

THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM SERIES



Kingdom Secret

- The Secret
 - The Values
 - The Highlights
 - The King
- of the
Kingdom of God

John Hatton

What's it all about?

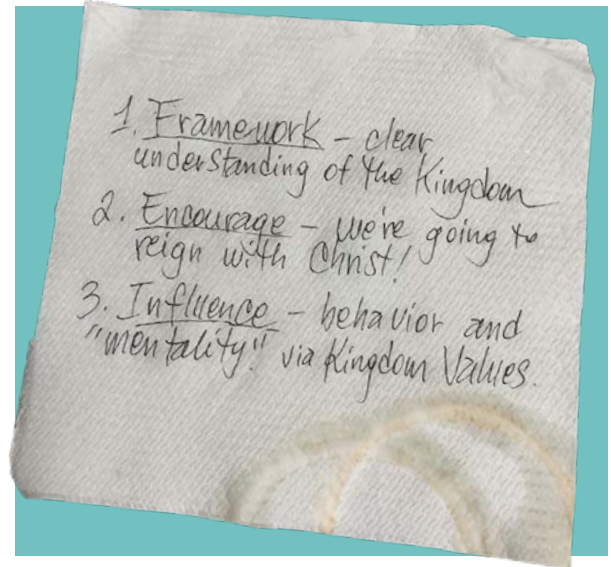
THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM SERIES

WHY?

The reason I wrote about the Kingdom of God.

"If I were to ask you what are the three main things you wish to accomplish with this series, what would they be?" My educator friend wanted to know why I had written so much for so long, and what I hoped to achieve as a result.

We were at a restaurant, so I started writing my thoughts on a napkin (I've always wanted to do that). You would think the answers would come easily, automatically. But I had to think hard to put into words what was, to some extent, hidden deep inside. Below is what I wrote and went on to explain to my friend.



1. TO PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK

Christians need a clear understanding of the Kingdom of God. They need to see how the parts come together to form a whole. Most books zero in on a specific portion of the Kingdom but don't explain how that portion fits into the big picture. We need a reference, a system, a framework to better process what the Kingdom is all about.

My desire is to pass along what I have learned from studying the Kingdom for over 20 years and what the Lord has shown me in His Word. The framework is made up of the four Biblical aspects of the Kingdom. Understanding this "secret" will bring tremendous clarity and understanding to the Biblical message.

2. TO ENCOURAGE

We live in a fallen and broken world. Life is tough. Suffering and pain are our constant companions. We need to be reminded that: a) Life does make sense because God has a purpose—for our lives and for our suffering—and this is better understood in the context of the Kingdom of God. And, b) This life is temporary and what comes next is beyond our

wildest imagination. Just think of it: the Bible promises we will reign with Christ throughout eternity! That puts our present experience in perspective and gives us solid hope. Understanding the Kingdom brings much needed encouragement.

3. TO INFLUENCE

You may have heard the old expression: "They are so heavenly-minded they are no earthly good." Well, that is rare indeed nowadays. We need more heavenly-minded people—Christians with a Kingdom mentality whose behavior is guided by Kingdom Values.

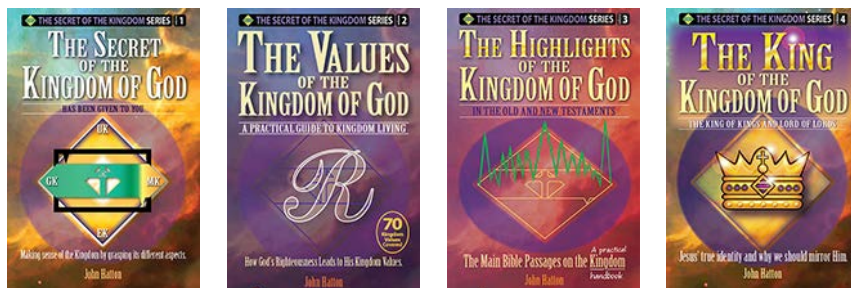
We need to rediscover the importance of righteousness and incorporate the godliness, justice, and values that it produces.

I hope this series will be a positive influence in your life, motivating you to live out those values that are important to our Lord and King. And that you will encourage others to do the same. After all, the Bible instructs us: "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24 - NLT).

