When in Rome "My kingdom is not of this world."







"I cannot tell you what an earnest desire I feel to see your Highness, and how vexatious to me is this procrastination about your coming. Let [it] be hastened, [that] the love conceived between us and the wished-for joys may reap their proper fruit."

(Excerpt from Arthur Tudor's letter to Catherine of Aragon, October 1499)





"[She] could not have been received with greater joy if she had been the Saviour of the world."

(Excerpt from Alcaraz's letter to Queen Isabella, October 1501)







"For my part, I pardon you everything, and I wish to devoutly pray God that He will pardon you also....I make this vow, that mine eyes desire you above all things."

(Excerpt from Catherine of Aragon's letter to Henry VIII, January 7, 1536)





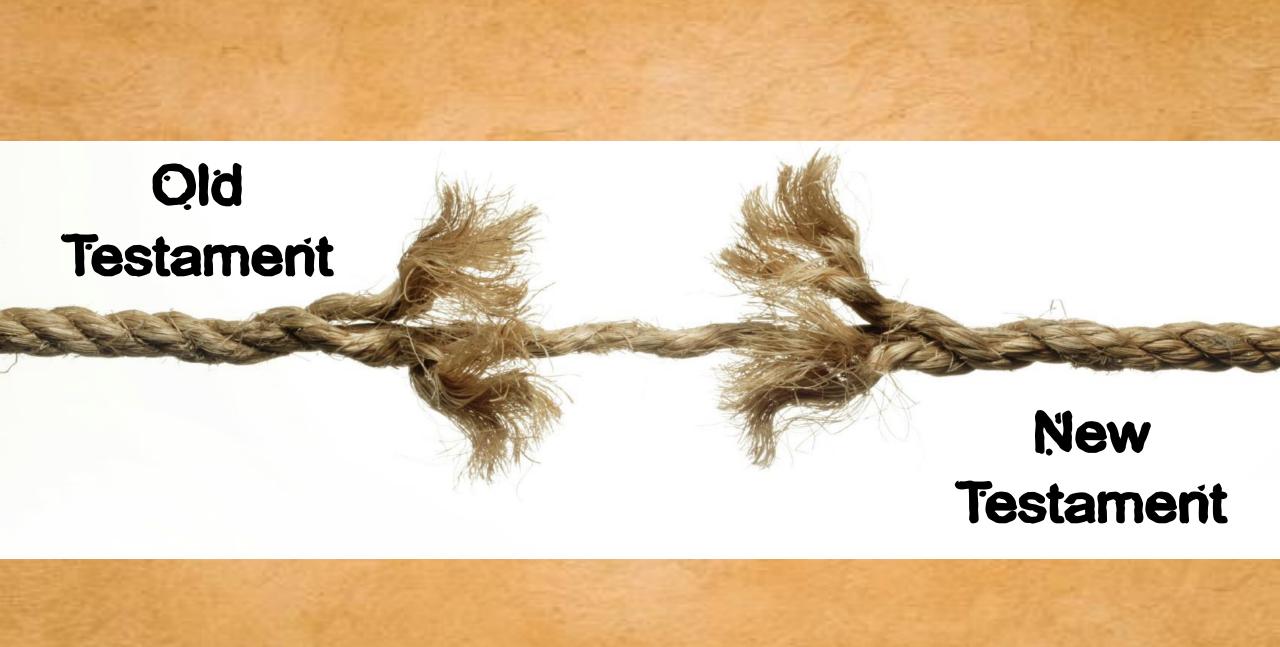


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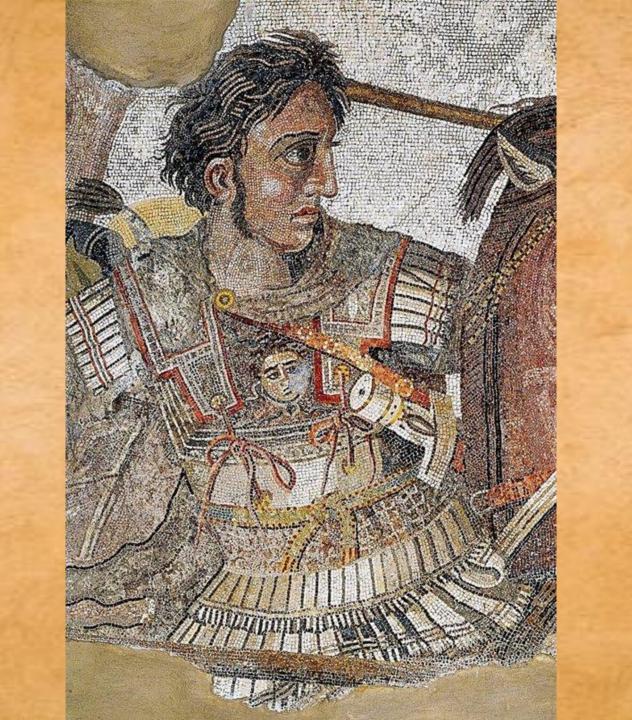
Mark 1:1-15 (ESV): "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, 3 the voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," 4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their

"...6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And he preached, saying, 'After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.' 9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove...."

"...11 And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.' 12 The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. 14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, 15 and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."













Luke 2:34 (ESV): "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel."



Matthew 3:7-9 (ESV): "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. 9 And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father," for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham."

John 1:28-34 (ESV): "These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing. 29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.'..."

"...32 And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." 34 And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."





Luke 1:52-53 (ESV): "He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty."

Luke 2:10 (ESV): "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

John 3:16-17 (ESV): "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."









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Main Point: WE DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR KINGDOM COME; KINGDOM CAME WITH JESUS.

Luke 16:16 (ESV): "The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and everyone forces his way into it."

Hebrews 11:15-16 (ESV): "If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one."

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Application:

IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW THE KINGDOM, THINK AGAIN.

Matthew 18:3 (ESV): "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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Mark 4:11 (ESV): "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables."

