

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

What a Strange and Wonderful Kingdom!

Matthew 5:3-12; 18:1-4; 22:2

Folk-like, lilting ♩ = 68

G C C^{sus}/_D C_E CM⁷/_E G_F F C C_E

1. What a strange and won-der - ful king - dom, The King - dom of
2. What a strange and won-der - ful king - dom, The King - dom of
3. What a strange and won-der - ful king - dom, The King - dom of

G^{sus} G G⁷ C C^{sus}/_D C_E F

God! The poor are rich, The rich are poor, And
God! All those who mourn Will sing and laugh. The
God! His King - dom comes- I don't know when, But

C C_E CM⁷/_E G_F F E_E D_m⁷

those who give all have plen - ty more In the
suf - fring are filled with hap - pi - ness In the
day af - ter day I walk with Him In the

C_E G_F F C_G G⁷_{sus} G⁷

strange and won-der - ful King - dom, The King - dom of
strange and won-der - ful King - dom, The King - dom of
strange and won-der - ful King - dom, The King - dom of

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

DENNIS ALLEN
Irregular

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LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Children of the King

Jesus said that when we believe in Him, we become citizens of the Kingdom of God. He taught us about living in that Kingdom, and many of His teachings seem strange, difficult, or even backward to us: “Do not worry about your life...” (Matthew 6:25); “Love your enemies...” (Matthew 5:44); “If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also” (Matthew 5:39). According to the Beatitudes, those who are blessed in God’s Kingdom are not the rich, powerful, and popular, but the poor, meek, and persecuted (Matthew 5:3-12).

As citizens of God’s Kingdom who live in this world as well, we feel that tension. We’re called to simply trust God when fear and worry feel more natural. We’re commanded to love some very unlovely and unkind people. We’re told to be lowly servants when our ego craves gold and glory.

But here’s the key. As citizens of God’s Kingdom, we live in the court of the King. This King is our Father, and we are His royal children. He is loving. He is wise. He is infinitely powerful. And this King is always, always, always with us, constantly looking out for our good, eager to provide for our every need.

Jesus teaches us that we should think and live as such royal children, in the immediate presence of our Father. When we do, everything changes! God is love, so we want to love everyone He loves. His resources are unlimited, so generosity is natural and affordable. Jesus’ upside-down teachings suddenly start to make perfect sense! When we trust ourselves to our Father’s care, we are free to live and love and give as Christ taught.

Remember: you are living in the presence of the King!

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