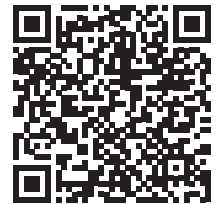
THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM SERIES

What's the Kingdom all about? How do you take it all in? One page... one chapter... one book... at a time.

In this series you will learn that the Bible speaks of four major aspects of the Kingdom, emphasizes the fundamental role of righteousness, and prescribes unchangeable values. You will discover where the main Kingdom passages appear in the Bible and rediscover Jesus from a Kingdom perspective.



Order the series now and begin your Kingdom journey—on your own or with a group of friends!



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You will find a description of each volume in the next pages, including excerpts, charts, and the definition of the Kingdom of God on which the whole series is based.

Volume 1

The Secret of the Kingdom of God

How do I unravel its mystery?

Volume 2

The Values of the Kingdom of God

What is required of me?

Volume 3

The Highlights of the Kingdom of God

What all does the Bible say?

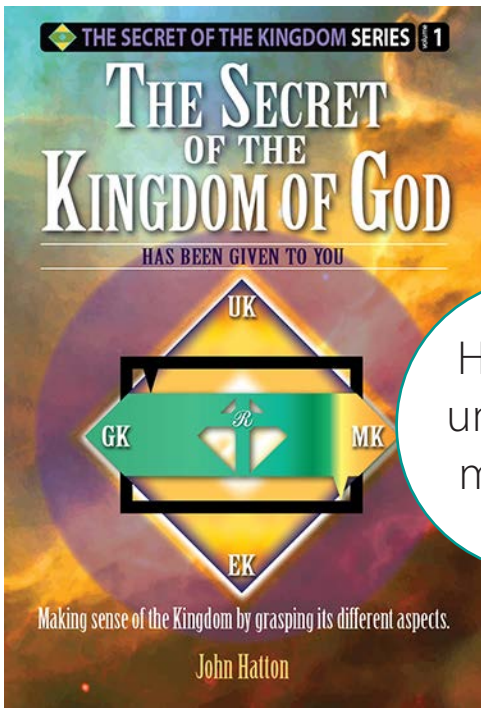
Volume 4

The King of the Kingdom of God

What's so special about Jesus?

The Series as a unit.

Reigning with Christ. That was to be the title for what was initially planned as a single-volume book. But the book had grown to some 800 pages, making it necessary to break its content into smaller pieces—emerging as the four volumes seen today. Together, they form a complete unit that lays the foundation, applies the values to everyday life, helps the Bible student find and better understand the references to the Kingdom in the whole Bible, and magnifies the King of the Kingdom by describing His identity and ministry.



THE SECRET of the Kingdom of God

How do I
unravel its
mystery?

Un•rav•el • verb

• investigate and solve or explain (something complicated or puzzling).

Is the Kingdom of God puzzling to you? You may have some scattered pieces of the puzzle but may not know how they fit together to create the big picture.



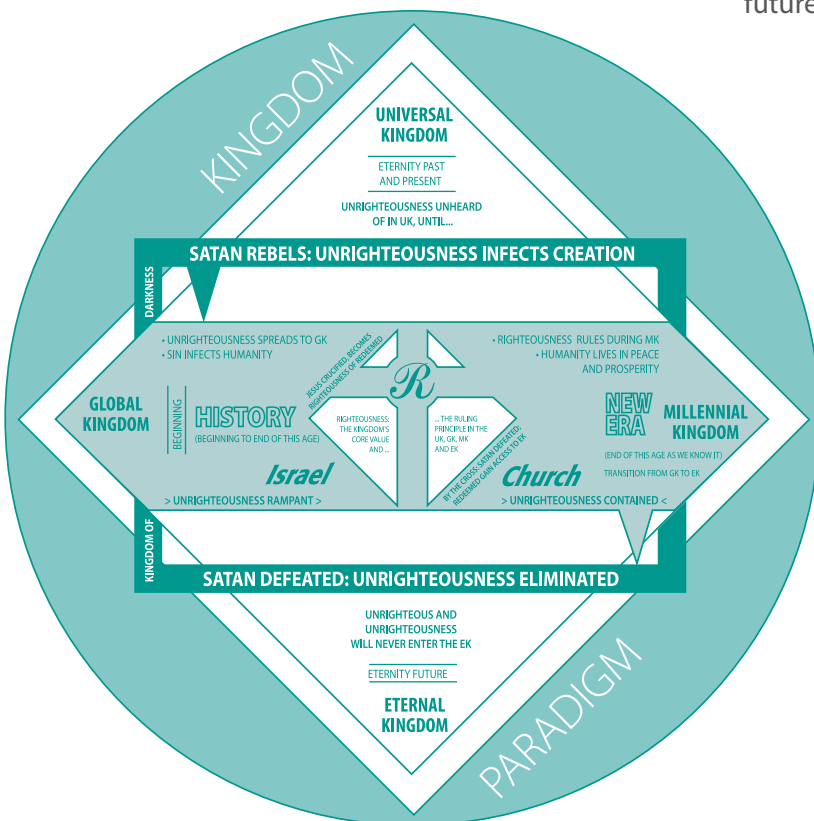
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Understanding the Kingdom is essential to comprehending the message of the Old and New Testaments—especially the teachings of Jesus—because the Kingdom is the central theme of the Bible.

