

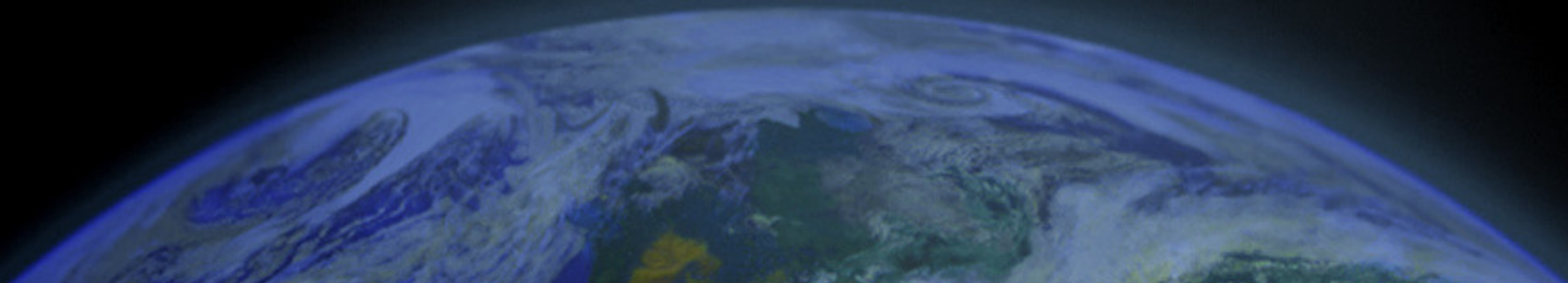
# The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

## The Kingdom of God

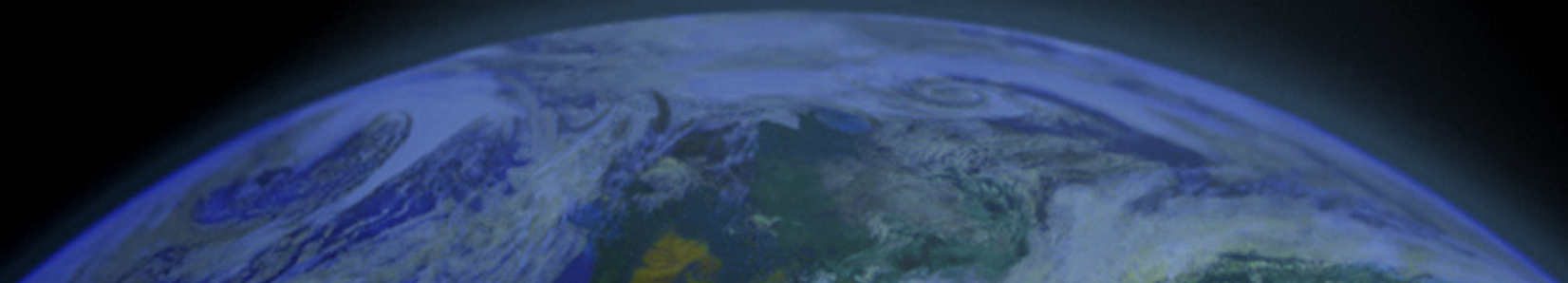
Matthew 4:17

“Repent, for the **kingdom** of heaven is at hand” (Matthew 4:17).



