

The Kingdom of God - Kingdom to Come
Isaiah 61

Last week we considered 'Kingdom Gone' - how Adam and Eve, the first humans, were placed in a world created by God and described by Him as 'good'.

They lived in harmony with God, each other, and nature, under God's kingly rule.

However, this blessed state was lost as they rebelled against God. Their rebellion provoked God's curse on the serpent (Satan), the source of their rebellion, the woman in childbearing and the ground Adam would work for food. They were barred from Eden and access to 'the tree of life' which infers the incoming of death.

This is a depressing and sad scenario but (praise God!) the rest of the Bible tells us about God's rescue plan through the ages to restore His kingdom rule.

Many of the prophetic books, especially Isaiah, provide a vision of the future when the Messiah will reign and sin, sickness and Satan are banished.

Isaiah 61 is a key passage which pursues this theme.

Read this now.

1. What was the main point of learning for you in last Sunday's talk?
2. Looking only at Isaiah 61 - who is the passage about?
3. What will he do?
4. Which words or phrases suggest this will happen in an 'age to come' ? Which suggest it will happen in 'this age'?
5. How does Isaiah 61 describe a reversal of the effects of The Fall?
6. How does Jesus use this passage in Luke 4:14-30? How does this help our understanding of it?
7. What part does 'joy' and 'justice' play in the Isaiah 61 kingdom vision?
8. Are the promises of Isaiah 61 literal or symbolic?
9. Can we have an Isaiah 61 church?