The Kingdom of Christ

In this section of his gospel, John stresses three important truths. First, Jesus was not guilty of committing any crime against the kingdoms of this world. Second, He was crucified because He claimed to a divine King, the Son of God. Third, His kingdom is not of this world, but it is diametrically opposed to the kingdoms of this world.

What does it mean for us to be citizens of two kingdoms—the kingdom of Christ and the kingdom of this world.

**1. We** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **to the laws of this world**

(except when they conflict with the laws of Christ)

**2. We do not** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Christ with the weapons of this world** (2 Corinthians 10:3-6)

**3. We do not use** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **to proclaim the truth of the kingdom** (2 Corinthians 4:2)

**4. We suffer** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **in the world to display the power of our King** (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

**5. We look forward to the** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **of Christ’s kingdom** (Mark 14:61-62; Isaiah 33:17, 22)

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. What is the Christian’s normal response to governmental authority (Romans 13:1-7)? When is this normal response to be set aside (Acts 4:18-19; 5:29).

3. What kind of weapons do we have (Ephesians 6:10-18)?

4. How do some preachers distort the truth of the gospel for their own gain (2 Corinthians 2:17; 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 2:3-8)? Why is it important for us to teach the word of God carefully and accurately, and not to snatch a verse out of context to make *our* point (2 Timothy 2:14-18)?

5. How do we please the King who called us into His service when being true to Christ entails hardship (2 Timothy 2:3-10; 1 Peter 2:18-25).