

Judging from the mass of Christian writings and from utterances in public address and prayer, this age is assumed by many, without question, to be the Kingdom of Christ; though no Scripture is found to warrant that conclusion.

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The Kingdom of God

- **Soteriological**
 - *Not the same as God's authority over all creation including Satan and demons*
- **Authority**
 - *God*
- **Subjects**
 - *Righteous Humans*
 - *Righteous Spirit Beings*
- **Never by Force**

The Kingdom from the Heavens

- **Governmental**
 - *God's sovereign rule over the kingdoms of men*
- **Authority**
 - *God*
 - *Basest of Men*
 - *Watchers*
 - *Christ*
- **Subjects**
 - *All Mankind*
- **Always by Force**

Matthew 3:1-2

1 *In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

Mark 1:14-15

14 *Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.*

John 3:3-5, 24

3 *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus said unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

24 *John was not yet cast into prison.*

Matthew 4:12-17

12 Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; **13** And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: **14** That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, **15** The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; **16** The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. **17** From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Matthew 19:16-17

16 *And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And he said unto him, Why call you me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if you will enter into life, keep the commandments.*

Daniel 12:2

And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting [olam - eternal] life, and some [the rest] to shame and everlasting [olam - eternal] contempt.

Matthew 19:18-21

18 He said unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, **19** Honor thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. **20** The young man said unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? **21** Jesus said unto him, If you will be perfect [*telios - mature, complete*], go and sell that you have, and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

Matthew 19:22-23

22 *But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. 23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly [dyskolōs - with difficulty] enter into the kingdom of heaven.*

Matthew 19:24

And [de - But] again [palin - in addition, on the other hand] I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

Mark 10:24

And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answered again, and said unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!

Matthew 19:21

Jesus said unto him, If you will be perfect [telios - mature, complete], go and sell that you have, and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

Matthew 19:25

*When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying,
Who then can be saved?*

Matthew 19:26

But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Acts 1:6-7

6 *When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, will you at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?* **7** *And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father has put in his own power.*

Matthew 19:27-30

27 *Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed you; what shall we have therefore? 28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That you which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And every one that has forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting [eternal] life. 30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.*

Revelation 2:12-13

12 *And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things said he which has the sharp sword with two edges; 13 I know your works, and where you dwell, even where Satan's seat [thronos - throne] is: and you hold fast my name, and have not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwells.*