The aspects of the Kingdom presented in this book are not something grabbed out of thin air. Rather, they are Biblical and consistent with what highly regarded Christian authors present in their writings. However, this book is unique in that it shows there are four distinct Biblical

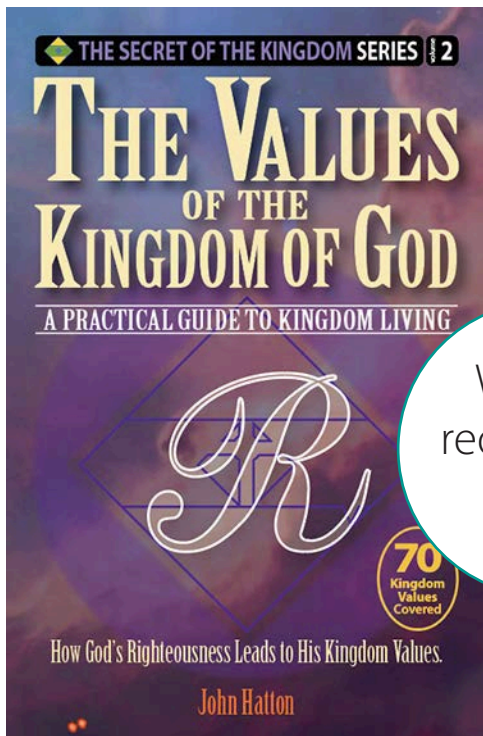
aspects, explains them, and integrates them into a systematic approach to the Kingdom.

The **Eternal Kingdom** is God's reign over all—everything and everyone, everywhere, for all time and eternity. The **Global Kingdom** is God's reign over planet Earth and includes the creation of the world, the fall, and all of human history. The **Millennial Kingdom** is Christ's reign over the Earth after His Second Coming and transitions to the **Eternal Kingdom**, which is the eternal state or "eternity future."



A working definition

The Kingdom of God is God's rule over all creation through its universal, global, millennial and eternal aspects. Founded on righteousness and built on unchangeable values and principles, it has the purpose of glorifying God, conquering evil, redeeming sinners, testing faithfulness, and rewarding overcomers who will serve and worship Christ, while reigning with Him forever. Only through Jesus does one inherit the Kingdom.



THE VALUES of the Kingdom of God

What is required of me?

In one word, Righteousness.

Righteousness is doing the right thing in the right way. It's doing God's will, God's way.



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The Kingdom's Standard

A standard is a required level of quality; something used as a measure, norm, or model in comparative evaluations, having to do with principles of conduct.

The standard of the Kingdom, which sums up all that God requires (Matthew 3:15) and all that God desires (Psalm 33:5), and against which everything is measured, is righteousness. In a sense, righteousness is God's code of conduct.

Righteous conduct flows out of a holy character. Godliness is the personal – and justice the social – face of righteousness.

