

Bible Mini-course

Lesson 17 — The Kingdom

Where is the Kingdom of Yahweh? Many believe it is already here in the form of the "church." Others believe that it has not yet been established. Let us discover what the Bible means by the "Kingdom" and its significance for the True Worshiper.

(The answers to the questions below are on the reverse.)

1. The Kingdom is here on earth right now.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. What will be the capital of the Kingdom?
 - a. Independence
 - b. Tel Aviv
 - c. Jerusalem
 - d. the golden city in heaven
3. Who grants Kingdom salvation?
 - a. Yahshua
 - b. Yahweh
 - c. the Holy Spirit
 - d. the church
4. Salvation is
 - a. earned by good works.
 - b. earned by faith and good works.
 - c. a gift.
 - d. promised unconditionally to everyone.
5. Upon repentance you
 - a. are immediately in the Kingdom.
 - b. are four steps away from the Kingdom.
 - c. need not worry about salvation.
 - d. have the hope of salvation.
6. What will the saved do in the Kingdom?
 - a. Rule on earth as priests under Yahshua
 - b. Just gaze upon Yahweh's face forever
 - c. Play harps on clouds while wearing wings
 - d. Yahweh has not revealed this secret to man.
7. What happens to those who die without knowledge of the Truth?
 - a. Only Yahweh can say.
 - b. They will still be in the Kingdom.
 - c. Hell fire awaits them.
 - d. They will be given a chance to learn the true way and allowed to accept or reject it.
8. Yahshua promised the thief on the stake that he would be with Him in the Kingdom that day.
 - a. True
 - b. False
9. Who in the Bible has gone to the Kingdom?
 - a. All of the righteous
 - b. Everyone who ever died
 - c. Only those listed in Hebrews 11, the faith chapter
 - d. Only Yahshua the Messiah
10. In the Kingdom
 - a. people will go to Zion to be taught by Yahweh.
 - b. people will walk in lawful obedience.
 - c. many will be rebuked.
 - d. All of the above
11. Judgment occurs when the Kingdom comes.
 - a. True
 - b. False
12. The lifestyle in the Kingdom will be agrarian.
 - a. True
 - b. False



