Twenty Differences Between The Gospel of the Kingdom And The Gospel of the Grace of God

The gospel of the kingdom is recorded in the books of Matthew through John, and Hebrews through Revelation. The gospel of the kingdom was preached by Jesus Christ, Peter and the eleven.

The gospel of the grace of God is recorded in the books of Romans through Philemon. Only our Apostle Paul preached the gospel of the grace of God.

The Book of Acts of the Apostles is the historical account of the transition from the gospel of the kingdom to the gospel of the grace of God.

Difference #1 – The gospel of the kingdom is the gospel of the Prophetic Program. The gospel of the grace of God is the gospel of the Mystery Program.

The gospel of the kingdom

The Prophetic Program's theme is of Christ's reign upon the earth. Jeremiah 23:5, Luke 1:30-33.

The Prophetic Program was revealed from the foundation of the world. Luke 1:69-70, Acts 3:21.

The Prophetic Program is the blessing for the nation of Israel. Genesis 12:1-3, Matthew 10:5-6.

The Prophetic Program is of an earthly hope for believers of the gospel of the kingdom. Job 19:26-26, Matthew 5:5.

The gospel of the grace of God

The Mystery Program's theme is of Christ's reign in the heavens. Ephesians 1:19-21, Colossians 3:1-4.

The Mystery Program has been kept secret since the world began. Romans 16:25, Colossians 1:25-27.

The Mystery Program is the blessing for the body of Christ. Ephesians 1:22-23, I Corinthians 12:12-13.

The Mystery Program is of a heavenly hope for believers of the gospel of the grace of God. Ephesians 1:3, Ephesians 2:6, Colossians 1:5.

Difference #2 – The gospel of the kingdom was preached by Jesus, Peter and the eleven. The gospel of the grace of God was preached ONLY by our Apostle Paul.

Gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 4:23 - And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Luke 9:6 - And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere.

Gospel of the grace of God

Acts 20:24 - But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Difference #3 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, believers were given an external dwelling of the Holy Spirit. Under the gospel of the grace of God, we have an internal dwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel of the kingdom

I Peter 4:14 - If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

Gospel of the grace of God

Romans 8:9 - But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Difference #4 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, the saved are called "born again." Under the gospel of the grace of God, the saved are called "new creatures.

Gospel of the kingdom

John 3:21 – Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Gospel of the grace of God

II Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Difference #5 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, "bride of Christ" is referenced and under the gospel of the grace of God, "body of Christ" is referenced.

Gospel of the kingdom

In Revelation chapters 19 and 21 we see that the "Bride of Christ" is the city of the "New Jerusalem."

Revelations 19:7 - Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready."

Revelation 21:9-10

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

Gospel of the grace of God

In the following verses we are called "members of His body, and "not one member but many." We are members of the "body of Christ."

Ephesians 5:30 – For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

1 Corinthians 12:13-14

13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

14 For the body is not one member, but many.

Difference Number #6 – The Apostle John writes that believers of the gospel of the kingdom have an unction from the Holy Spirit, while the Apostle Paul tells believers of the gospel of the grace of God, that the Lord will give them understanding in all things when they consider what he says.

Gospel of the kingdom

1 John 2:20 – But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

Gospel of the grace of God

II Timothy 2:7 – Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

Difference #7 – Jesus specifically taught His disciples to keep the commandments. After Christ was crucified on the cross, those Jews who believed in Jesus as their Lord and Messiah were still under the Ten Commandments, but were no longer under the sacrificial system of the Law any longer, as Jesus Christ was the sacrificial Lamb of God.

Paul tells those saved under the gospel of the grace of God that they are not under the Law.

Gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 19:17 - So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.

Gospel of the grace of God

Romans 7:6 – But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Galatians 5:18 - But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

Difference #8 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, Jesus Christ taught that their sins would be forgiven by God the Father if they forgave the sins of their fellowman. Under the gospel of the grace of God, Paul taught that God has reconciled the world to Himself and is not imputing sins.

Gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 6:14, Jesus says – For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

Gospel of the grace of God

II Corinthians 5:19 – To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Difference #9 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, the believing Jews were taught that by confessing their sins to God that their sins would be forgiven. Under the gospel of the grace of God, we are taught that we have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ and we have the forgiveness of our sins, according to the richness of His grace.

Gospel of the kingdom

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Gospel of the grace of God

Ephesians 1:7 - In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

Difference #10 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, the believing Jews were taught that Jesus Christ died for many. Under the gospel of the grace of God, Paul taught that Jesus Christ died for all. We do read in I John 2:2 where John says that Jesus Christ was the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the entire world. However, this was after our Apostle Paul told Peter and the eleven about the gospel of the grace of God which he received from Jesus Christ.

Gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 20:28 - Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Matthew 26:28 - For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Gospel of the grace of God

II Corinthians 5:15 - And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

Difference #11 - Believers of the gospel of the kingdom will have their sins blotted out when Jesus Christ comes back to earth. Their sins will be blotted out during the Millennial Kingdom. Those of us saved under the gospel of the grace of God are taught that God has already forgiven all of our sins.

Gospel of the kingdom

Acts 3:19 – Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

Gospel of the grace of God

Colossians 2:13 - And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

Difference #12 - Under the gospel of the kingdom, all but one sin is forgiven. Under the gospel of the grace of God, we as believers have redemption through Christ's blood and the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of His grace.

Gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 12:31 - Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.

Gospel of the grace of God

Ephesians 1:7 - In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

Difference #13 - The gospel of the kingdom is called the gospel of the circumcision and was committed to Peter and the eleven. The gospel of the grace of God is called the gospel of the uncircumcision, and was committed ONLY to Paul.

Galatians 2:7-8

7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter;

8 For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles.

Difference #14 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, the Jews received the Holy Spirit after belief and water baptism as seen in Acts 2:38. Under the gospel of the grace of God, we receive the Holy Spirit after our belief in the gospel of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Note: We see in Acts Chapter 10 that Cornelius and the other Gentiles received the Holy Spirit after belief and before water baptism even though these Gentiles were being saved under the gospel of the kingdom. In the topic "What Was The Purpose of Water Baptism," I have listed the fact that the Jews were water baptized because they are to be priests in the future Millennial Kingdom, just as Jesus Christ was water baptized as He will be the High Priest of the nation of Israel in the future Millennial Kingdom.

Gospel of the kingdom

Acts 2:38 - Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Gospel of the grace of God

Ephesians 1:13 – In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.

Difference #15 - Under the gospel of the kingdom, believers were expected to work righteousness. Under the gospel of the grace of God, faith is counted for righteousness.

Gospel of the kingdom

Acts 10:35 - But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Gospel of the grace of God

Romans 4:5 - But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Titus 3:5 – Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 2:8-9 – For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Difference #16 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, the believers were water baptized by men after their belief of the gospel. Under the gospel of the grace of God, we are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the "body of Christ," after our belief of the gospel.

Gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 28:19 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Mark 16:15-16

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Gospel of the grace of God

1 Corinthians 12:13 - For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Difference #17 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, Peter and the eleven will judge the twelve tribes of Israel. Those saved under the gospel of the grace of God, will judge angels. The word "judge" refers to "rule over" as the judges in the book of Judges ruled over Israel.

Gospel of the kingdom

Matthew 19:27-28

27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, that ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Gospel of the grace of God

I Corinthians 6:3 – Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?

Difference #18 – Remission of sins was given to those who believed the gospel of the kingdom. Total and complete forgiveness of sins has been given to those who believe the gospel of the grace of God. In all of Paul's epistles Paul is speaking to believers of the gospel of the grace of God.

Note: When Christ was crucified on the cross, He paid the sin debt for the entire world as referenced in I John 2:2. In II Corinthians 5:19 Paul tells us that God reconciled the world to Himself and is not imputing our trespasses to us.

However, even though our sins are not currently imputed to us, we are still in dead in our sins (Colossians 2:13) until our sins are imputed to Christ. To have our sins imputed to Christ, we each have to believe (trust) in Christ alone (Romans 3:22) as the payment

for our sins. We must accept Christ as our Lord and Savior and accept His death on the cross as full and final payment for our sins. Until we do so, we are not saved and are not children of God.

Gospel of the kingdom

Acts 2:38 - Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 10:43 - To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

Gospel of the grace of God

Colossians 2:13 - And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

Difference #19 – Under the gospel of the kingdom, the Jews are to be a kingdom of priests, a royal priesthood and a holy nation upon the earth. Those of us saved under the gospel of the grace of God are to be citizens of heaven.

Gospel of the kingdom

Exodus 19:6 - And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

I Peter 2:9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Gospel of the grace of God

Philippians 3:20 - For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:6 - And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 1:5 - For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel.

Difference #20 - Jesus Christ commanded that wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world, that the story of Mary's alabaster box be told as a memorial to her.

Matthew 26:13 - Verily I say unto you, wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.

Gospel of the kingdom

The story of Mary's alabaster box is recorded in Matthew 26:6–13, Mark 14:3–9 and Luke 7:36–50. John mentions Mary's alabaster box in John 11:2, and then in its entirety in John 12:2-8.

Gospel of the grace of God

Mary's alabaster box is not spoken of anywhere in Paul's thirteen epistles. This signifies that when Christ gave the commandment to speak of Mary's alabaster box when the gospel was preached, that Christ was referring only to the gospel of the kingdom.

Christ referred to the gospel as "this gospel." Jesus Christ knew that in the future there would be another gospel preached. Christ knew that the gospel preached in the future by our Apostle Paul would be the gospel of the grace of God. The gospel of the grace of God is the gospel of the cross, and not the gospel of the kingdom.