



ADVANCING
THE KINGDOM *of* **GOD**



What is the Kingdom of God?

- **It is the eternal kingdom of God that was established when Christ rose from the grave in Power.**
- **It means God is KING over the earth, now.**
- **It is a Kingdom that is Already, but Not Yet**
- **As Followers of Jesus, the Kingdom is present in our hearts and as the church it is present in our midst as we individually, follow Christ, together**



People come to inhabit the Kingdom of God when their wills become aligned with

God's. Thus, the Kingdom of God is available to any who are willing to surrender their will to God's. When a person makes their will, their mind and their body available to God as tools in the hands of His will, then they are living in the Kingdom of God. Such union of wills connects the individual to the very life and power of God, thus filling them with unearthly peace, strength and love. This is the fruit, the harvest, the result of the Spirit's indwelling. Those who live in the Kingdom of God, are filled with the Spirit of God, for this interactive relationship is what God wills, and it is impossible for a person to do as God wills without this live connection.

Dallas Willard



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- Matt. 16:13-20 Jesus will establish and build His church
- On this rock – Which Rock?
- What is Jesus talking about just before vs. 17?
 - Peter? No – v. 18 says, “You are little rock, Peter,”
 - Big mountain there at Caesarea Philippi? No
 - The revelation that Peter just had that Jesus was Messiah, the anointed one, The King! – “and on the foundation stone of this revelation, I will build my church!”



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- On the basis of the truth of who Jesus is, The Gates of Hades, will not be able to withstand the advance of the church
- Openings in the walls created a weakness. The Strength of the Gates determined the strength of ancient cities.
- The Gates of Hell – In the New Testament, Hades is the realm of the dead
- In this verse Hades or hell is represented as a mighty city with its gates representing its power.



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- Though Jesus would be crucified and buried, He would rise from the dead and build His church.
- Jesus is emphasizing the fact that the powers of death will not, could not, hold Him in.
- Rev.1:17-18 – Jesus says He has the Keys of Death and Hades – He has the keys to Gates of Hades and Death and is able to set us free from Death and Hades
- Through His resurrection, and our identification with Him through faith, The gates have been opened



The Advancing Kingdom of God

1. Satan was defeated at the Cross, but, he is a liar, deceiver and destroyer! He says you have lost!





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1. Satan was defeated at the Cross, but, he is a liar, deceiver and destroyer! He says you have lost!
 - Support Your Local Sheriff
2. In the Kingdom, Jesus has the keys to death in this life and the life to come. Dan.3:15-27-29
3. In setting us free from the kingdom of death, Christ has opened the gate to security, freedom and life in Christ
 - Romans 8:1-4, 10-11, 20-24, 26-39
4. We are MORE than conquerors through Christ!!