

Signs of the Kingdom

Luke 17:20-21 - *Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because **the kingdom of God is within you.**"* NIV

1. Jesus in the midst of his people

a. What Jesus announces is the realization of Israel's hope.

1 Peter 3:15 - *But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have...* NIV

b. Jesus is the fulfillment of the promises made to the fathers.

John 16:33 - *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* NIV

c. Through Jesus the new and final order has arrived.

2 Cor 5:17 - *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!* NIV

2. The preaching of the gospel.

Acts 20:24 - *However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.* NIV

3. The people of the Kingdom

Rom 14:17 - *For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,* NIV

Luke 18:31-34 - *Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. 32 He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. 33 On the third day he will rise again." 34 The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.* NIV