separate We're non-resistant separation from the world even godly dress is all on here and that's all looked at is as Restrictions Kaufman's Doctrine of the Bible did the same thing at the very end It talks about these concepts of restrictions and I think that that's a problem and you wonder why your children or you start losing People in your church later on because basically we explained ourself in a theological fundamentalist way with tacked on Restrictions, I don't believe these kingdom teachings are intended to be Restrictions they flow out of a Jesus following faith and that's what started the movement, you know and the essence of anabaptism I love this quote Conrad Grebel was writing a letter way back in 1525 Right at the beginning of the Anabaptist Revival Writing a letter and explaining to his friend what the what he was going through and he said these two things and I think these two things Represent what was the impetus that started the Anabaptist Revival and furthermore? What's gonna get us? Revived today. He said these two things writing in the letter number one. I believe This is profound now.

I believe the Word of God without a complicated Interpretation and out of this belief I speak Amen It's simple the Bible is easy to understand Let's not try to turn it into something that it's not and then he said this very profound statement The teaching of the Lord has been given for the purpose of being put into practice Amen, it was a Jesus following people right from the very beginning Jesus gave us this concept of the kingdom and I love this quote by John D Martin. He always says this he says This is what it's supposed to look like. This is why he gave us the church This is why he gave us the kingdom He says to

demonstrate to the world around us what the whole world would look like if we would only obey the King
That's it.

That's the essence and this concept of the kingdom. It's funny It doesn't get talked about and I'm excited that people are beginning to talk about it a little more through ages sometimes a Heretic group will get a hold of it and then people will be shied away from and I think that's happened to us as a People as well, but it's the most common topic that Jesus talked about the Zondervan encyclopedia Says this it says the word kingdom is found 55 times in Matthew 20 times in Mark 46 times in Luke and five times in John in total you take about the ones that don't have the right context about 80 times These statistics show the great importance of the concept and the teachings of Jesus There can therefore be little doubt that the phrase the kingdom of God Expresses the main theme of his teachings Do we get that today? And if you look at again the Bible as Just something you read and you're going to live your American life and your meta and have some nice spiritual meditations and go to heaven When you die, that's beautiful. I can't wait to be in heaven with my Lord and Worship with him, but he wants us a lot more than that He wants there to be a people of God on this earth that glorifies his name by expressing his cure for humanity today So here's some of the way I've seen this in the scriptures.

I Think one of the biggest places where the line between the kingdom is Graphically demonstrated as shortly before the crucifixion it's quite a scene and Jesus stood before Pontius Pilate and And Pontius Pilate had heard people calling him the king And so, you know the story and Pontius Pilate heard him and he said are you the king of the Jews? Maybe kind of I take it almost tauntingly, you know that kind of thing and Jesus took it seriously and said are you speaking for yourself about this or did others tell you this concerning me? He was like, did you get this from God? You know, did you get this from my father? And then Jesus made it very clear to him He said my kingdom is not of this world and that word world is not just a geographic planetary Structure, it's the it's the ages the eon this I'm not of this current Establishment if my kingdom were of this world My servants would fight so that I should not be delivered to the Jews, but now my kingdom is not from here Pilot therefore said and this is what we do. You may be doing this too. Well, are you a king then? It's almost like well, does that even count? Okay, so you're not really a king.

You don't have an actual palace somewhere Are you even a king then and that's kind of the way if you admit it or not The way perhaps you're looking at the kingship of Jesus Christ. It's sort of a mental trip for you It's not a reality. Are you even a king then? Jesus Answered very seriously you say rightly that I am a king for this cause.

I was born and For this cause I came into the world to proclaim the truth For this cause I was born So if it's in this realm, so how do we look at this concept of this kingdom that Jesus came to establish? How do we look that it's interesting some more the words of Jesus you on the Lord's Prayer We all know the Lord's Prayer hopefully and in the Lord's Prayer it which is part of the Sermon on the Mount Jesus put it that this is the kind of thing That we're supposed to be asking from God so you could say with me our Father which art in heaven Hallowed be thy name and he says this thy kingdom come Thy Will be done in earth as it is in heaven so he's asking that this concept of a father what you have on in heaven the reality the the beauty the the worship those things that you have in heaven we are to pray and to Establish those things here on this earth and that's the concept of the two kingdom and it's in this perspective That you have to read the words of Jesus Otherwise, it kind of doesn't make sense unless you understand that he wants you to live this out in a reality here on this earth He says in the kingdom of he says in the Sermon on the Mount. He wanted to make it very clear So I put it on a billboard here What's the priority? How Dean are you are you? Taking it a little too far. Well, it's what perspective the Jesus give it.

