

## **BILINGUAL WORSHIP**

**26 JULY 2020**

**Theme: The Kingdom of Heaven**

**Texts: Matthew 4:12-17; Mark 1:14-15; John 1:12**

**Title: "The kingdom of heaven is at hand"**

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. Previous Theme: Faith

- a) Important to have it
- b) Just as important to cultivate it
- c) It is possible to have a good and strong faith

2. Faith in the Lord

- a) In His Teachings
- b) In His promises

3. New Theme to learn: The Kingdom of Heaven  
(Sometimes called "The Kingdom of God")

### **THE PERSON WHO PREACHED THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

1. It was the Lord Jesus Christ who spoke about the Kingdom of Heaven
2. He wanted to invite people to think about Heaven

### **UNDERSTANDING A BIT OF THE GEOGRAPHY OF ISRAEL IN THE DAYS OF JESUS**

1. The region called "Galilee"

- a) The Hebrew name: Galilee
- b) There were many Jews living there
- c) But there was a large number of Gentiles there too (More than Jews)
- d) So, it was called "Galilee of the Gentiles"
- e) There were about 200 villages in the region

## 2. Famous cities in this region

a) Nazareth was the town of the boyhood of the Lord Jesus

i) He spoke at the synagogue at Nazareth

ii) The people there rejected him     Luke 4:16-30

b) Capernaum was another city in Galilee

i) It had a little port

ii) Fishing trade was strong there

iii) Peter, Andrew, James and John were probably from Capernaum

## **THE REGION OF GALILEE DESCRIBED**

1. It was called “Galilee of the Gentiles”     Matthew 4:15

2. The people were described as:

a) “Sitting in darkness”

b) In the “shadow of death”     Matthew 4:16

3. The meaning:

a) The people were not very spiritual

b) They were not enlightened people

c) Darkness

d) Danger of dying without knowing God (death)

4. The Prophecy of a Great Light

a) This was a prophecy given by God to a prophet called Isaiah (Isaiah 9:1-2)

b) The prophecy described this light:

i) A great light

ii) This light would dawn on the people

## THE COMING OF THE LORD JESUS TO THIS REGION

1. He was that great light

- a) He would bring much-needed light
- b) He would bring the dawn of a new beginning

2. He came with a great Gospel

- a) "The kingdom of heaven"
  - i) This message had never been heard before
  - ii) The land was in darkness
  - iii) Light had come from the Lord Jesus
  - iv) This kingdom is not like the earthly kingdom at all
  - v) The kingdom then was a Roman Kingdom
  - vi) It was not easy to become a Roman citizen
- b) The Kingdom of heaven is at hand
  - i) It was close by
  - ii) It is not hard to enter into the Kingdom of heaven
  - iii) Jesus had come from Heaven to invite people into His kingdom
- c) Many have wrong thoughts about the Kingdom of Heaven
  - i) It is only for the very good and holy people
  - ii) It is only for educated people
  - iii) It is only for special people

3. What does it take to enter into the Kingdom of heaven?

- a) The first word is "Repent"                      Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:15
  - i) We must recognize that we are sinners

- ii) We need to repent from our sins
- iii) We need God's forgiveness
- iv) God can and will forgive all our sins

b) The next word is "Believe in the Gospel"                      Mark 1:15

- i) To believe is to have faith
- ii) We are to have faith in what the Lord Jesus said

#### 4. What happens when we believe in the Gospel

- a) We believe in the Lord Jesus as our Saviour
- b) We receive Him as our Lord
- c) To everyone who believes:
  - i) We are given the right to be called Children of God
  - ii) We are adopted into the Family of God

### **CONCLUSION**

#### 1. Darkness of Sin

- a) We cannot see Hope
- b) We cannot see the reality of the Kingdom of God

#### 2. The Great Light of the Gospel of Jesus

- a) We see light
- b) We can see the kingdom of God
- c) We can believe in Jesus and have faith in Him

#### 3. Invitation

- a) To confess our sins

b) To believe in Jesus with sincere faith

c) God will receive you into His kingdom as His children the moment you believe!