The Kingdom's Values

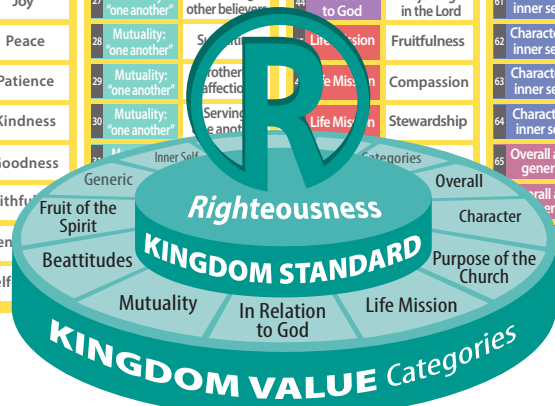
Value has to do with worth and one's judgment of what is important in life. This leads us to ask: what is of value and precious to our King? How does our King want us to conduct our lives? What specific areas are mentioned and examples are given in His Word?

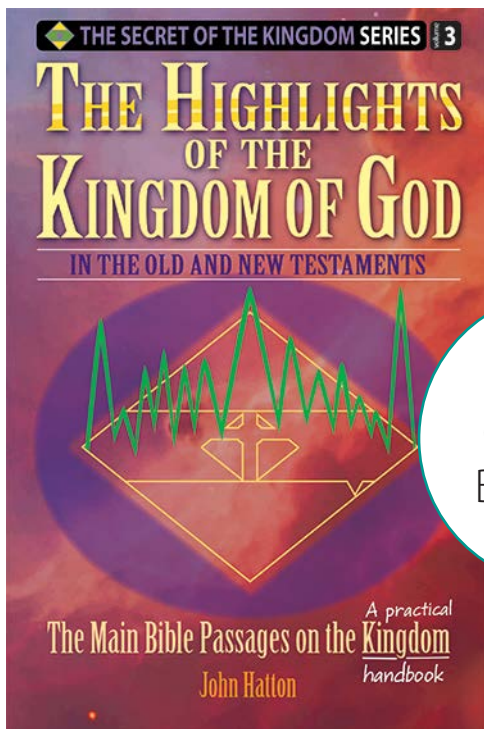
There are so many! The Values of the Kingdom of God covers 70 of the more obvious and common ones. We can divide Kingdom Values into personal (character and behavior), relational ("one another" commands), social (life mission and how we conduct our work, service and ministry in the world), and spiritual values (in relation to God).

The word "righteousness" comes from two words in Hebrew and two words in Greek. The Hebrew words mean "accurate, fairly, just, justice, and what is right" and includes notions of honesty, merits, and righteous acts.

God's standards are right, fair, just and honest. There **is** a right way to live. There **is** a correct way to relate to others. There **is** a proper way to relate to God.

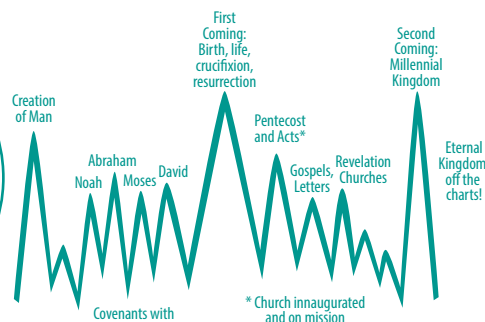
KINGDOM	VALUE:	KINGDOM	VALUE:	KINGDOM	VALUE:	KINGDOM	VALUE:	
1	Beatitude	Humility	18	Purpose of the Church	Worship	35	In Relation to God	Glorifying God
2	Beatitude	Repentance	19	Purpose of the Church	Fellowship	36	In Relation to God	Honoring God's Name
3	Beatitude	Meekness	20	Purpose of the Church	Discipleship	37	In Relation to God	Obedience
4	Beatitude	Burning desire for Righteousness	21	Purpose of the Church	Proclamation	38	In Relation to God	Rest
5	Beatitude	Mercy	22	Purpose of the Church	Service	39	In Relation to God	Faith
6	Beatitude	Purity	23	Mutuality: "one another"	Forgiving	40	In Relation to God	Hope
7	Beatitude	Reconciliation	24	Mutuality: "one another"	Honoring	41	In Relation to God	Grace
8	Beatitude	Being Persecuted	25	Mutuality: "one another"	Harmony	42	In Relation to God	Thanksgiving
9	Fruit of the Spirit	Love	26	Mutuality: "one another"	Hospitality	43	In Relation to God	Prayer
10	Fruit of the Spirit	Joy	27	Mutuality: "one another"	Preferring other believers	44	In Relation to God	Rejoicing in the Lord
11	Fruit of the Spirit	Peace	28	Mutuality: "one another"	Serving one another	45	In Relation to God	Fruitfulness
12	Fruit of the Spirit	Patience	29	Mutuality: "one another"	Other affection	46	In Relation to God	Compassion
13	Fruit of the Spirit	Kindness	30	Mutuality: "one another"	Serving one another	47	In Relation to God	Stewardship
14	Fruit of the Spirit	Goodness	31	Inner Self	Inner Self	48	Overall and generic	Justice
15	Fruit of the Spirit	Faithfulness	32	Generic	Generic	49	Overall and generic	Authority and Power
16	Fruit of the Spirit	Generosity	33	Fruit of the Spirit	Beattitudes	50	Overall and generic	Life
17	Fruit of the Spirit	Self-control	34	Mutuality	In Relation to God	51	Overall and generic	Family structure
						52	Character: inner self	Spirit Controlled
						53	Character: inner self	Holiness
						54	Character: inner self	Self-denial
						55	Character: inner self	Integrity
						56	Character: inner self	Contentment
						57	Character: inner self	Enduring Suffering
						58	Character: inner self	Perseverance
						59	Character: inner self	Honesty
						60	Character: inner self	Truth
						61	Character: inner self	Wisdom
						62	Character: inner self	Overcoming
						63	Character: inner self	Freedom
						64	Character: inner self	Courage
						65	Overall and generic	Justice





