



MATTHEW

kingdom identity

Fraudulent emails.....

Real:

kevin.hughes@questchurchstl.org

Fraud:

KevinHughes.questchurchstl@gmail.com



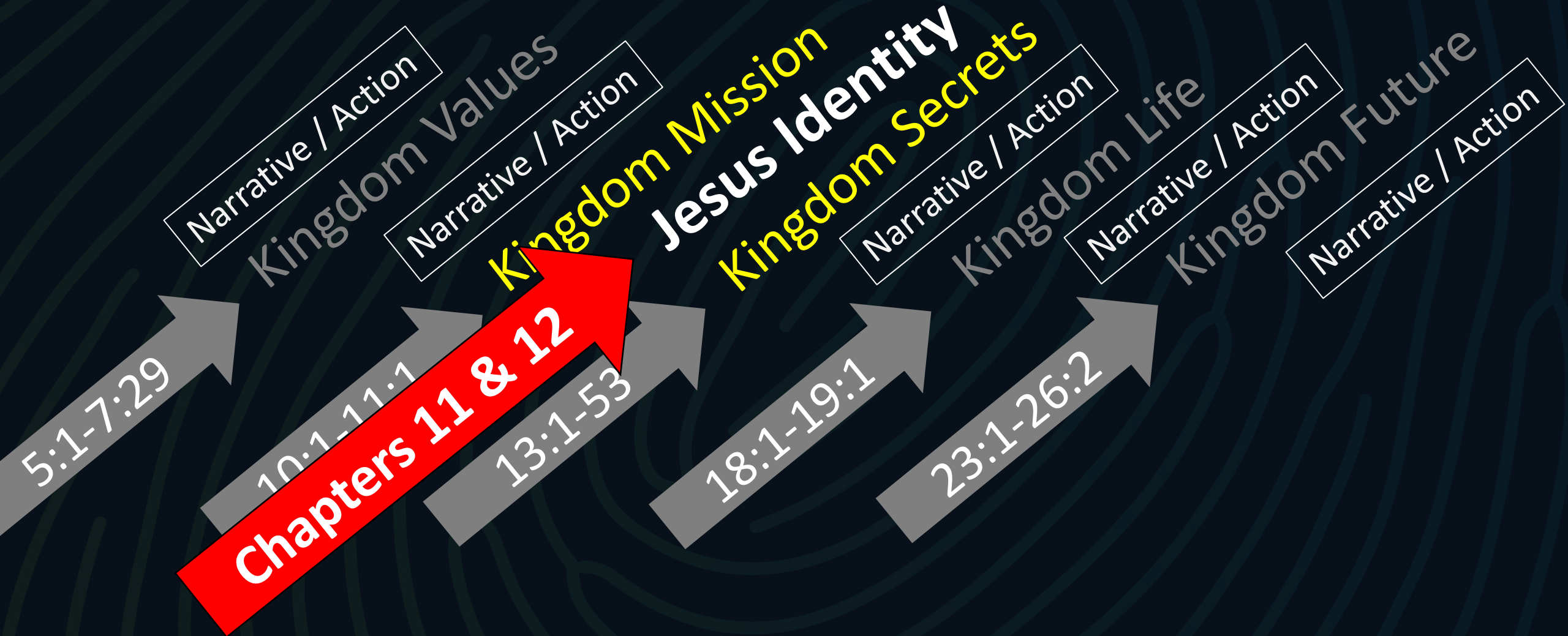
MATTHEW

kingdom identity

Matthew: Handbook for Discipleship



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Kingdom Identity

Why is Jesus' identity important?

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- God's design for our lives brings *ultimate freedom* rather than restriction.

Matthew 11 & 12

Jesus reveals His identity

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- 11:1-19 Jesus is the promised *Messiah* from the past.
- 11:20-24 Jesus is the coming *Judge* in the future.
- 11:25-30 Jesus is the present *Savior* right now.
- 12:1-14 Jesus is *Lord of the Sabbath*...rest and renewal.
- 12:15-21 Jesus is the *Justifier* and the *Giver of Hope*.
- 12:22-37

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- 12:22-37 Jesus is the *King* in the line of David.

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- 12:22-37 Jesus is the *King* of the spiritual universe.

Jesus reveals His identity

Kingdom Identity

Matthew 12:22-37



22 Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to Him, and He healed him, so that the man spoke and saw.

23 And all the people were amazed, and said, "Can this be the Son of David?"

24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said,

"It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons."

25 Knowing their thoughts, He said to them,

"Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand.

26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

27 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.

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C.S. Lewis.....Trilemma

Lord

Liar

Lunatic

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27 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.

- 28** But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.
- 29** Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless He first binds the strong man? Then indeed He may plunder his house.
- 30** Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.
- 31** Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.
- 32** And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

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Matthew 4

12 Now when He heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee.

13 And leaving Nazareth He went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,

14 so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

15 "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles--

16 the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

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First exemplified during the temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4) when Satan (*the temporary and eventually deposed Prince of this world*) offers Jesus various things in exchange for His authority.

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The vicarious (substitutionary) atonement of Christ is either the most incredible pronouncement of freedom from the penalty of our guilt and our shame, or it is a *“deplorable and immoral excusing of our human responsibility.”*

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God provides for the cancelling of the debt we owe Him, but He does not relieve us of our responsibility to and for one another. That is left to us to do interpersonally.

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Kingdom Identity

So...therefore...what now?

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The “unpardonable sin”

...occurs when a person consciously and willfully rejects the operation of the Spirit bearing witness to ***the reality of Jesus as Savior*** and rejects the convicting power of the Spirit in his or her life.

Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary; Clinton E. Arnold, General Editor

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- 33** "Either make the tree good and its fruit good,
or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit.
- 34** You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil?
For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.
- 35** The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good,
and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.
- 36** I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every
careless word they speak,
- 37** for by your words you will be justified,
and by your words you will be condemned."

Kingdom Identity

So...therefore...what now?

What have you 'stored up in your heart' as to who Jesus is?



Kingdom Identity

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***This is a determination that everyone has to make,
and it will determine how you live now and in eternity.***