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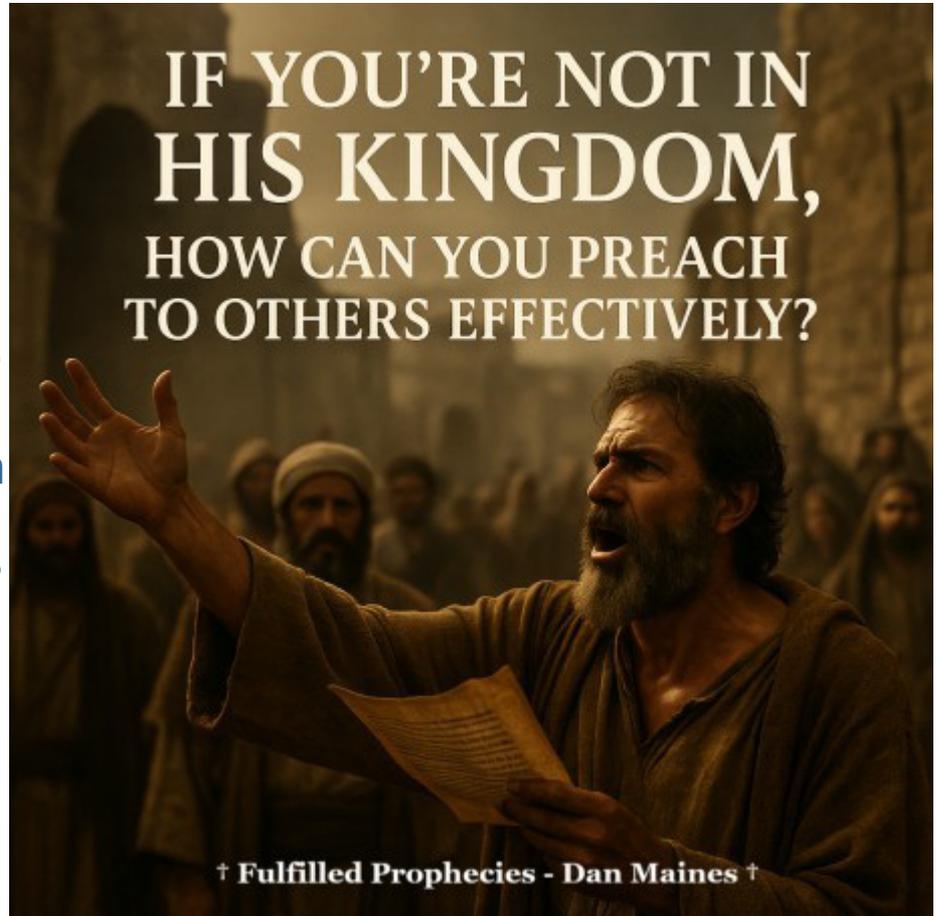
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[Kingdom - If You're Not in His Kingdom, How Can You Preach to Others Effectively?](#)



By Dan Maines

If You're Not in His Kingdom, How Can You Preach to Others Effectively?

Main Text: Matthew 6:33

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

† Before anyone can effectively preach Christ, they must first be part of His kingdom. Jesus didn't call men to preach about something they hadn't entered. He told Nicodemus, "Unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom

of God" (John 3:5). Preaching without spiritual rebirth is like a blind man trying to lead others into light.

† In the first century, the kingdom wasn't something still to come, it was at hand. Jesus said, "If I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you" (Matthew 12:28). The apostles didn't wait for some distant future kingdom, they lived in it, served in it, and preached from within it. To preach with power, they had to first be subjects of the King.

† When Christ ascended, He sat on David's throne (Acts 2:30-33), reigning over a kingdom not of this world (John 18:36). Those who entered it through faith and obedience became "a kingdom and priests to our God" (Revelation 5:10). The gospel's power comes through those who already share in that reign, not from those who stand outside looking in.

† Many today still preach as though the kingdom is future, but the fulfilled perspective sees the truth: the kingdom came in power within that generation (Mark 9:1). Jesus' promise wasn't delayed or symbolic. When Jerusalem fell and the old covenant passed away, the full reign of Christ was established. To deny this fulfillment is to preach from the wrong side of the cross.

† Jesus confirmed this timing when He said, "When you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near" (Luke 21:31-32).

† Effective preaching flows from relationship, not religion. The Pharisees preached rules but didn't know the King. Jesus said, "You shut off the kingdom of heaven from people, for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in" (Matthew 23:13). True messengers today must not repeat that mistake. You can't invite others into what you haven't entered yourself.

† To be in His kingdom means to walk in His righteousness, to live by His Spirit, and to rest in His finished work. The gospel we proclaim isn't about waiting for a kingdom, it's about living as citizens of it right now. When Christ fulfilled all things in AD 70, He restored access to the Father and opened the everlasting kingdom to all who believe. We don't preach to bring people into a future realm, we preach to awaken them to the reality already established through Christ.

† So if you're not in His kingdom, how can you preach to others effectively? You can't. Preaching truth requires living truth. The authority to speak of Christ's reign comes only from being under it. The kingdom isn't in word only but in power (1 Corinthians 4:20), and only those who dwell in it carry that power to others.

Historical References

† Eusebius recorded that the church saw the destruction of Jerusalem as the visible sign that Christ's kingdom had fully come.

† Clement of Rome and Ignatius both spoke of believers already being in the kingdom of God, serving under the authority of Christ's reign.

† Josephus confirmed the old order's end, showing how the temple's fall marked the close of the former age and the rise of the new.

How It Applies to Us Today

† We live as citizens of that completed kingdom. The gospel we preach is not "the kingdom is coming," but "the kingdom has come." To speak effectively to others, we must walk in that truth, reflecting the peace, authority, and victory of our King. When we live under His reign, our words carry His Spirit's power, and hearts are changed by the reality of His fulfilled promises.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Matthew 6:33; John 3:5; Matthew 12:28; Acts 2:30-33; John 18:36; Revelation 5:10; Mark 9:1; Luke 21:31-32; Matthew 23:13; 1 Corinthians 4:20

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3

† Clement of Rome, First Epistle to the Corinthians, Chapter 50

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6

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