Score Yourself

1. **b.** In His model prayer Yahshua prayed that the Kingdom would come, not “thy kingdom is here.” In speaking to Pilate Yahshua said, “My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence,” John 18:36. Some have misunderstood Luke 17:21: “Neither shall they say, Lo here! Or, lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of Elohim is within you.” Here Yahshua was speaking to His perennial nemesis, the Pharisees, of whom He would never have said the Kingdom is within them (Matt. 5:20). “Within” is the Greek *entos* and should have been translated *among* or *in the midst* of you, as it was translated 115 times elsewhere in the New Testament. Yahshua in their midst was the representative of the Kingdom who will return as King.
2. **c.** The capital of the millennial Kingdom will be Jerusalem: “For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem,” Isaiah 2:3. Jeremiah 3:17 says that in the millennium “they shall call Jerusalem the throne of Yahweh; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of Yahweh, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.” In Isaiah 60:18 we learn that in the millennial Kingdom that Jerusalem will be called salvation, and that the people will all be righteous and inherit the land forever, verse 21. A new heaven and new earth are described in Isaiah 65:17-25 and 66:22. Ezekiel 37 speaks of a resurrection of dry bones, when the dead will be brought back to life while David as king rules under Yahshua, vv. 24-25. In Matt. 5:3 when Yahshua said, “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven,” He didn’t say “kingdom *in* heaven.” The promise is to live and reign on the earth, not in heaven, Rev. 5:10; 2:26, judging the twelve tribes of Israel, Luke 22:29-30.
3. **b.** Our salvation is the sole prerogative of Yahweh the Father. Jeremiah 3:23 is plain that in Yahweh Elohim is salvation found. Jonah 2:9 confirms that salvation is from Yahweh. David wrote in Psalm 27:1 that Yahweh is his light and salvation. Psalm 3:8 tells us that salvation belongs to Yahweh. See Psalm 37:39. The Son’s Name Yahshua means, “Yahweh is salvation.”
4. **c.** Ephesians 2:8 tells us there is nothing we can do to “earn” salvation; it is a gift Yahweh grants those He finds “worthy,” Luke 20:35; 21:36; 2Thess. 1:5; Rev. 3:4. Those who meet this criterion of worthiness walk in good works. Good works are those “which Yahweh had before ordained: for us to walk in, Ephesians 2:10. In other words, keeping His laws that were before commanded renders us worthy as Yahweh’s grace saves us, Heb. 10:36; 2Pet. 1:10-11. Yahshua affirmed this in Matthew 7:21. He also said in Matthew 19:17, “If you will enter into life, keep the commandments.” Although salvation cannot be earned, Yahweh won’t save an unrepentant lawbreaker, Ezek. 18:20; Gal. 5:19-21; 1Cor. 6:9; Eph. 5:3-5; 1John 3:15. Sin is the breaking of His laws, 1John 3:4. He rewards each according to his or her deeds, Rom. 2:6-12; 8:4-6; 1Cor. 3:8; Rev. 2:17, 23, 26; 22:12; Isa. 3:10-11; Gal. 6:7-8. Salvation is entirely Yahweh’s, and He judges by the standard of His laws, James 2:12; 1Pet. 1:17.
5. **d.** Paul said in 1Thes. 5:8 that there is a “hope” of salvation. He wasn’t even sure of his own salvation, Philippians 3:11. Hebrews 3:14 says, “We are made partakers of Messiah *if* we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end.” See also Rev. 2:10. Hebrews 6:4-6 says that for those who know but reject the truth that it is impossible to renew them again to repentance. A dreadful end awaits them, 2Pet. 2:20; Heb. 10:26-30; 12:25.
6. **a.** Revelation 5:10 says the saints will make up a kingdom of priests who will reign on the earth (1:6) for a thousand years (20:6) and reign forever (22:5). See also Daniel 7:18; 1Pet. 2:5-9. Those who overcome and keep His works will reign over the nations with a rod of iron under the authority of Yahshua, Rev. 12:5. This rulership was promised in Exodus 19:6. Yahshua will assign each of the Apostles to a kingdom, to judge the 12 tribes of Israel, Luke 22:29-30. Access to New Jerusalem is through one of the tribes of Israel, Rev. 21:12-13. Isaiah 30:20-21 says millennial teachers (the saved) will correct those who stray from Truth.
7. **d.** Ezekiel 36:36 tells us that the ignorant who live on into the Millennial reign of Yahshua will be given opportunity to learn of Yahweh and repent, as will the dead who were unconverted, rising to physical life in the second resurrection, Ezekiel 37:12-14. Those who reject Him and His laws will be cast into the lake of fire to be destroyed, Rev. 20:11-15. Neither Satan nor any unrepentant sinner will be in the Kingdom, Rev. 21:27.
8. **b.** Luke 23:43 has been misconstrued. Yahshua never went to paradise that day, but to the grave for three days and nights. He said in essence, “I’m telling you this day, you shall be with me in paradise.” This Hebrew expression is found in many places like Deuteronomy 4:26 (“this day”). As the **Companion Bible** shows, “The interpretation of this verse depends entirely on punctuation, which rests wholly on human authority” (Appendix 173). Greek manuscripts had no punctuation until the 9th century, and even then had only dots between words.
9. **d.** John 3:13 reads, “And no man has ascended up to heaven, but He that came down from heaven, even the Son of Man which is in heaven.” Yahshua said, “Whither I go you cannot come,” John 13:33. Not even David went to heaven, Acts 2:34.
10. **d.** Isaiah 2:3 says of the Kingdom: “And many people shall go and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the Elohim of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh 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 pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” See also Daniel 7:27.
11. **a.** “I charge you therefore before Elohim, and Yahshua the Messiah, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom,” 2Tim. 4:1.
12. **a.** See Isa. 61:5; 65:21-22; 66:20.