**“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel” (Mark 1:15).**

**The only way to enter the kingdom is by repenting.**

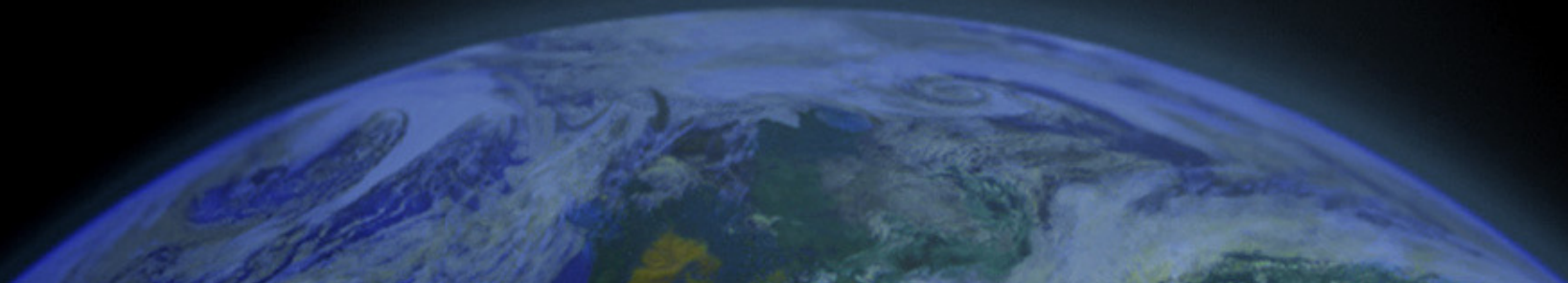


# **Already Among Us**

**He commanded His disciples to “heal the sick there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you’” (Luke 10:9).**



**He said that the true worshippers of God would no longer worship in Jerusalem, but in Spirit and in truth (John 4).**

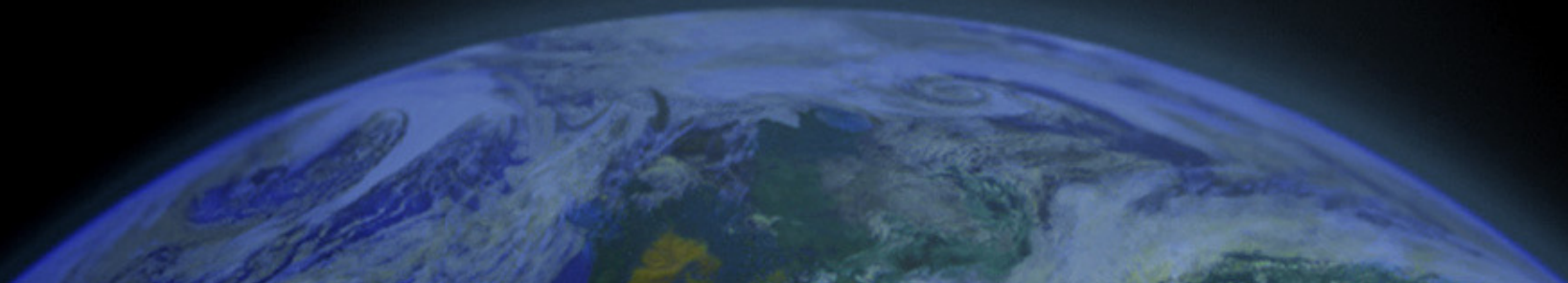


**The kingdom of God is righteousness  
and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit”  
(Romans 14:17).**



# The Major Theme of Jesus

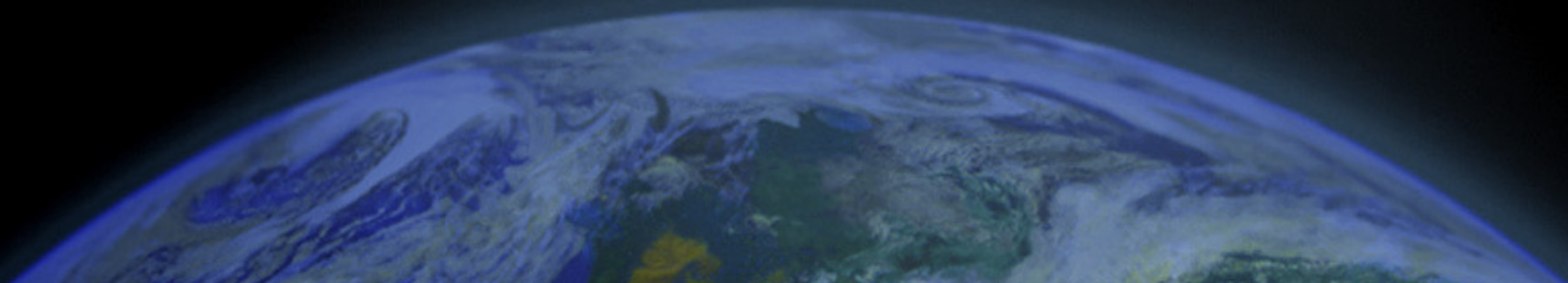
The kingdom of God is mentioned at least 51 times in Matthew's Gospel.