Black Sea

ASIA

Pergamum

Thyatira

Smyrna

Sardis

Philadelphia

Laodicea

Athens

Ephesus

PATMOS

Antioch

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem











Trajan Temple

Arsenal

Library

North

Athena Temple

Kings' Palaces

Dionysus Temple

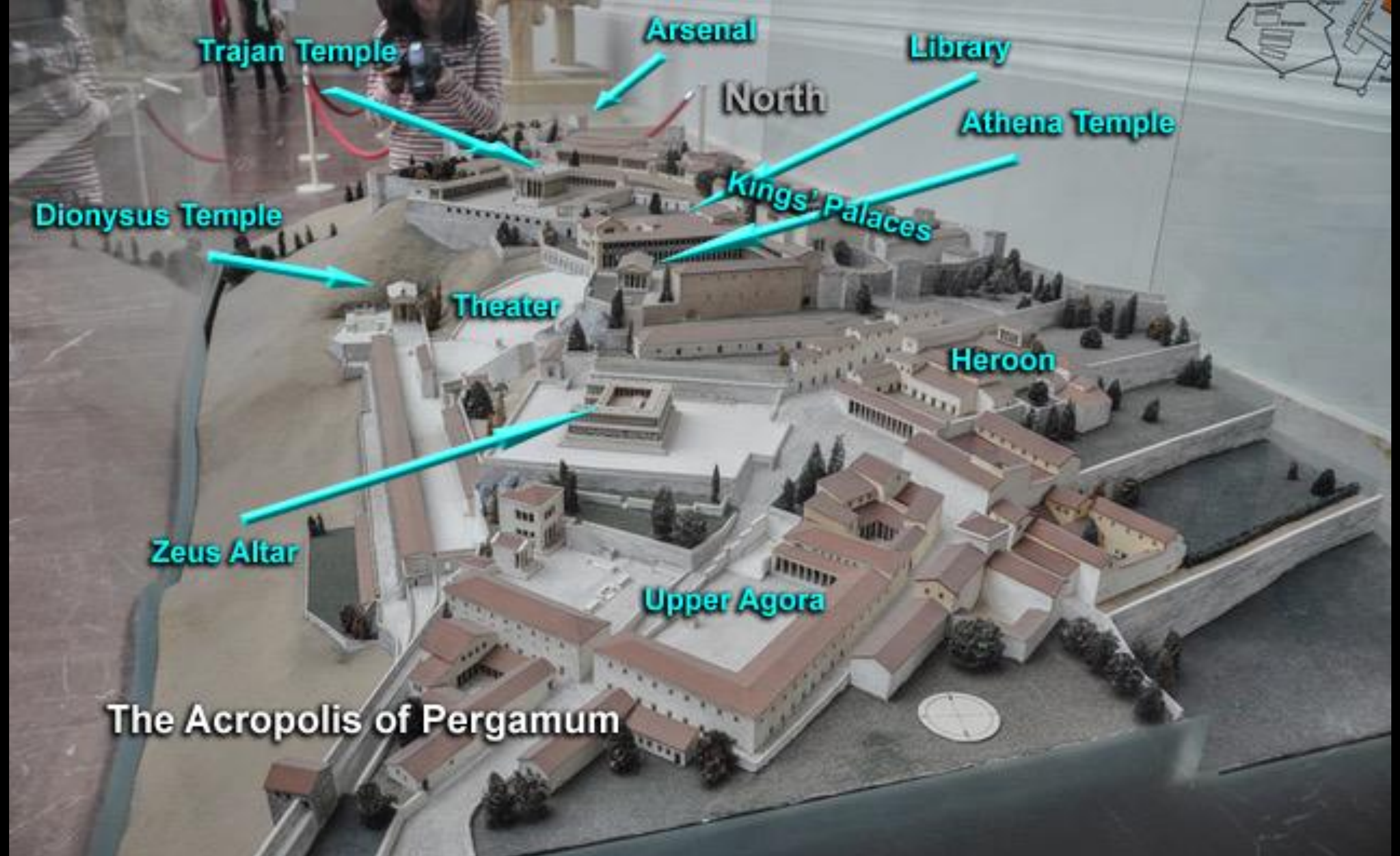
Theater

Heroon

Zeus Altar

Upper Agora

The Acropolis of Pergamum





DIE AKROPOLIS
VON
PERGAMON
RECONSTRUIERT NACH
SEIN BISHERICEN AUSGRAVUNGEN
VON FRIEDRICH VON SÖLMS

Daniel 4:13-16

13 *I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and [even] an holy one came down from heaven; 14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches: 15 Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth: 16 Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him.*

Daniel 4:17

This matter is by the decree [gezerah - decree; determination made by the watchers] of the watchers, and the demand [shehaylaw - judicial decision or mandate] by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High rules in the kingdom [malkuth - kingdom but is also translated “realm” denoting the sphere in which men operate] of men, and gives it to whomsoever he will [tseba - to desire, be inclined, pleased], and sets up [causes to stand] over it the basest [shephal - the lowest] of men.

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Daniel 4:23-26

23 And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times *[iddan - years]* pass over him; **24** This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king: **25** That they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times *[iddan - years]* shall pass over you, till you know that the most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomsoever he will. **26** And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; your kingdom shall be sure unto you, after that you shall have known that the heavens do rule.

Daniel 4:28-31

28 All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar. **29** At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon. **30** The king spoke, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power [*chesen - used to emphasize royal power*], and for the honour [*yeqar - glory, honor*] of my majesty [*hada - magnificence, honor, majesty*]? **31** While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from you.

Daniel 4:23-26

23 And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times *[iddan - years]* pass over him; **24** This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king: **25** That they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times *[iddan - years]* shall pass over you, till you know that the most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomsoever he will. **26** And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; your kingdom shall be sure unto you, after that you shall have known that the heavens do rule.

