

The Bible Panorama – The Gospels I: Matthew

“The Kingdom of God”

Matthew 12:22-32

Going Beyond the sermons into the Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on June 25, 2017

Entering In:

Think aloud why there is a 400-year period of silence between the Old and New Testaments.

1. What does the fact that Jesus came from the descendants of David and Abraham (cf. Matt. 1:1) imply?

What does the presence of Moses and Elijah in Jesus’ transfiguration (cf. Matt. 17:1-3) imply?

2. Which of the following do you think is the primary reason Jesus performed miracles? What do you see in this text that supports your choice?

- A. To demonstrate his compassion for suffering humanity
- B. To authenticate his claim to be the Messiah
- C. To antagonize the Pharisees
- D. To show that Satan’s rule has been supplanted by the Kingdom of God
- E. Other

What is implied by the title, “Son of David”? (Ezekiel 34:23-24; 37:24)

3. Does the word “kingdom” mean same thing in verses 25 and 28?

If not, how are the connotations of the word “kingdom” different in each context?

How is the Pharisees’ assertion that Jesus drove out demons by the power of Beelzebub illogical?

What does it mean for a kingdom to be *divided against itself*?

What is the end result of such division?

To what other institutions did Jesus apply this wisdom?

How do the New Testament writers apply this wisdom to protect the Church from being divided against itself?

- Romans 16:17
- James 4:1, 4
- 2 Peter 2:1
- 1 John 4:1
- Jude 4, 17-19

What is the main cause of division in the church?

4. What three evidences are given in this passage that the Kingdom of God has come?
- 12:22
 - 12:23
 - 12:29

Write at least three contrasts between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan. [Example: light/darkness]

Who is the *strong man* referred to in verse 29?

What is his *house*?

What are his *possessions*?

Is the strong man still bound (cf. Revelation 20:2)? If so, what does that imply about how you can live your life in Christ?

5. There is a holy war being waged. Are you necessarily a participant in this war (v.30)? In other words, can you be a *neutral* bystander?

What is the work of *gathering* to which Jesus refers?

How does 2 Corinthians 6:14 – 16a instruct us about the work of gathering *with Jesus*?

If you are *not* actively engaged in the work of gathering with Jesus, what does this passage say about your relationship to Jesus?

How are you actively engaged in the work of *gathering* with Jesus?

6. What is the *unforgivable* sin?

What does Jesus mean by “blaspheming against the Spirit”?

7. What blessings are yours if you belong to God’s kingdom?

Living It Out:

Pray for a person who is still rejecting Jesus Christ.