# **The Church is Not the Same as the Kingdom.**

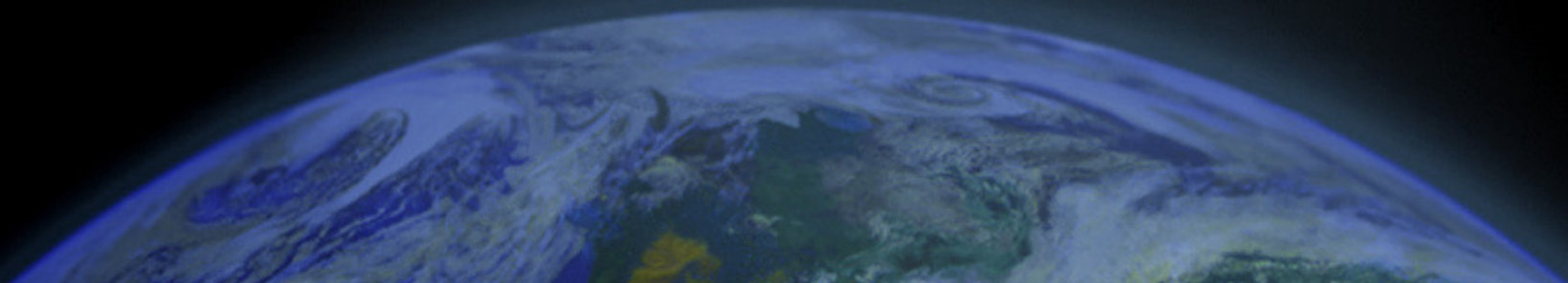
**The Greek word for church is *ecclesia* (the called out ones).**

**The church is the called out community of the kingdom.**



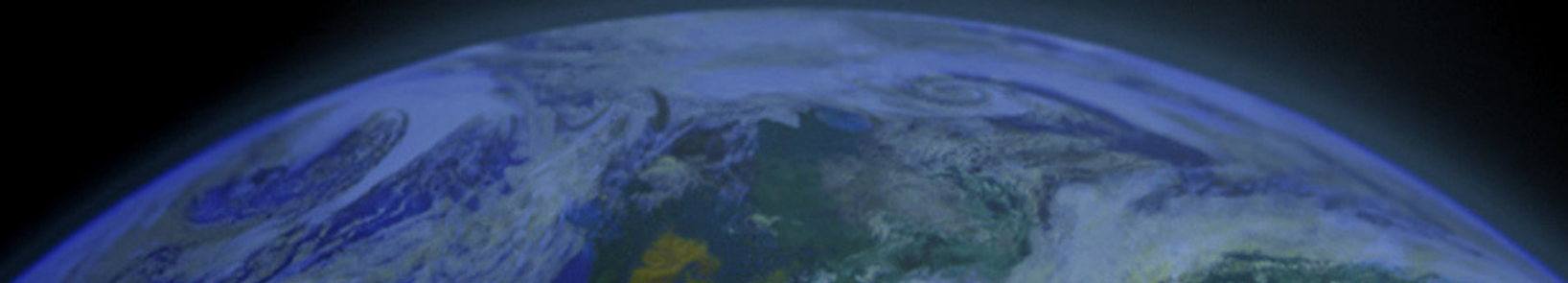
# The Kingdom of God Is the Rule of God.

“Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king instead of David his father . . .” (1 Chronicles 29:23).



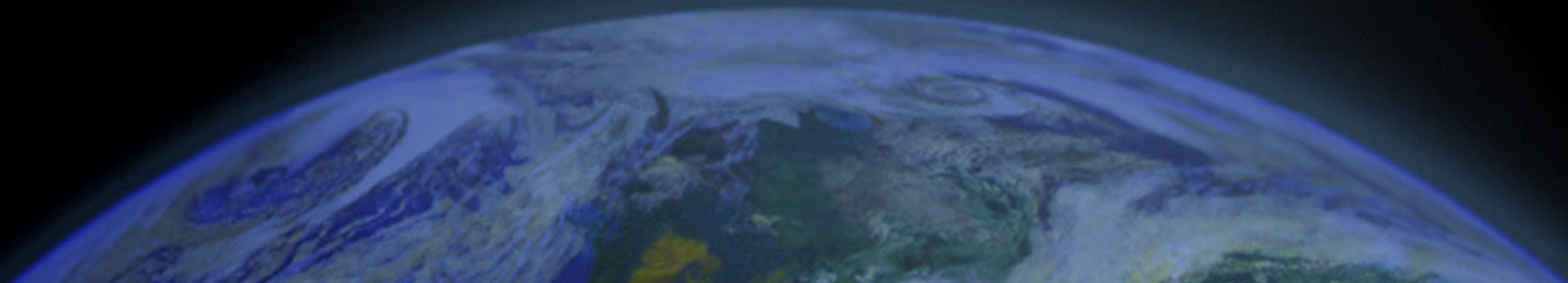
**Because of the broken covenant,  
God threw the throne of David to the  
ground.**

You have made his glory cease,  
And cast his throne down to the ground  
(Psalm 89:44).