Job 1:6-8

6 Now there was a [the] day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. **7** And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." **8** Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"

Romans 13:1-7

1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers *[exousia - authority or power]*. For there is no power but of [out of] God: the powers that be are ordained *[tasso - appointed]* of *[by]* God. **2** Whosoever therefore resists the power, resists the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation *[krima - judgment]*. **3** For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Will you then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and you shall have praise of the same: **4** For he is the minister of God to you for good. But if you do that which is evil, be afraid; for he bears not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that does evil. **5** Wherefore you must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. **6** For this cause pay you tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. **7** Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

Daniel 4:17-18

17 This matter is by the decree [*gezerah - decree; determination made by the watchers*] of the watchers, and the demand [*shehaylaw - judicial decision or mandate*] by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High rules in the kingdom [*malkuth - kingdom but is also translated “realm” denoting the sphere in which men operate*] of men, and gives it to whomsoever he will [*tseba - to desire, be inclined, pleased*], and sets up [*causes to stand*] over it the basest [*shephal - the lowest*] of men. **18** This dream I king Nebuchadnezzar have seen. Now you, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but you are able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in you.

Daniel 4:19-22

19 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. The king spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the dream, or the interpretation thereof, trouble you. Belteshazzar answered and said, My lord, the dream be to them that hate you, and the interpretation thereof to your enemies. **20** The tree that you saw, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth; **21** Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation: **22** It is you, O king, that are grown and become strong: for your greatness is grown, and reaches unto heaven, and your dominion to the end of the earth.

Daniel 4:23-26

23 And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times *[iddan - years]* pass over him; **24** This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king: **25** That they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times *[iddan - years]* shall pass over you, till you know that the most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomsoever he will. **26** And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; your kingdom shall be sure unto you, after that you shall have known that the heavens do rule.

Matthew 11:12

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

Psalm 2:1-12

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Matthew 13:10-14

10 *And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why do you speak unto them in parables? 11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heavens, but to them it is not given. 12 For whoever has, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever has not, from him shall it be taken away even what he has. 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. 14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which says, By hearing you shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing you shall see, and shall not perceive:*

Matthew 13:24-30

24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heavens is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: **25** And while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. **26** And when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. **27** So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? from where then has it tares? **28** He said unto them, An enemy has done this. The servants said unto him, do you desire that we go and gather them up? **29** But he said, No; lest while you gather up the tares, you root up also the wheat with them. **30** Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather you together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:31-36

31 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: **32** Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof. **33** Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened. **34** All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: **35** That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world. **36** Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.

Matthew 13:37-43

37 He answered and said unto them, He that sows the good seed is the Son of man; **38** The field is the world [*kosmos - world system*]; the good seed are the children [*huios (plural) - sons*] of the kingdom; but the tares are the children [*huios (plural) - sons*] of the wicked one; **39** The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world [*aion - age*]; and the reapers are the angels. **40** As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be at the end of this world [*aion - age*]. **41** The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity [*anomia - lawlessness*]; **42** And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. **43** Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Ephesians 2:2

Wherein in times past you walked according to [measured by] the course [aion - the age] of [belonging to] this world [kosmos - world system], according to [measured by] the prince [archon - ruler] of the power [exousia - authority] of the air [aer - atmosphere], the spirit that now works [energeo - to operate in (energizing)] in the children [huios - sons] of disobedience [apeitheia - unpersuadable]:

Matthew 13:44-52

44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man has found, he hides, and for joy thereof goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field. **45** Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: **46** Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. **47** Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: **48** Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. **49** So shall it be at the end of the world *[aion - age]*: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, **50** And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. **51** Jesus said unto them, Have you understood *[syniemi - to put together in your mind]* all these things? They said unto him, Yes, Lord. **52** Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which brings forth out of his treasure things new and old.

John 19:10-12

10 *Then said Pilate unto him, Speak you not unto me? know you not that I have power to crucify you, and have power to release you?* **11** *Jesus answered, You could have no power at all against me, except it were given you from above: therefore he that delivered me unto you has the greater sin.* **12** *And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If you let this man go, you are not Caesar's friend: whosoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.*

Matthew 13:

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