

# Your Kingdom Without End

## Part One: The King

Narrator: Hail to the king! Make way for the king! Kneel in allegiance to the king!

The history of our world is full of rulers and records of their power and rule over their kingdoms. Their reigns are defined by their accomplishments, ruthlessness, military might, and public reforms. The titles they were given, or simply their names, bring to mind the impact they had.

Haile Selassie ruled in Ethiopia. He modernized his country, made education and legal reforms, and was portrayed as a god. He was overthrown and was the last king of Ethiopia.

King Akbar from the Mughal clan of India ruled for 49 years! The army he built was thought to have been invincible. His rule was not.

Cyrus the Great was the first emperor of Persia. He was the first king to create a charter of human rights. At one time his empire stretched from India to Greece, but of course didn't last.

King Hammurabi of Babylon wrote the code that was the underlying structure of his reign. He died in 1750 B.C.

France's King Louis XIV, was one of the most famous kings of all times as he led his country to revolution. While he has been hailed as powerful and mighty, the lives of his people during his reign were dark.

Who hasn't heard of Alexander the Great, Attila the Hun, or Genghis Khan?

These are the kings and kingdoms we are familiar with, that we have studied and learned from. We can study maps and see where these kingdoms of legend were located.

This morning we will learn from a different type of King and Kingdom. Although there is no picture to be found of Him, or any

map that shows the boundaries of His Kingdom, there has never – nor will there ever be – any king that can begin to stand in His shadow.

*He Is Exalted - Students (Paris)*

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise His name!*

*He is the Lord; forever His truth shall reign.  
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.*

Trysten: “Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.” Psalm 24:8

Rachel: Strength and precision in battle is a necessary ability for kings leading their armies. The King – our King – however, did not lead an army into battle to conquer more land. His Kingdom never belonged to anyone else, nor did he ever have to win it back. It has been His from the beginning. No one can take it from Him.

Verrick: “O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.” Isaiah 37:16

Amy: This doesn't mean that our King hasn't had enemies. His Kingdom is under attack constantly. His enemies use every possible means to weaken His Kingdom, to steal it away. Our King never takes His eyes off of His people. His protection is impassable.

Ella: “Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.” Psalm 121:4

Ava: With this added security the people of His Kingdom have the ability to confidently say,

Remmie: “I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O

LORD, make me dwell in safety.” Psalm 4:8

Aubrey: The promise of safety does not end with a good night's sleep. We are hidden within the King's Keep. Not even death can touch us there.

Isaac: “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:55-57

Lylan: JESUS is this King of Glory.

***O Jesus, King of Glory - Congregation (TLH 130 st.1,3-6)***

**O Jesus, King of Glory, Both David's Lord and Son!**  
**Your realm endures forever, In heaven is fixed Your throne.**  
**Help that in earth's dominions, Throughout from pole to pole,**  
**Your reign may spread salvation To each benighted soul.**

**You are a mighty Monarch, As by Your Word is told,**  
**Yet You care not but little For earthly goods or gold;**  
**On no proud steed You ridest, You wear no jeweled crown**  
**Nor dwell in lordly castle, But you bear scoff and frown.**

**Yet You are dressed with beauty, With rays of glorious light;**  
**Your works proclaim Your goodness, And all Your ways are right.**  
**Vouchsafe to shield Your people With Your almighty arm**  
**That they may live in safety From those who mean them harm.**

**Please look on me with pity Though I am weak an poor;**  
**Admit me to Your Kingdom To dwell there, blessed and sure.**  
**I pray You, guide and keep me Safe from my bitter foes,**  
**From sin and death and Satan; Free me from all my woes.**

**And let Your Word within me Shine as the fairest star;**  
**Keep sin and all false doctrine Forever from me far.**

**Help me confess You truly And with Your Christendom  
Here own You King and Savior And in the world to come.**

## **Part Two: His Kingdom**

Narrator: In the hymn we just finished singing, we asked the Lord to “admit me to Your Kingdom.” How can this be accomplished? There is no map to show us the way. No castle door to knock on. There is not one thing that we as human beings can do to enter the Kingdom of our God. Besides, in order to enter Heaven, we need to be blameless. None of us can accomplish an hour, let alone a lifetime, without sin.

Dear fellow believers in Jesus as our Savior, we - along with all believers of the past, present, and future have already entered that Kingdom. Or, rather, IT has entered us. The King of Kings sent His only Son to pay the ultimate price to keep His children forever.

Jesus Himself said, “My Kingdom is not of this world. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” John 18:36-37.

So where is this great mysterious place? It is in my heart, and the heart of all those who are the children of God. Our Heavenly King graciously rules in our hearts to bless and keep us in the true faith.

### *God Loves Me Dearly – Choir (Reim)*

*God loves me dearly, grants me salvation,  
God loves me dearly, loves even me.  
Therefore I'll say again, God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, loves even me.*

*I was in bondage, sin, death and darkness,  
God's love was working to make me free.  
Therefore I'll say again, God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, loves even me.*

*He sent forth Jesus, my dear Redeemer,  
He sent forth Jesus, and set me free.  
Therefore I'll say again, God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, loves even me.  
Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;  
Jesus, my Savior, paid all I owed.  
Therefore I'll say again, God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, loves even me.*

Amy: God's Kingdom comes when the Holy Spirit works faith in the heart of those who hear the gospel. "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed the kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17:20-21  
Verrick: "For the kingdom of God is not food and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." Romans 14:17

### *The Lord's Prayer - Students (Bottens)*

*Our Father who art in Heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
Forever, and ever. Amen.*

Rachel: Thy kingdom come.

