

^[14] *And after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel ^(good news) of God, ^[15] and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel ^(good news).”*

[Mark 1:14-15]

Did you hear that the **GOSPEL MESSAGE** is the **MESSAGE** of God’s **SPIRITUAL KINGDOM**? Did you also see that it was the **GOOD NEWS MESSAGE** that Jesus **PREACHED**? And did you see that this **GOSPEL GOOD NEWS MESSAGE** was to bring people to **REPENTANCE** because, the **KINGDOM of God** was, and still **IS AT HAND**?

Also notice Luke 4:42-44 where we are told that,

^[42] *... when day came, He departed and went to a lonely place; and the multitudes were searching for Him, and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from going away from them.*

^[43] **BUT** He said to them, **“I MUST PREACH the KINGDOM of God to the other cities also, FOR I WAS SENT FOR THIS PURPOSE.”** ^[44] *And He kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.*

Did you see what one **PURPOSE** was for which Jesus came into this world? It was to **PREACH the KINGDOM of God!**

Listen also to Luke 9:1-2, where Jesus,

^[1] *... called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all the demons, and to heal diseases. ^[2] And He **SENT THEM OUT TO PROCLAIM the KINGDOM of God**, and to perform healing.*

Then in Luke 9:5-6, Jesus instructed them concerning those who would not receive them, saying,

^[5] *“And as for those who do not receive you, as you go out from that city, shake off the dust from your feet **AS A TESTIMONY AGAINST THEM.**” ^[6] And departing, they began going about among the villages, **PREACHING the GOSPEL**, ^(good news) and healing everywhere.*

Let me ask you what you think. **IF** Jesus **SENT THEM OUT TO PROCLAIM the KINGDOM of God**, do you not think that He wants us Today to also **PROCLAIM the KINGDOM of God?**

Now consider what Jesus taught the Pharisees in Luke 16:15-16, where,

^[15] *... He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, **BUT** God knows your hearts; **FOR** that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God. ^[16] The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John; **SINCE THEN** the ^(good news) **GOSPEL of the KINGDOM of God IS PREACHED....**”*

Mark 1:1-4 helps us to understand what Jesus meant in Luke 16:16, when He said, *“The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John....”* In Mark 1:1 the Holy Spirit moved Mark to say that he was writing about,

^[1] *The beginning of the **GOSPEL** ^(good news) of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

This implies that *“the **GOSPEL** good news of Jesus Christ” would override “The Law and the Prophets”*. Please understand, this does not mean that what the Old Testament prophets taught would

no longer be valid, for they had **PREACHED** the **WORD** of God and the principles of what they taught were still true. We know this, because of how often Jesus **PREACHED** what they said. One example of this is found here in Mark 1:2 where Jesus said,

^[2] *As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way; ^[3] The voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make ready the way of the Lord, Make His paths straight.'"*¹

Then, in Mark 1:4 Mark goes on to say,

*John the Immerser appeared in the wilderness preaching an **IMMERSION** of **REPENTANCE** **FOR** the **FORGIVENESS** of **SINS**.*

Listen also to what the Holy Spirit moved Luke to say in Acts 8:12,

BUT when [the Samaritans] believed Philip preaching the good news about **the KINGDOM of God** and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized^(immersed), men and women alike.

Even when Paul was under Roman arrest, when he came to Rome, in Acts 28:17 he called together the 'leading men of the Jews'; and then in Acts 28:23 we learn that,

*... when they had set a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he **WAS EXPLAINING** to them by **SOLEMNLY TESTIFYING** about **the KINGDOM of God**, and **TRYING** to **PERSUADE** them **CONCERNING** Jesus, **FROM BOTH** the **LAW** of Moses and from the **PROPHETS**, from morning until evening.*

Lord willing, I hope you will join me here again tomorrow, when we will consider that the **SPIRITUAL KINGDOM IS THE KINGDOM of CHRIST!**

Please meditate and pray on these things!

Will you please now join me in prayer?

Blessed Father God, I give You thanksgiving Today for teaching us that Your Spiritual Kingdom is not only near, but because of its nearness we should be proclaiming the gospel good news message of Your Spiritual Kingdom to all we can, at every chance we get. I pray and now give You thanksgiving in the Name of Christ, the One for Whom I am serving. Amen!

Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** Who promises in His Word to never leave you nor forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6, 8]!

**BECAUSE HE WANTS ME TO TELL ALL I CAN THE
MESSAGE OF THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM! -- tom**

¹ Sited from Isaiah 40:3 and Malachi 3:1.