He said seek first the kingdom of God So in your lives and the things that you're choosing to do your careers or whatever it is Seek first the kingdom of God interesting even after Jesus was crucified and Resurrected and his resurrected body. We go into the book of Acts then we start reading his ministry amongst the the the disciples there It even says there in the beginning of the book of Acts to whom also he showed himself alive After his passion by many infallible proofs being seen of them 40 days and Speaking the things pertaining the kingdom of God So even the resurrected Jesus the importance you've only got 40 days. You're with the disciples You're resurrected and the things that he discussed the things concerning the kingdom of God he also mentions that this idea this Dream for humanity that the Lord wants to give to us was something from the very beginning when he talks about the last judgment in Matthew 25 The little clue comes out there He says in Matthew 25 34 then shall the King say unto them on his right hand Come ye blessed of my father inherit the kingdom Prepared for you from the foundation of the world This was in God's plan from the very beginning So if I could sum it up, it's something like this He came and presented it repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand and in that concept of the kingdom in The beginning was we see God's plan for everything in the beginning The kingdom was a garden the Garden of Eden in the end It shall be from the rising of the Sun to the going down of the same but for now It is us the church Representing God's way here on earth.

So how are we supposed to be? I want you to imagine how it's supposed to be how the Millennium will be how the how the Living in heaven or however, you see those things living in heaven He wants that kingdom come on and God's will on earth as it is in heaven. We are supposed to be Be What is to become? That's what we are supposed to establish as John D Martin again says to show the whole world what the world should look like if everybody would follow the king That's what it's supposed to be. All right So at the end of the book of Acts the Apostle Paul's he goes through all of his journeys We get this interesting thing on just I think it's the last verse perhaps or close to it at the very end of the book of Acts and Even at then he tells us what he's doing and what he's talking about during all this time It's interesting in Acts 28 23.

It's Paul It says and when they had appointed him a day there came many to him into his lodging To whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God And this is what he did persuading them concerning Jesus both out of the law of Moses and now the prophets from morning until evening That's incredible. Now. I mean what I'm gonna do is I'm gonna take that clue I'm not gonna go preaching from morning till evening or you'll get upset with me, but I do want to say well What was he talking about? What was Paul? There in the end of the book of Acts.

What was he going through the scriptures and expounding the kingdom of God? Through the law of Moses and through the prophets and through the Bible Showing them what this was what has now finally happened when the birth of the church What did he do? And so I'm gonna just do a quick summary not for morning to evening like Paul did but go through here now and just look at some of those Basics of those things of the kingdom and God's plan for humanity. Let's look at him You know at the beginning a Garden of Eden there was two trees two trees in the middle of the Garden of Eden Here's the scripture in Genesis 2 9 And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to his sight and good for food The tree of life also in the midst of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil These trees that tree of life is some sort of grace given Presence of God. We even see it coming up several times through the scriptures That in filling power of God and we even see it in Revelation in heaven and Revelation 2 7 it says he that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches and Please hear what he's saying to the churches He says to him that overcometh Will I give to eat of the tree of life

which is in the midst of the paradise of God? God has this plan and still has it in heaven.

It's interesting a sermon by Spurgeon Mentions that he gave an analogy. This tree of life is Christ in the Old Testament It's that grace-filled life and living by the power of that grace-filled life But there was another tree and the other tree was the knowledge of good and evil What do you think about it? What's the knowledge of good and evil? So the knowledge of things you're supposed to do and the things you're supposed not to do and if you remember what God Rebuked Adam when when he first when Adam found out that he was naked and he and he hid from God. What was it that God? actually Challenged Adam What did he say when when when Adam said well, I'm naked.

