

# Your Kingdom Come #1

*May Your kingdom come in my life today, through all I do.  
May Your kingdom come in that meeting today . . .in my family . . .  
in our city . . .in our world.*

A kingdom is a territory or a people ruled by a king. It is the domain of a king. A kingdom also includes all that the king brings to his people: his presence, his authority, his protection, his shaping of their lives.

Jesus came proclaiming, "The Kingdom of God is at hand!" The presence and rulership of the King had come in Jesus Himself. He began establishing God's control over sin and all its effects in our lives. He forgave our wrongs. He cast out evil spirits. He healed our diseases. He taught us the right way to live.

But God's kingdom won't be fully established until God asserts His complete control in our world. Then there will be no more hunger or thirst. No more sin. No more tears. No more death. And we will hear the words: *The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.* (Revelation 11:15, NIV)

But you might wonder: Why does an all-powerful God take so long to establish His complete control over what He Himself created? Did He lose control somehow? Hasn't He always been in control?

We can't pretend to understand all the ways of God. But as we read Scripture, we see that God has chosen to let His creatures exercise their free will – within His limits, to an extent and for a time. He allows us to make decisions. He allows us to choose, for He wants us to freely choose Him. Eventually those who separate themselves from God will die, for they have cut themselves off from the only source of life. Those who join themselves to God by simply trusting Him will be joined to Him fully and forever. God's kingdom will then be established in its fullness.

O Father, Your kingdom come!