

The Edges of the Kingdom

Arthur Barry

As we prepare for our gospel meeting on the theme “When the Kingdom Comes”, lets remind ourselves about the questions many are asking about the Kingdom. When did the Kingdom begin, and when will it end?

1. Men have always lived under rule in some form.
2. Initially, it was simply the rule of God as He spoke to the patriarchs.
3. In the beginning, they simply worshiped God, meaning they conformed to His will spiritually and physically.
4. Once sin broke the fellowship between man and God, men moved away from God and His voice (rule).
5. Therefore, *rule* became “civilized”. Mankind began to organize and administer law, and enter into covenants, which were written documents. Families became tribes and then nations, and, though they did not abandon the idea of God (religious obligation), they each desired to have their own ruler of their own lands who was called “King” (civil obligation). When men desire to have their own king, they naturally need their own god. And once you accept that each group can have their own king(s), it follows that they each can have their own god(s).
6. God established His Holy Nation by giving them a land and a law and liberty in covenant with Him. The law was spiritual and physical. God was ruler over both.
7. As this new nation lived among the other nations, they coveted the glory of their earthly kings. Eventually they demanded a king of their own, and God allowed this. The fact is that Israel had always had a “king”, but they now wanted one that they could see. Of course, they also wanted a God that they could see like the gods of the nations around them. They were now idolaters both spiritually and physically.
8. God had promised to redeem mankind (Genesis 3:15) and He had promised to use this nation (Israel) for that purpose. The promise involved one person. To Adam and Eve, it was the seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15). To Abraham it was the seed of Abraham (Genesis 22:18). He was to be a prophet like Moses (Deuteronomy 18:18). He would be a priest like Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 6:19), and he was to be a king like David (2 Samuel 7:16; Romans 1:3).
9. When God raised Jesus from the dead, and received Him back into Heaven, He made Him king of heaven and earth (Matthew 28:18). He must rule till His last enemy, Death, has been destroyed (1 Corinthians 15:24-26).
10. The earthly component of His Kingdom is the Church, and, as such, we recognize that only He can direct our ways spiritually and physically. He told us how to organize, and He provided for elders and deacons to govern or shepherd the local flock by the power of His Word. Our King and our God are one and the same person, and He is not on this earth. That affects our view of government and denominationalism. More on that next week...



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732
June 30, 2019

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: Last Legs and First Fruits

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** July 3rd, Arthur will continue to teach our study of Galatians. Be there at 6:30 if you want to learn.
- **Sojourners** here- July 4-18. We are planning a Gospel tent meeting in River Front Park during this time (12-14). We have been soliciting some exciting Gospel music groups to edify the participants at the tent meeting.
- **Athens Street Fair-** July 19th & 20th. **Volunteers needed** to help with our church booth during this event. This will be our 3rd year to participate.
- **VBS –** August 10th here at the building with volunteers from Kittanning and Camp Hill churches. **We will need cookies, drinks and snacks! Volunteers to help the day go smoothly are always welcome.**
- **Next Potluck: July 21st.**



NEWS

- **Jackie** is home! She is healing well and happy to be in her own place once again.
- **5th Sunday Regional Singing- TODAY** at Endwell @ 4:30pm.
- **The Sojourners will be here on Thursday. They should be rolling in late on the 4th. Let's all be ready for them!**
- **Paul and Dawn Cowles** have invited us all to their new place for a **4th of July barbecue and picnic**. Paul is supplying all manner of meat and beverages, and we are asked to bring a dish to pass. Their new address is: 350 Dean Creek Rd, Spencer, NY.
- **Sam** had to move to Rochester already because he couldn't stay in his apartment. He plans to visit from Wednesday through Sunday, as well as later in summer.

PRAYERS

- Thanksgiving for **Jackie** recovering so quickly from her fall.
- Thanksgiving that **Paul and Dawn** have the blessing of the Horseheads church to come to Valley Cities and work and worship with us.
- Pray for **Sam** as he has made the transition from Sayre to near Rochester already. Pray for his continued faith and success in his studies at RIT.
- Pray for **Mark Elsbree**, who needs a kidney donor soon.
- Pray for **Marilynn Patrick** who is battling metastatic colon cancer. Also pray for her family.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** – lung cancer. Doctors have found additional spots on her lungs.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek** –stage 4 lung cancer. She has had a setback recently due to allergies but pray that she can eliminate what causes it and be able to gain weight back.
- **Erin Beiber** - metastatic breast cancer.
- Remember to pray for **Ronnie Jones** (stroke) and **Don Myers** (back pain). They both need our prayers.
- Pray for our **Bible classes**, both Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.
- Pray for our upcoming Gospel tent meeting, **When the Kingdom Comes**. Pray for good attendance and edification and encouragement.

If you have any **PRAYERS** or **NEWS** that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.