THE HIGHLIGHTS of the Kingdom of God

What all does the Bible say?



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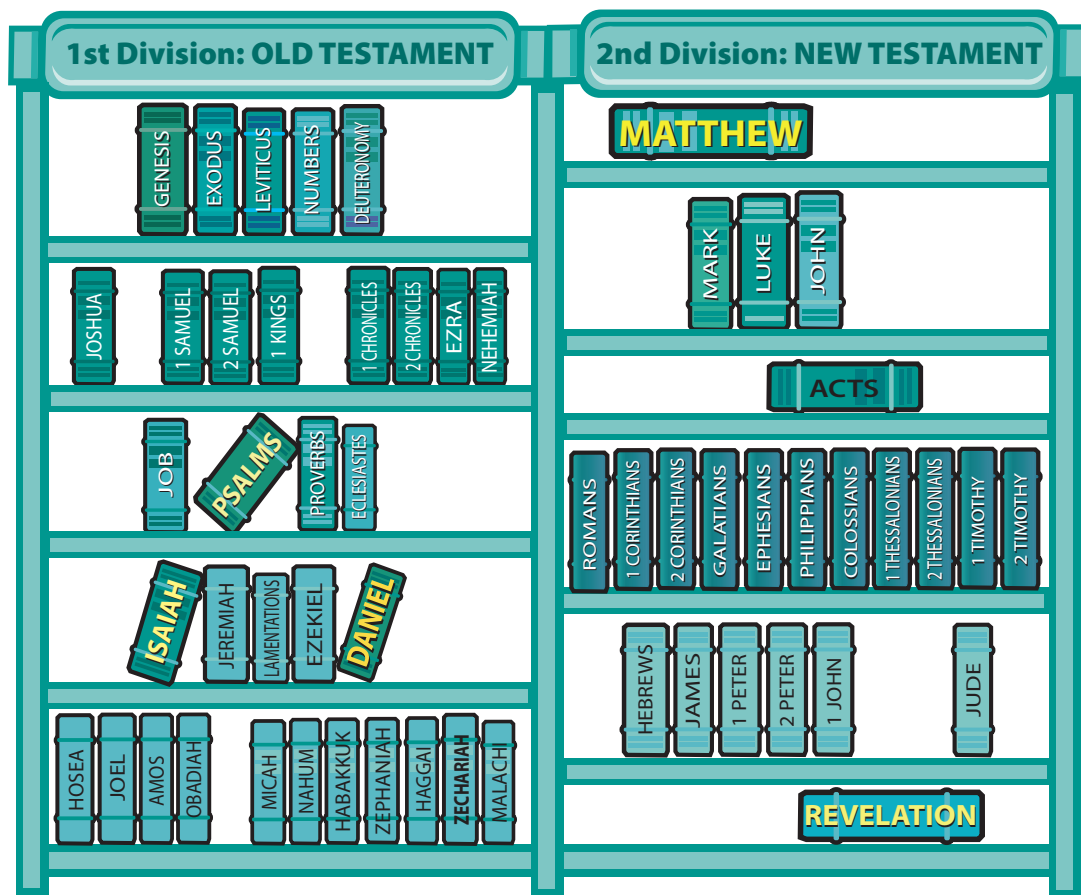
A Kingdom Handbook

