**The When and Where of God’s Kingdom**

**Luke 17:20-37**

**March 17th, 2019**

1. **When is the Kingdom of God?**
2. **Now**

The kingdom of God was not a futuristic kingdom the Pharisees were seeking signs for but an already present reality in Jesus’ ministry, something the Pharisees had been blind to.

1. **But Not Yet**

God’s unmistakable fully realized Kingdom was something Jesus’ disciples would vainly look for while suffering as a result of their submission to Jesus’ rule.

1. **Then**

The consummation of God’s fully glorious Kingdom happens when Jesus suddenly and calamitously returns to inescapably separate out his loyal Kingdom citizens from the condemned citizens of this world.

1. **Where is the Kingdom of God?**
2. **Here**

God’s Kingdom (although expected as a geographic nation) by Luke’s day had spread across international boundaries within the hearts of those who by faith had submitted to Jesus’ rule.

1. **But Not Yet**

Although presently an internal rule, Jesus’ disciples would not see God’s fully realized external rule in this life, the rule they longed for that would end suffering for Jesus’ sake.

1. **There**

God’s rule will gloriously and universally break out over all the earth at Jesus’ calamitous return when he separates the condemned from those he already rules over.

1. ***So What?***

John 8:31-32

“If you continue to follow my teaching, you are really my disciples 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

What does knowing the truth about God’s now-but-not-yet-then and there nature of God’s Kingdom set us free from or to?

How can we keep this truth fresh and present in our minds and hearts during our everyday life so life doesn’t return to business as usual?

**Questions**

1. What feelings arise from knowing you are presently a citizen of God’s now but not yet Kingdom?

1. What do you think it will be like to be in God’s fully realized Kingdom under his fully realized rule?
2. What stirs in your heart when you focus on Jesus any-moment-sudden return to bring his Kingdom and rule to their glorious completion?
3. Feelings and stirrings in your heart arising from your focus on the truth of your present and future fuller experience of God’s Kingdom and rule should inspire faithfulness.
4. What does faithful present day kingdom citizenship look like?
5. Which of these presently is a challenge for you?
6. How does focus on either your present citizenship or future fuller experience of citizenship inspire you to rise to the above challenge?