He didn't say no you're not he said who told you You were naked There was something about the way he received his knowledge that was an abomination to God and this taking of this way of living by the law and I don't mean that in the way We kind of make that in and conservative circles and it gets all garbage but just talking about the way the earth the whole world lives by law and the fear of law with the sword and the fear of Punishment is the way the whole world lives and it's it's kind of It's not it's not God's plan and it was so serious to remember when the angels kicked Adam and Eve out of the garden they had to put an angel there to prevent them from coming back and they said because what would happen if He if they now partook of the tree of knowledge. I mean the of the tree of life and live forever. There was something so Unthinkable about mixing those two things together that they had to set a guard in front of the Garden of Eden so this concept of law and fear of punishment had to rule man who lived without grace and It says here in Genesis 4 15.

Here's and the Lord said unto him therefore whoever slayeth Cain Vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold and the Lord set a mark upon Cain lest any finding him should kill him So there had to be a punishment based upon and a fear of the sword bait to keep people in line and This went on and then it's interesting Peter Ridderman and early Anabaptist has a quote about this whole concept And I and I agree with what he says. I think it's a profound quote He says since people did not want to let themselves be led by the Spirit of the Lord God had to use a different rod to protect them from harm This was done so that the land would not be completely polluted with blood guilty people and So that he would not have to destroy the whole world on their account The world could thus be preserved into the time of the promised offspring and whom all things would be made right Excellent quote this idea that God still governs his people. We're going to talk this in the next session as well But through this we see him working through the people of God and through the people of the world And you see this Longing for him to express his ways through the people of God Continually here's some in Genesis 6 5 when you get to the time of Noah and Genesis 6 5 and God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every Imagination the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually And but and Noah his people his person his family there that he wanted to bless but Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord Noah was a just man and perfect in his generation and Noah walked with God and here's what he did So in the midst of this chaos and sin and disaster God established his name and his people on This people in a boat and he says to him in Genesis 6 18, but with thee will I establish my covenant and Thou shall come into the ark thou and thy sons and thy wife and thy sons wives with thee He wanted to establish and God's desire is to fight to write his name Jehovah Over a people that will glorify him He got to get that if you're gonna understand the teachings of Jesus and he goes on but after that even he established still a living in the law for man's sake the imaginations of man's heart are evil from his youth and he said a Set of a law whosoever sheddeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed for in the image of God made he man But he went on and through the different ages.

We see God representing his his desire of a covenant people and Abraham was a beautiful example and He said to Abraham in Genesis 12, and I will make of thee a great nation You get that a nation of people of God and I will bless thee and make thy name great and now shall be a blessing and I will bless them that bless thee and curse him that curses thee and In thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed The whole idea of the covenant people of God would bring a blessing to the whole earth and God wanted Abraham to be that You see it coming out in Exodus 19 Exodus 19 is right when the people left Egypt because of the the Passover and 50 days later They're now in front of the mountain and it's starting to quake. Well, what happens 50 days? after Easter Pentecost it's not a coincidence that this statement was now written on Pentecost. He's got the gathered people of God together and God says this to the chosen people there.

He says you have seen what I did unto the Egyptian and How I bear you on eagles wings and brought you and to myself Now therefore if you will obey my voice Indeed and keep my covenant Then you shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people for all the earth is mine And you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation these are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel and That whole concept of of being his chosen people that the people of God a peculiar people that do things differently than the rest of the world Glorifies God and that's what he wants us to be and it kept coming through he kept putting these things through But when was the first time in the Bible that people when was the first time in the Bible that people asked? For a king when the people of God asked for a king. When do you think the first time was? Everybody know A lot of people say it was Saul It was interesting There's an interesting story when it happened with actually Gideon after the famous Gideon scene where he came and won the success with with the lanterns and everything and and and on the few people, you know the story and it was such a Incredible victory for the people of God that they wanted to make Gideon King But there's a little story tucked away in your book of Judges That I don't want you to miss That you've got to hear because they went to Gideon and they said the men of Israel said unto Gideon rule thou over us be thou and Over us both thou and thy son and thy son's son also for thou have delivered us from the hand of Midian But Gideon said this is not going to be the way it is and Gideon said unto them I will not rule over you neither shall my sons rule over you The Lord shall rule over you the Lord shall rule over you And so this concept of of the idea of being a people of God and even mixing that with Kings and nations even in the time of judges when God was trying to have this Or wanting to have this covenant people with with the people of God here Even then to mixing this with the Kings was something that it just wasn't right they they had a special purpose a Peculiar people and that's what you're supposed to have as the kingdom today a treasure. That's different than the rest of this world And there's a parable that goes out now.