**But the prophets said God  
would restore it.**

**I will raise up the tabernacle of David,  
Which has fallen down (Amos 9:11).**

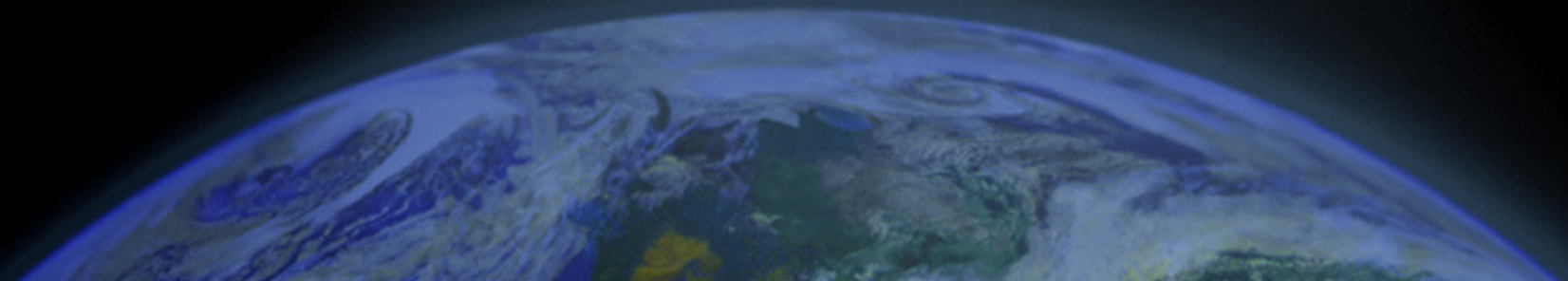


**There Was Great Expectations for the  
Kingdom of God in Those Days**

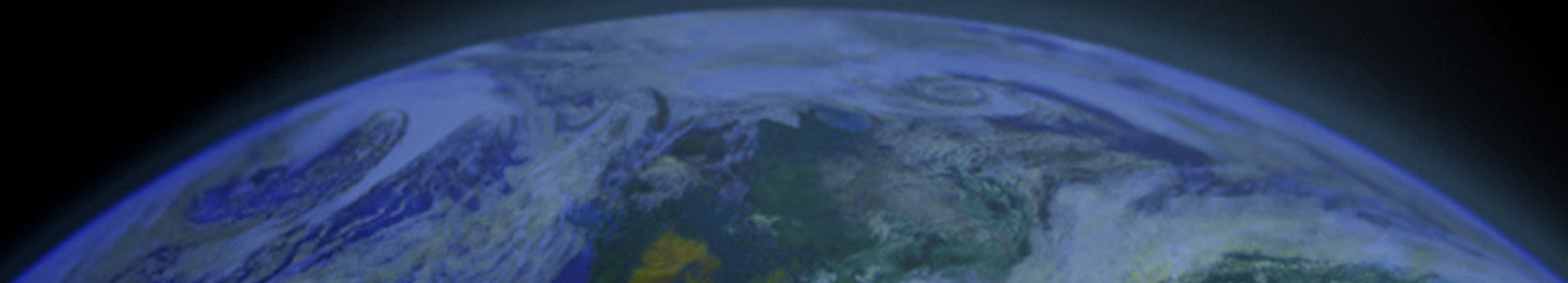


## The Destruction of Jerusalem

Jesus said, “when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. Assuredly, I say to you, **this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place**” (Luke 21:31-32).



**Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom (Matthew 16:28).**



**“The most embarrassing verse in the Bible” – C.S. Lewis**

**Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place (Matthew 24:34).**

**Atheist Bertrand Russell used these statements of Jesus and the apostles as proof that the New Testament is false prophecy.**



**How Important Is the  
Kingdom of God to YOU?**



# The Message

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Matthew 4:17

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