

# The Upside Down Kingdom

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the upside down kingdom calls readers to imagine and embody the reign of god on earth as it is in heaven since its publication in 1978 the upside down kingdom won the national religious book award and has become the most trusted resource on radical christian discipleship in this completely updated anniversary edition author donald b kraybill asks what does it mean to follow the christ who traded victory and power for hanging out with the poor and forgiving his enemies how did a man in first century palestine threaten the established order and what does that mean for us today jesus turned expectations upside down the kingdom of god is still full of surprises are you ready free downloadable study guide available here

in this completely revised edition of his acclaimed book donald b kraybill says jesus calls us to foster an upside down kingdom favoring those suffering at society s margins the king is jesus who wins by serving and triumphs by losing

inspired by the words and ways of jesus people all around the world are seeking his kingdom every day but what does it look like to live in the world with a heart for god s kingdom come along on a journey to discover how the kingdom of heaven is all upside down with vivid pictures flowing rhyme and rich language this book celebrates the ways that following jesus puts you on a distinct journey marked by love joy freedom and allegiance to a king unlike any other for the young and young at heart open these pages to discover the gift of the kingdom the love of a savior and the best of his people as they follow jesus to build something eternal incredible and wildly upside down

translated into six languages and with over 100 000 copies sold the upside down kingdom continues to change people s lives in addition to a new cover this edition includes three essays by people whose lives have been inspired by the book donald b kraybill shows how the kingdom of god announced by jesus appeared upside down in first century palestine jesus wins by serving and triumphs by losing today god s way still looks upside down as it breaks into diverse cultures around the world according to kraybill worldly authorities seek power and prestige but jesus counter cultural message is a clear call to turn the social ladder upside down jesus demonstrates radical opposition to the dominant culture by making friends with social outcasts and rebelling against authorities this message calls christians from many cultures to actively participate in god s upside

down kingdom winner of the 1979 national religious book award

in the kingdom that turned the world upside down david bercot takes the reader back to jesus teachings of the kingdom teachings that have too often been forgotten bercot describes the radically new laws of the kingdom and its upside down values there s no room in christ s kingdom for superficial christianity for this is a kingdom that has historically turned the world upside down

jesus said my kingdom is not of this world john 18 36 from the publisher god calls believers to live faithfully in a way that flips the wisdom of our worldly kingdoms on its head the goal of this bible is to reflect the counter cultural or upside down nature of god s kingdom as opposed to earthly values we developed this bible to answer the questions we hear from bible readers especially younger readers in the millennial and gen z generations asking how to think biblically about the slew of issues they confront in their daily world what does the bible say about sanctity of life reproduction and abortion how does the bible help me think about god s creation and my role in caring for the world he created what am i supposed to think about the refugee in my land i hear political jargon about immigration but is that the same as loving my neighbor wherever they come from these questions and so many more are what led us to publish this topically focused specialty bible with contributions from 44 scholars and teachers who are respected as experts in their area of contribution this unique bible provides commentary throughout scripture to address the subject matter prevalent in culture today but using the bible as the foundation for providing the framework and foundation for how to live out god s word in a culture that has become exponentially polarized it can be difficult to think biblically while loving well the niv upside down kingdom bible provides readers with scripture based notes from a set of forty four trusted christian voices and explores difficult issues facing christians today with notes and articles that are honest nuanced and filled with grace the niv upside down kingdom bible provides hundreds of side column notes full page articles essays and book introductions that skillfully and thoughtfully address the prevalent topics at the forefront of living in our current context features complete text of the accurate readable and clear new international version niv project leadership by general editor dr preston sprinkle along with contributions from forty three other experts scholars and teachers widely considered trusted voices in their field of study book introductions full page articles throughout hundreds of side column notes two color page design single column bible format for an easier reading experience satin ribbon marker durable hardcover that lies flat when open exclusive zondervan niv comfort print typeface print size 8 5 full list of topics sanctity of life what does the bible say about abortion and reproduction art and worship baptism creation care death and afterlife divorce family and kinship festivals food and drink grace holiness lament and grief leadership and power mental health migration politics race and ethnicity sabbath satan demons angels and giants science sexuality and gender singleness and friendship slavery social justice technology and media trauma and resilience violence and warfare wealth and poverty witchcraft and magic women in the bible