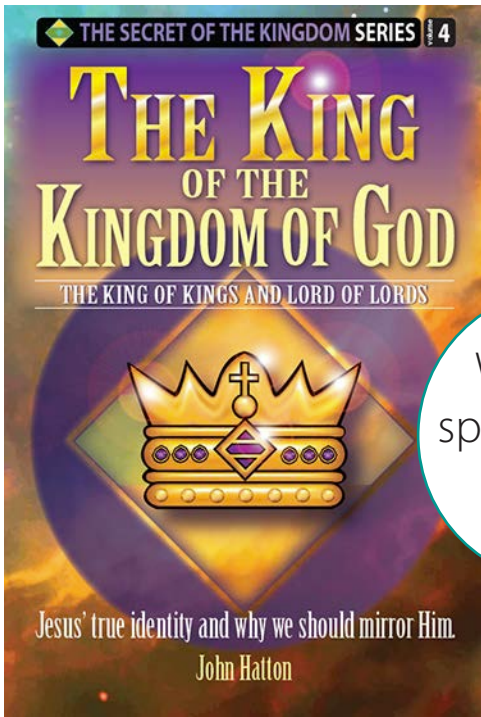
This book is a reference guide, a handbook where you can quickly find the main Kingdom passages wherever they are found in the Bible. Each passage receives a quick commentary where its importance and meaning are pointed out. The more we examine what different passages of Scripture have to say, the better we will grasp the concepts, aspects, principles, values and truths concerning God's rule through His Kingdom. That is the purpose of this book.

They say the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible. So, the more passages we can examine on a particular subject, the better. We check, cross-reference, compare and contrast. The same holds true for the study on the Kingdom of God. You will find the Bible to be extremely consistent, even though it was written by close to 40 authors during a time span of some 1,600 years.

While Daniel is proportionally the most Kingdom-focused book in the Old Testament, Matthew is known as "the Gospel of the Kingdom." Other books—like the Psalms, Zechariah, and Revelation—also contain large portions dedicated to God's sovereign rule over all creation.

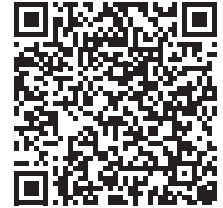
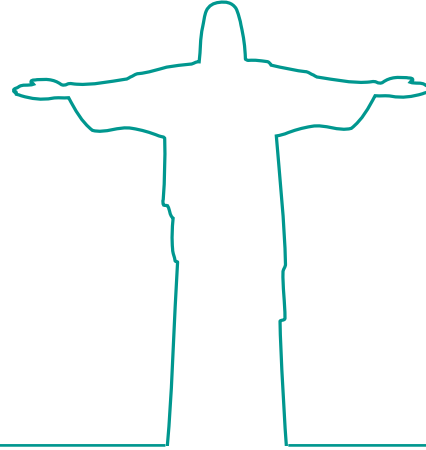
The Highlights of the Kingdom of God references passages in 33 Old Testament books and 23 New Testament books.





THE KING of the Kingdom of God

What's so special about Jesus?



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What this book is about

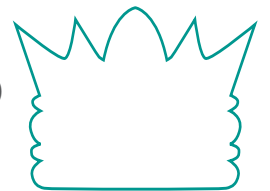
The purpose of this book, in a nutshell, is: “Keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before Him endured a cross and despised the shame and has sat down at the right hand of God’s throne” (Hebrews 12:2 - HCSB). This is God the Son, reigning side-by-side with God the Father, after coming to Earth and becoming our Savior. He did this so that we might reign with Him throughout eternity. Even now, “We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken”— that is, a kingship, sovereignty, and authority to rule.

There is indeed a vast amount of books about Jesus. But the primary reason for writing *this* book is to celebrate Jesus as the King of the Kingdom of God. He is—and always has been—God’s Son and part of the Holy Trinity. Easy to state, difficult to explain, and impossible to fully grasp, this study will try to shed some light on the topic.

