

Summary: The Kingdom of God and the glory of the Cross. Patrick Schreiner

Main Theme:

Every book of the Bible describes and shows the movement of the Kingdom of God:

The [King's Power](#) over the [King's People](#) in the [King's Place](#).

Part I – Old Testament

Kingdom Hope Revived (Pentateuch: Genesis thru Deuteronomy)

- 1. Adam & Eve were given kingly roles to rule the earth but chose to construct their own kingdom.**
 - Priestly roles are also implied. Scholars have pointed out that the terms 'work' and 'keep' are same Hebrew words describing priest role in the temple.
- 2. Kingdom hope was revived when the kingly commission returns to Noah (creation & recreation); then Abraham parallels Adam ([power & people](#) "he will be father of nations" [place](#) "land")**
- 3. The Law watered the roots of the kingdom:**
 - It organized people for mission (God's people were to be distributors of justice & peace)
 - It brought order to a disordered world as a manual on how to reign [power] as a people with emphasis on a particular place [tabernacle].
 - YET lawbreaking required a temporary solution: sacrifice. THUS God recreates his people through law and sacrifice.
- 4. A coming King would complete Abraham's mission so a seed had to be preserved.**

Kingdom Foreshadowed (Prophets: Joshua-Kings, Isaiah-Malachai)

- 1. Judges: flawed deliverers foreshadowing need for a flawless deliverer.**
- 2. David advances the kingdom promise to Abraham: [power](#) ("forever dynasty"), [people](#) ("great nation"), [place](#) ("rest from enemies"). His kingdom approximates the ultimate kingdom but falls short.**
- 3. The Prophets speak of the need for the new: covenant, exodus, temple, judgment. The kingdom of the serpent (Babylon) still persist against the Kingdom of God.**
 - [Isaiah](#): a Davidic ruler, who is Yahweh's Suffering Servant, will arise as a shoot from the stump of a fallen tree to conquer the nations.
 - [Ezekiel](#): The Shepherd-King returns to his people establishing them in a place.

Life in the Kingdom (Wisdom: Psalms-Eccl, Esther-Chronicles)

1. **With kingdom hope revived in the story of Abraham and a good King foreshadowed in the Prophets—the Writings glimpse life in the kingdom.**
 - Following the King's direction brings wisdom (blessing/life: flourishing in the land [place])
 - Rejecting him brings folly (death [exile]).

2. **The blessed life comes through acquiring wisdom:**
 - The fear of the Lord motivating submission to the King's law and righteous suffering.
 - Wisdom is skill in waiting.
 - Waiting for the ideal King who embodies the law having the authority [power] to end the winter of Exile (out of place) so that his people can flourish.

The whole Hebrew Bible seems to end with this question hanging in the air:

Who will sit on that throne?

Part II – New Testament

Kingdom Embodied = Jesus (Gospels)

Jesus Is:

1. The promised seed of Abraham, the new Moses, the royal son of David whose reign is forever.
2. The Adam and Eve who didn't fail in the garden, the new Israel who didn't cave to temptation in the wilderness.
3. Isaiah's Servant, Zechariah's Shepherd, Daniel's Ideal 'Son of Man'
4. Wisdom, Law & Life.
 - Matthew: **King's Place** (the King who brings heaven & earth together)
 - Mark: **King's Power** (the promised Ruler)
 - Luke: **King's People** (the new community who have—John: **life** in the Kingdom).

Kingdom Community (Acts-Epistles)

1. **The Acts of the Exalted King:** The Risen Lord's **power** given to **people** through the Spirit & who spread His message to every **place**.
2. **Epistles:** Living as a witnessing community [**people, power, place**] confident that our King is reigning through His Spirit in us. Like our OT brothers and sisters, we are still looking to the horizon—no longer for the who but now for the what: the kingdom's culmination.

Achieving the Kingdom (Revelation)

1. **The Bible begins and ends in a garden.**
 - The Kingdom is pictured as a fallen tree that rises again. By Revelation the tree is planted by water that never dries up.
2. **Thy Kingdom Has Come:**
 - The **King's Power** is now unopposed 'on earth as in heaven' over the **King's People** gathered from every nation who are flourishing in the **King's Place!**