an examination of the beatitudes and jesus s counterintuitive promises in our sinful world we often struggle with anxiety loneliness and heartache everywhere we look we see broken families and divided communities how can we truly cultivate god s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven in such a broken place in the beatitudes matthew 5 2 12 jesus urges us to set ourselves apart from the world living in a counterculture with a new identity rooted in him the upside down kingdom examines this counterintuitive wisdom and explores its relevance for today drawing on insights from the biblical story of redemption church fathers reformation scholars throughout history and contemporary life this book equips and encourages readers to get their spiritual bearings in an upside down world author chris castaldo ultimately points readers to the kingdom of christ not as a set of rules but as a means of bringing peace and blessing here and now written for laypersons and teachers of the word perfect for those interested in issues confronting the church thorough study of the beatitudes each chapter explores a core teaching in christ s sermon on the mount appeals to pastors and disciple makers a historically informed biblically rich and countercultural vision of christian life download study guide

thy kingdom come thy will be done such an easy line to say and yet profoundly difficult to pray often our definition of success and failure worthy pursuits vs vain glory get muddled as we live this christian life in a dark world the sermon on the mount contrasts the kingdom that jesus established

and the kingdoms of this world with their selfish narrow minded pursuits in this 9 week study you ll have the opportunity to dig in and study some of the hard sayings of jesus and consider whose kingdom you re living for group discussion questions available upon request women thecitygateschurch org

the bible studies in the faith upside down series uniquely designed to help you see your life from a heavenly perspective will change the perception you have of your standing in christ forever the bible declares in ephesians 2 6 and god raised us up with christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in christ jesus as followers of jesus we transferred into his kingdom and through this bible study you are about to learn how to operate from there from the upside down learning to pray upside down is a 3 part bible study series each study guide contains 5 lessons and is perfect for a small group or sunday school setting the learning to pray upside down study series contains the following titles 1 conflict begins 2 kingdom life 3 suiting up we begin our journey together in the first study guide in this series conflict begins by going all the way back to the beginning the book of genesis rediscovering how it all began we will examine the devil and some of the reasons he fell from his powerful position in heaven gaining new insight into his motivation to deceive adam and eve we will study his character his scope of influence along with his strategy and tactics in this study we discover the awe inspiring power and character of our god along with his strategy and we learn that our position in god s family is secure we are seated with christ in the heavenly realms in the second study guide kingdom life we head deeper into the heavenly realm we will become aware of this astonishing truth we are expressing god s manifold wisdom to the powers and principalities in the heavenly realms we begin to realize that our journey with jesus is so much more than the salvation of our souls but it is a participation in his glorious work advancing his kingdom here on earth we take a fresh look at the importance of prayer and learn that the lord s prayer is a model for us to follow not simply a prayer to recite using scripture we will thoroughly examine our hearts preparing for a baptism of the holy spirit we will learn how to operate with the power of the holy spirit in our lives in the final study guide suit up we examine the full armor of god we learn what this armor is how to wear it effectively making sure we have a good fit after we put on the whole armor of god we examine the keys to the kingdom and learn what they unlock finally we will rediscover our mission the very reason that god called us into his kingdom and has equipped us so completely

christians are called to model a way of life that challenges the status quo and infuses the world with hope and possibility we are to be people who see possibility where others see failure beauty where others see ugliness and freedom where others see chains this is the upside down kingdom where the forgotten are noticed the silenced are given back their voice and love is stronger than hate by exploring the teaching of jesus as recorded in the gospel of matthew malcolm duncan in flipped traces the key components of this new community this life giving way of living he explores the five key discourses in matthew and invites us to a radical new way of living and being centred around the reign and the rule of king jesus the message of flipped the upside down kingdom is one that our churches need to hear that god s kingdom is unshakeable local churches are its vanguard and christians are its citizens flipped paints a vision of what is possible when ordinary people catch a glimpse of god s radical call to follow the lord jesus

what if the path to a life of abundance and blessing isn t what we expected what if the way forward begins with going backward in our constant search for a life filled with blessing and abundance we often follow our human instinct and then wonder why we come up short but it doesn t have to be that way join pastor and author alex seeley as she teaches us that god always has a better idea we just have to move in a new direction in the opposite life seeley explains that the secret to living a powerful and abundant life lies in the upside down kingdom of god each chapter of the opposite life explores the opposite life principles that can start to shift our mindset for the better diving deeper into the natural contradictions between death and life fear and faith hate and love worry and worship impossible and possible along the way she offers encouraging and simple challenges to help us align our lives with god s subversive plan as we learn to exchange our default instincts for the surprising teachings of jesus our pioneer of the unlikely we discover a life of transformational power abundance and more blessing than we ever thought possible praise for the opposite life our broken earth longs for just this type of unveiling it is time for us to remember who we are and respond as sons and daughters of the most high god there is a desperate longing for his goodness in the face of