The Contents

The King of the Kingdom discusses the following:

- Christology—studying the Person of Christ
- Jesus as *Prototokos*: The First Begotten or Firstborn
- The *hypostatic* union: Jesus as fully God and fully Man
- The *kenosis* or self-emptying of Christ
- The only begotten Son of God
- *Homoousios* or, “of the same substance” as the Father
- The dual nature of Jesus the Christ
- The Deity of Jesus: Christ as God
- The incarnation: Jesus as Man
- The God-Man or *Theanthropos*
- The Eternal Functional Subordination of the Son
- What does “the God of our Lord Jesus” mean?
- The Son of David
- The Trinity and the role of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of Jesus
- Jesus as Messiah: Priest, Prophet, and King
- Jesus as the Son of Man (Daniel 7)
- Jesus in the Old Testament
- Melchizedek
- The Royal Son in Psalm 2
- The Root, Shoot and Branch in Isaiah
- The Righteous Branch in Jeremiah
- Jesus the Savior and Sacrificial Lamb
- Types of Old Testament Sacrifices (Offerings)
- How Jesus fulfilled the Sacrifices with His own
- The Feasts of the Lord as a Prophetic Calendar for the future coming Messiah (the first and the second coming)
- The Rapture of the Church
- The Second coming of Jesus
- The Son of God and the **Mirroring Principle** (mirroring the Son as the Son mirrors the Father)
- Mirroring Jesus to others (treating others as Jesus did)



WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

About *The Secret of the Kingdom Series*



[The Kingdom Secret website](http://www.thekingdomsecret.com)

John Hatton's book, "The Values of the Kingdom of God" is a masterpiece! It is not only a "practical guide to kingdom living," but it is the most comprehensive treatment of the values of the kingdom that I have ever seen. Each one is clearly defined and described, with an assessment at the end of each section. But the most valuable insights I took away from John's book were about "Righteousness."

John's writing is very clear, concise, understandable, and non-academic. John does an excellent job of supporting all his points with Scripture and citing major authorities on the various topics he covers in his book. John also includes diagrams and charts that help to summarize and visualize his powerful content.

— **Dr. Dean R. Spitzer**

Award-winning author, management consultant, and Bible teacher

John provides a systematic and comprehensive view of the Kingdom by introducing a coherent and unifying model organized around four aspects of the Kingdom found in Scripture: The Universal Kingdom, the Global Kingdom (God's reign on earth), the Millennial Kingdom, and the Eternal Kingdom. He sticks to the biblical witness and avoids speculation. The reader who perseveres will gain understanding and find many questions answered.

— **Mark Kelly**, author of *Journey into Justice*, podcast host at godsrevolution.net.

Some books are a quick scan, but you'll want to consider this a study course that is highly memorable. I personally have appreciated the definitions, organizational approach (with awesome graphic depiction), analogies using Scripture, and personal touches throughout.

— **Mark Snowden**, Director of Missional Leadership (DOM), Cincinnati Area Baptist Association, Cincinnati, Ohio. Owner of Snowden Ministries International, <http://truthsticks.us>.

I think this book will have a tremendous impact on all who embrace it and invest themselves in exploring the depth and breadth of its content. My hat is off to you, my friend. Thank you for sharing this with me.

— **Dr. David Garrison**, Executive Director of the Global Gates mission agency.

John's book takes us on a whirlwind tour of both Old and New Testaments to give us a multidimensional portrait of King Jesus. I highly recommend the reading and studying of this book to all students of the Bible.

— **Pr. Mark Conway**

Assoc. Pastor at First Baptist Hispanic Church of Orlando
Software Engineer at a large company

This is a book which every pastor can grow from, full of wealth for the servant of God. You will be encouraged, convicted, and enlightened through the pages of this work. It is a practical and readable book full of insight. Buy this book for your library. You will be glad you did.

— **Dr. Tom Cheyney**

Founder & Directional Leader,
Renovate National Church Revitalization Conferences

About the Author

John Hatton, the author of this series, was the editor of the World Vision Brazil Newsletter; wrote and illustrated over 10 Gospel tracts; served for 23 years as an International Mission Board missionary; has taught the Bible in the US, Chile, and Brazil; served as Director and teacher at a Bible Institute in Orlando, Florida, and Associate Pastor at the First Hispanic Baptist Church in Orlando. John researched and wrote *The Secret of the Kingdom Series* over a period of 20 plus years.