Well after Gideon died his They thought that some of the sons thought hey, this is not a bad idea. And and Abimelech was then made king Well Jonathan learned of this and he went on top of this mountain and rebuked the people in Judges chapter 9 And there's a precious parable that doesn't get preached enough About what happened and how we as a people of God are supposed to have something special that doesn't taint it with the ruling of Nations and things like that. And here's the way the parable goes.

It's a great parable It says in Judges chapter 9 verse 8 some trees went out to anoint themselves a king They wanted to make themselves a king. So first they came They first they came into the olive tree and they said into the olive tree Why don't you be our king what's interesting the olive tree said am I gonna give up my oil The the blessing that I have the special treasure of my oil which honors God and men to be promoted as a king I can't do that. So let's sit Okay, so they came into the fig tree and they came into the fig tree and said, okay you then could you come and be? our king and Jotham's screaming this from the

mountain rebuking them with this parable and And the the olive tree Excuse me, the fig tree said am I gonna give up my sweetness to come and be promoted over you? I can't do it.

So they said it couldn't do it. All right, so they came into a vine They said okay you come and be our king and then they and he said am I gonna give up my wine? Which cheers both God and man to be promoted over you. I'm not gonna do it and he wouldn't be a king But they did find a king they found this Briar brush the bramble brush and they went to them.

They said, okay Well, then you be our king and he said, all right, I'll be your king under one condition you come and put your trust under my shadow and If you don't I will come and consume this the cedar of Lebanon You must trust in me and that was the rebuke given way back in judges. It's interesting In each case the fruit trees felt that they had a special purpose That they couldn't compromise and give that up to be ruling over these people Do you know what Jesus said about the way it is supposed to be in the church? he said that unto them the kings of the Gentiles exercised lordship over them and Watch this part and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors But you shall not be so in other words put your trust under me Remember when I went to the place where at George Washington's Home and as you're as you're there in George Washington's home They have this thing built now in the museum that when you walk in on a huge banner. We are his Benefactors and the scripture just came to my mind Wow, that's not supposed to be so among you All right So, you know that some of the other stories they came and one of the biggest rebukes came when we get up to Just when Saul is asking the people are asking Saul to be king and we remember that story But here are the words again in the rebuke that he gives about this concept Samuel says and there was rebuke and the Lord said unto Samuel Hearken unto the voice of the people and all that they say unto thee for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me So the people of Israel wanted a king He wanted to be a special Relate God wanted a special relationship with the Covenant people of God, but they wanted a king says they haven't rejected you They've rejected me that I should not reign over them now therefore hearken unto their voice How be it yet protests solemnly unto them and show them the manner of the king that shall reign over them and that's what they did Hosea puts it this way the Prophet Hosea and watch this when we're trying here's what I'm trying to get you to understand The Kingdom of God has a special fruit a special presence here on this earth and God still gives us earthly Governments, but he gives them to us in a rebuke of those who want to live by law and the fear of the sword Hosea puts it this way explicitly Oh Israel the Hosea 13 9 the Prophet Oh Israel thou hath destroyed thyself But in me is thy help is thine help I will be thy king Where is any other that may serve thee in all thy cities and thy judges of whom thou sayeth? Give me a king and princess.

I gave thee a king in my anger and I took him away in my wrath the interesting thing When we look at this concept of God giving us a king in his anger is he will rule his people But he wants the people of God to be in a different relationship with him as we live in this earth Well, who's gonna roll then Daniel puts it nicely Daniel for the Prophet Daniel chapter 4 verse 17 says this matter is by the decree of the watchers the angels and The demand by the word of the Holy Ones to the intent that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men watch this and give it to whomsoever He will and setteth up over it the basest of men It's not saying much for the different people who rule. They're the basest of men I like this quote again from Peter Riddemann for these words We can see how the authority of the government grew and where it came from namely from the wrath of God We read in Scripture. You shall give us a king.

So in my anger I gave you a king and in my wrath I took him away. These words show us that governmental authority was not given from grace, but from disfavor and anger So what happened then?

What are the prophets dream of? What did they see in the future? The Prophet spoke of a time that the way of God would be restored. I love the idea of the M In Israel, there's a museum there that has the whole of the Isaiah Scrolls that they found in the Dead Sea Scrolls I'd love to see it someday but Isaiah gives this this beautiful analogies and all the prophets spoke of a time when the Messiah would come and Finally set these things, right?

