

## The Kingdom and the Church

- The kingdom and the church
- Israel and the church

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## Kingdom and the Church

- How does the church relate to the kingdom?

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## Kingdom and the Church

- The kingdom proclamation calls the church into existence.
- The church preaches the kingdom.
  - First to Israel, then to the nations.
  - The authority of the keys.
- The church demonstrates kingdom life.
- What difference does it make if the kingdom is equated with the church?

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## Israel and the Church

- Did Jesus intend to found a church?
  - Alfred Loisy: “Jesus foretold the kingdom of God, but it was the church that came.”
  - Jesus’ followers misunderstood him.
  - Dispensationalism: the church is Plan B.

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## Israel and the Church

- Word *ekklesia* rarely used in Synoptics.
  - Accuracy of the Gospel reporting.
  - Probably had the sense of the assembly of God’s people, as *qahal* in the OT.
  - The forerunner of the church.
- How does Jesus’ ministry relate to the Jews?

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## Israel and the Church

- Both Jesus’ followers and his opponents were Jewish.
  - Disciples were the righteous remnant.
  - The nucleus of reconstituted (true) Israel.
  - The church is organically related to Israel.
  - Jesus is the messianic shepherd sent by God to gather his people.
  - A change in the way God’s people are constituted: response to Jesus the Messiah.

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## Israel and the Church

How would Jesus' kingdom teaching affect  
how we think of the church and  
how we act as the church?

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