overwhelming anger pain and confusion the opposite life is a drink of living water in a dry and arid land lisa bevere new york times bestselling author of without rival and girls with swords

in his most famous sermon jesus announces a kingdom so counterintuitive that it appears upside down in contrast to conventional wisdom by prescribing both a revolutionary personal piety and a radical social possibility he teaches us how to become better people who in turn make the world better his vision for a countercultural kingdom challenges our engagement with contemporary culture morally socially and even politically the impact of this kingdom on the earth as it is in heaven with a view to partnering with jesus in his venture to nudge the world toward its intended design is the focus of this compelling treatment of the sermon by a lifestyle of holy nonconformity shaped by the blessed attitudes beatitudes jesus commissions his prophetic community to embody a social alternative that the world cannot imagine on its own and to foment a humble and loving cultural shift where the privileged and powerless flourish together in peace and justice as previews of the coming attractions when christ will return and reign as king over a new heaven and earth kingdom citizens work toward initiating such a world on earth as it is in heaven today

despite a wealth of literature on the missional church and missional living few resources help christians and churches think through what it means to be disciples of jesus christ and what specific practices help cultivate lives of discipleship written from with and for the church pilgrim practices discipleship for a missional church introduces christian practices from the letter of james to help guide christians and churches in their journey of discipleship this book frames discipleship in a way that has been largely abandoned in modern congregational literature as fundamentally an issue of identity an identity that is necessarily formed and practiced in and with the church community it is a lifestyle that cannot be lived on one's own discipleship ultimately means engaging with others on a journey of faith sustained and cultivated through certain practices pilgrim practices the practices examined in this book develop and direct the risky pilgrim journey of christians transforming pilgrims into disciples as the body of christ who participate with god in god's mission in the world in this time of transient identities individualist impulses and fleeting commitments this book offers specific practices to help christians form their identity as disciples and to help christian communities live their calling as the pilgrim body of christ in the world

from lo debar to the king's table is a truly inspiring and uplifting account of daniel's life and journey from having an orphan heart to sonship the book takes you through daniel's heart wrenching childhood experiences of feeling unloved abandoned lonely alienated and isolated however his resilience and determination to overcome the obstacles that life has dealt him show his unwavering faith and trust in god daniel's story teaches us that even in the face of adversity we can find strength and hope through our faith in father god and ultimately that our true identity is only found in him do you know who you are where does your identity lie this book will show you how to find your identity in christ by seeking his face ending up in his embrace as you become an eternal son or daughter of king jesus lisa clayton founder of get them to jesus ministries and author of a map from the womb to eternity do you know who you are where does your identity lie this book will show you how to find your identity in christ by seeking his face ending up in his embrace as you become an eternal son or daughter of king jesus lisa clayton founder of get them to jesus ministries and author of a map from the womb to eternity

it was said of this land that the very air had the power to change hearts and that the silver streams could wash a man's poverty into the great sea throughout the ages singers had sung songs thinkers had thought thoughts and philosophers had pondered astrologers and magicians had gazed into the answerless stars but the secret of this kingdom was not revealed to the wise only children really understood the secret and if they told you you might not believe them in the upside down kingdom stephanie quinn jones allegorizes god's kingdom for children and adults alike revealing god as a loving fatherly king and god's kingdom as an enthralling magical and adventurous realm to live in jones weaves a tale of escapade and intrigue sure to capture the interest of any young reader susianna and ulysses live a life full of discoveries and adventures in the upside down kingdom when susianna's grumpy cousin clarabelle is tricked by a deceptive troll a journey is set in motion unable to rescue their companion they seek counsel from the great king by whom they are given a mysterious mandate and a wonderful promise join susianna and ulysses as they embark upon a twisting and

turning excursion which will turn your world upside down

based on a thorough exploration of scripture and decades of real world experience robert linthicum s model of relational power provides sound practical strategies for changing individuals communities structures and systems

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