The prophets spoke in Isaiah chapter 2 and it shall come to pass in the last days at the mountains of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills and all nations shall flow into it and many people shall go and say come ye and let us go up to the mountains of the Lord to the house of the God of Jacob and he will teach us of his ways and we will walk in his path for out of Zion shall go forth the law and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem and he shall judge among the nations and shall rebuke many people and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks nations shall not lift up sword against nations Neither shall they learn war anymore and we saw that in Isaiah Excuse me in the early church

Irenaeus quotes this fate this passage directly and the fulfillment of what the kingdom of God did here and then that comes into Isaiah 9 one of my favorite passages in the scriptures and the prophets speak of this in Isaiah chapter 9 it says the people that walks in darkness have seen a great light They that dwell in the land of the shadow of death upon them hath the light shine for every battle of the warrior is with confused noise and Garments rolled in blood, but this shall be with burning and fuel with fire In other words, their uniforms and their things shall be with burning and fuel for fire Why and they're speaking of the time for unto us a child is born Unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder and his name shall be called wonderful Counselor the mighty

God the everlasting father the prince of peace What's this now of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end? upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom to order it and to Establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth forever the zeal of the Lord of hosts Will perform this and That's what Jesus did the New Testament writers wanted us not to miss that this is what happened when Matthew writes in his scriptures He wrote that in Matthew 4 14 He said that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Isaiah the prophet the land of Zebulun the land of Naphtali by the way of the sea beyond the Jordan Galilee of the Gentiles the people who set in darkness have seen a great light and Upon those who set in the region the shadow of death light has dawned Matthew

says from the time Jesus began to preach and say repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand Mark says now after John was put into prison Jesus came into Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God and saying the time is Fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand repent and believe in the gospel The time is fulfilled and remember the of the increase of his government and peace There shall be no end Zeal of the Lord will establish it Jesus came and then so this is the context This is the context that you've got to read the teachings of Jesus They're not some meditation to put on a poster in the wall They're meant to be lived out in reality here on earth So Jesus came another one of my favorite scenes as I imagine the Bible and he came in there You know to the synagogue to read the

to read the scriptures and as he was there He opens up the scroll and began to read and I love this scene He says the Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted to preach deliverance to the captives and Recovering of the sight to the blind to set at Liberty them that are bruised to preach the acceptable year the Jubilee of the Lord and he closed the book and gave it again to the minister and sat down and I love this scene and All the

eyes of and the eyes of all of them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him and he began to say this day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears That's what Jesus wants us and that's the context it's in this Perspective that you must read the Sermon on the Mount

we need to allow the teachings of Jesus and the establishing of his kingdom on earth be what's Birthing Every one of the generations that we live and and what the church should be like remember in the beginning The kingdom was a garden at the end from the rising of the Sun to its going down to the same It will one day be but now it's us the church and we are to represent his way his life What he was what it was supposed to be in the beginning Remember even some of the teachings that Jesus said during that interim time of the Old Testament He said Moses because of the hardness of your heart permitted us here Specifically speaking of divorce and remarriage, but he said but from the beginning it wasn't so Jesus brought in the new covenant to establish God's dream God's design For humanity

and he wants you and me to live it out Jesus said now I say six times in the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount Jesus begins his radical changes with things like this You have heard that it has been said and he said things like you have heard that it was said of them of old times but now I say But now I say so you see the difference and in my testimony when I Began to read the teachings of Jesus and my wife and I were in Germany and I began to read the Sermon on the Mount That's where that supernatural grace light bulb moment hit us I mean that And I don't believe that these things should be looked at as some tacked-on part of Christianity It's not something that's just added on as a restriction or anything like that The teachings of Jesus the Word of God is filled with his spirit and

he wants us to live that out today That's what he wants from us and you know when that happened to me and I began to get a Concept of this kingdom of God remember it you heard this story last night I'm kind of embarrassed about my patriotism that I had but you know, I began to wonder I wonder is there a kingdom purpose in this patriotism Used in the wrong way.

