

Revelation 19:1-10, 21:1-5 **Your Kingdom Come... (2)** Fintry, 28/9/2008, am

Teach us to Pray (4)

Chat with the Children

- What do you want for Christmas?
 - normally ask this nearer the time!!
 - Will probably get an amazing list of requests...!
 - what we want will fill our imaginations, shape our conversations, control what we read (Tesco Direct catalogue, Argos, etc!), where we drag our parents....
 - **Do we want God's Kingdom to come?**
 - does our desire shape what we do, and particularly how we pray?
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Introduction

- *(The figures below are imaginary! My internet was not working again...!)*
- Legoland is a theme park built on a former country estate near Windsor. The park is 300 acres in size, employs 500 staff, and has a turnover of approximately £20,000,000 per annum. *(Go on in similar factual vein for a while!)*
 - would that make us want to go?
 - then do a similar intro, **but fill it with the excitement and wonder!!**
 - **would that make us want to go?**
- Recap what has been before from last week...
 - **What? Who? Where? When? Why?**
 - but does that thrill us with a sense of eagerness and wonder? Do we want the kingdom to come?
- Put up **foretaste/fulfilment diagram** to picture it in a new way
 - explore how something of the coming kingdom spills over into the present reality!
- What do we want - God's kingdom?
 - **this is what it is like / will be like, from Revelation....**

God's praise

- The worship round the throne
 - this will be so good - yearn for it - ask that God would come and receive our worship and the worship of those around!

God's presence

- wedding - joining - 19:7
- (cf whole engagement / marriage thing)
- 21:3 - with them
- this will be so good - to finally be with him forever - and want to experience and for others to experience the joy of this joining with Christ

God's people

- Who is gathered round the throne, but God's people - the elders, the great multitude, the church (bride), those who are invited..
 - it will be great to be with all those who are Christ's, forever, to enjoy their company, their shared experience of God's goodness.... and something of that is great now, breaking into now - community, connection...

God's provision

- Wedding imagery carries whole picture of feasting, rejoicing, provision
 - more explicitly in chapter 21, tears gone, death gone, pain gone, all that is evil is

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gone

- when Jesus came proclaiming the kingdom there went with that a foretaste of glory - healing, lives changed, people released from sin, from the captivity evil held over them
- it will be great when it is fulfilled - don't you want to taste what that will be like now, in healed relationships, in healed bodies, in healed hearts...?

God's priorities

- The righteous acts of the saints
 - it will be good when no one backstabs you, it will be good when everyone is generous, when everyone is kind...
 - yearn for that - pray it into reality now!

May your kingdom come!

- Fixing our eyes on what is to come, praying in that glorious, wonderful kingdom!