*What does this mean?*

God's kingdom certainly comes all by itself, even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it also come to us.

*How does the kingdom of God come?*

God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and live a godly life here in time and hereafter in eternity.

Aubrey: Our Triune God knew there would be sin in our lives. He knew we couldn't have eternal life unless He gave it to us. He also knew we would need help to understand this gift.

Trysten: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Ava: Our Heavenly Father sent His Son to redeem us, and the Holy Spirit to grow faith in our hearts.

Ella: "No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit." 1 Corinthians 12:3

Remmie: "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17

Isaac: "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." Ephesians 2:8-9

Rachel: This kingdom, which is more notable than any we could ever imagine, is not only for us, but also within us. Praise His holy name!!

*Lord, I Lift Your Name On High - Students (Founds)*

*Praise Him, praise Him, all you little children!*

*Lord, I lift Your name on high,  
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.  
I'm so glad You're in my life,  
I'm so glad You came to save us!*

*You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross our debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky,  
Lord, I lift Your name on high!*

***Glory Be to God the Father - Congregation (TLH 244)***

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!  
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!**

**Glory be to Him who loved us,  
Washed us from each spot and stain;  
Glory be to Him who bought us,  
Made us kings with Him to reign!  
Glory, glory, to the Lamb that once was slain!**

**Glory to the King of angels, Glory to the Church's King,  
Glory to the King of nations;  
Heaven and earth, your praises bring!  
Glory, glory, To the King of Glory sing!**

**Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;  
Honor, riches, power, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.  
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of Kings!**

**Part Three: Without End**

Narrator: “They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom and talk of your power, To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts and the glorious majesty of His kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.”

Psalm 145:11-13

At the beginning of our service we talked about some of the great kings and kingdoms the world has seen. They are no longer in existence. The kingdom of our God is. It is alive and prospering. The Psalmist said God's Kingdom is everlasting and enduring. It is true! That means it is alive and prospering within each believing heart. It doesn't matter what your age is. It doesn't matter what job you have or how much money you make. Your ability to play basketball or a

musical instrument, to build a computer or grow crops, how tall you are, or how many are in your family does not get factored in.

Through the grace of God faith is growing in your heart. The Lord knows the things that attack us – those things that can chip away at the fortress around the Kingdom in our hearts. The devil is greedy, hateful, and vengeful. He does all he can to break into the peace that we have through our Savior.

We see the things this world has dished out to us in the past and worry about what may come in the future. We hear and read about trouble in other countries and our own country. We feel the hurt of people, or even ourselves, that are struggling with medical issues, broken families, and despair. There are businesses, schools, and churches leading people away from the will of our God. When we focus on these things, fear creeps in.

Through all of the generations of the world Satan has worked long and hard to destroy the Word of God. But Jesus is stronger. His perfect life, death, and resurrection has conquered the devil and therefore every fear there could be. Even the heavens cannot hold His might or His love. Our God preserves His Word. He keeps His people. HIS Kingdom IS Without End.

*Before the Throne of God Above - Students (Bancroft/Cook)*

*Before the throne of God above,  
I have a strong and perfect plea;  
A great High Priest whose name is love,  
Whoever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on His hands,  
My name is written on His heart;  
I know that while in heaven He stands,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.*

*When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see Him there, Who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me.*

*Behold Him there, the risen Lamb!  
My perfect spotless Righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
the King of Glory and of Grace.  
One with Himself, I cannot die;  
My soul is purchased by His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
with Christ my Savior and my God.*

Amy: “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.” 1 John 2:15-17

Trysten: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.” Matthew 24:35

Verrick: “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.” John 10:27-28

Responsive Recitation by Rachel, Ava, Aubrey, Ella, Remmie, Lylyan  
– selected verses of Psalm 136:

Rachel: Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

Group: For His mercy endures forever.

Rachel: Oh, give thanks to the God of gods!

Group: For His mercy endures forever.

Rachel: Oh, give thanks to the Lord of Lords!

Group: For His mercy endures forever.

Rachel: Who remembered us in our lowly state,

Group: For His mercy endures forever.

Rachel: And rescued us from our enemies,

Group: For His mercy endures forever.

Rachel: Who gives food to all flesh,  
Group: For His mercy endures forever.  
Rachel: Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven!  
Group: For His mercy endures forever.

*Rejoice and Be Glad - Students (Hopson)*

*This is the day, the day the Lord made,  
Let us rejoice and let us be glad!  
This is the day, the day the Lord made,  
Let us rejoice and let us be glad!*

*For God is our King and God is our song  
And He has become our salvation.  
Hear the glad song, the victory song,  
For God has triumphed; He is exalted!*

Isaac: “Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, in whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.” Hebrews 13:20-21

**A Mighty Fortress is Our God - Congregation (TLH 262)**

**A mighty Fortress is our God, A trusty Shield and Weapon;  
He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil Foe Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.**

**With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is,  
Of Sabbaoth Lord, And there's none other God;  
He holds the field forever.**

**Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill, They shall not overpower us.**

**This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none, He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.**

**The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, ad wife,  
Let these all be gone, They yet have nothing won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.**

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*Thank you for joining us today! We pray that you have been  
strengthened by the words of our Heavenly Father.  
Please join us for the potluck meal following the service.*

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