I was using it in the wrong way. I thought you know, maybe there is Because I realized that God wants us to seek first this kingdom of God to be about His business and his kingdom on this life and I began to allow that patriotism grow for my desire and my sincerity and my love for Jesus Christ and his kingdom and Want to be a part of that and want to spread that gospel of the kingdom to all the earth And you know what? You know what that did for me? But the fortunate thing with when I was finally when I saw the the bigness of the kingdom of God It didn't make me this anti American. I love America It's a great country I love the privileges we have here and we have the Opportunity as a church in America to do things like no one else can I love that But when I saw that this kingdom Transcended all times and all cultures and all people like that man through the Berlin Wall that I shook hands with my entire sense of patriotism Didn't become anti-american it absorbed all these things of this earth to represent and be that kingdom of God here on this earth It was a new kind of patriotism we be and we're supposed to Represent what will be here on earth.

He called us ambassadors That's the way you're supposed to read the New Testament not just Where you get to heaven when you die but being an ambassador of Heaven Christ on this earth. That's what the church should look like on Judgment Day the on Judgment Day and this is Imagination here but on Judgment Day those who are being judged should be able to look from Judgment Day and and see and and it is Finally explained to them what everything was supposed to be and look down upon the church and say oh, so that's what those guys We're talking about You're living the reality of the new kingdom life the heaven here on earth a new Humanity born not of the will of man But of God filled with his spirit given

the promise that you will never die that you will live forever And those are the things we're supposed to express an ambassador of Christ an embassy of heaven All right. I remember years ago.

I was digging through some sort of looking for Some interesting things on music and one of my favorite composers is is Bach I like him because he he signed his his his most famous pieces with solo de Gloria, which means only to God only to God and He's one of my favorite composers and one of the most spiritual ones as you you start studying some of the composers lives It's not so great But there was an interesting thing and I've been over to Europe several times so I think there's some possibility that this story is true and But in some of those old castles and old houses They have documents that are just sitting around for first literally for centuries But for years that are seven someone's house and something and there was a musicologist Which is a guy who studies manuscripts and things and there's actually several pieces of Bach which have never been discovered He wrote he wrote in his diary about Different things that he's written. We don't know where they are So some musicologists were going through old estates and old places in Germany and Europe and trying to find those different places Well as the story goes I read in this old 1890 New York Times from some newspaper from New York. It told this story that as they were going there Looking looking through these different estates the so the story goes that the man came into this one estate And he and he happened to walk by and he saw that this guy was doing the gardener was putting up these different Trees, you know when you do this tree, they had these ties down to make the to make the The tree stand, you know perfectly straight But he as he walked by he just happened to notice that the paper That was wrapping around that tree to keep the you know, not from pulling on the bark was was something kind of strange He noticed it right away as a music manuscript.

So he walked up to him and he said Excuse me, sir Where did you get that paper? He said oh, it's up in the attic. There was a whole Chest full of there and I've been using that and so he went up there and he discovered that there were some of the ancient Manuscripts of Bach in this that the gardener had been using for years and the the thing about that is That that's sometimes the way all of us Particularly the way I used to be are reading the Word of God You see Johann Sebastian Bach intended this manuscript to be a symphony To be played to be beautiful But instead they were using it for a purpose that was not exactly right and they were using that to to be wadding of paper Around this tree and that's what the Word of God when Jesus came to establish his way in his kingdom He gave it as a beautiful symphony that he wants his church to sing He wants his church to live out on this earth and we're turning it into something that it's really not intended to be so please as I finish up this message Why I spend so much time is that if you're coming to the teachings of Jesus and you're looking at them And and there's some sort of abstract thing and you're you're looking at him. So let's just get to the real stuff Let's see about how you get to heaven how Paul and I love the Apostle Paul every word of God is true the Apostle Paul tells us how to live this grace-filled life, but even Paul testifies of Jesus and we need to allow the teachings of Jesus to come forth and to play this beautiful symphony of the design and That's why sometimes I it was we look at non-resistance.

It seems abstract which seems with something we put to a different millennium like I used to do or a different a different age or something and that's Totally taking this beautiful symphony and using it the wrong way so Total simplicity As we look at the teachings of Jesus and why I spent this time on this I want you again to imagine how will it someday be from the rising of the Sun to the going down of the same? How will that existence be? Dream with me think with me. What will that look like? That is what Jesus is calling us be what is to become

Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/vBv0OQkoOxg.mp4>
Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/dean-taylor/two-kingdoms/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net