



Malyon

A ministry of Queensland Baptists

Master of Arts

TH789i4/6

And he shall reign:

Re-examining the Kingdom of God today

7-11 August 2017

Note: This Unit Guide is indicative only. Please download the final Unit Guide from the Moodle in the first week of semester.

Malyon College
is an approved institution of the
Australian College of Theology

MALYON COLLEGE
(www.malyon.edu.au)

At Malyon we recognise that the world is changing. These are times of great challenge and opportunity. Our commitment is to raising up a generation of influential Christians who have a strong biblical base, skills in leadership and ministry, and a heart for God.

We have been training Christian leaders for over 100 years, and we've learnt a few things about theological training. Our graduates are serving all over the world as pastors, cross-cultural workers, workplace leaders, chaplains, church leaders and theological faculty.

Malyon offers full-time and part-time study options through lecture, intensive and distance modes. We have excellent resources for students including a large library, wireless internet and 24 hour access to the campus. All our awards are accredited through the Australian College of Theology.

THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY (www.actheology.edu.au)

The ACT was established under the auspices of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in 1891. The ACT is a company limited by guarantee governed by a nine-member Board of Directors. The Anglican Primate of Australia presides as the chairman of meetings of the company which consists of 54 persons (in 2010). The ACT is an Australasian provider of state accredited higher education courses leading to awards in theology and other disciplines related to Christian ministry. The ACT operates as an ecumenical consortium of some 2,500 students enrolled in 19 Bible and theological colleges approved to teach the awards of the ACT. These awards range from two-year diplomas, three-year undergraduate and coursework masters degrees to master's and doctoral research degrees.

The ACT has a centrally devised and managed curriculum and a quality assurance process that are applied across the whole network of affiliated colleges. The day-to-day educational system is managed by the Dean from the ACT office in Sydney. Academic governance is the responsibility of the Academic Board which oversees all academic activities of the College. The standing committees of the Academic Board share this responsibility by monitoring the quality of delivery and resourcing, developing policy, and reviewing the course structure for research, coursework and diploma courses. The membership of the Academic Board and its committees is comprised mostly of faculty members of affiliated colleges. A number of senior university academics are represented to help ensure that ACT practice (especially in the outcome of the consideration of research examiner's reports and general academic policy) remains comparable with the standards of and best practice in the university sector.

As a HEP under the Higher Education Support Act, the College was required to undergo a quality audit conducted by the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA). The AUQA Audit Report was publicly released on the AUQA website in February 2007.

In 2010 the company consists of 54 members composed in the following way:

- (1) the Anglican Primate of Australia and the Dean of the ACT,
 - (2) the principals of 10 Anglican Theological Colleges,
 - (3) 21 persons elected by the House of Bishops of the General Synod,
- the principals of 11 affiliated colleges approved to deliver the research degrees of the ACT,
5 graduates holding an ACT research degree,
5 graduates holding any other degree of the ACT.

UNIT DETAILS

UNIT DESCRIPTION

The Kingdom of God is central to the message of Jesus. While the term does not occur in the Old Testament, the concept of God's kingship has a long and evolving history which provides an essential background to Jesus' teaching. Following his resurrection and exaltation, although the phrase does not occur much in the rest of the New Testament, the concept is evident throughout, leading to the eschatological climax of re-creation. The doctrine has implications for contemporary practice and/or understanding of atonement, ecclesiology, mission, social justice and eschatology. Interest groups within the contemporary church often exploit the concept, using it as a loose symbol to justify what they advocate. This unit is designed to re-examine the Biblical teaching on the Kingdom of God, supply a better foundation for the concept and encourage a more focused and disciplined understanding of it before applying it to the contemporary church and world.

CREDIT POINTS

This unit is valued at 6 credit points for 48 cps MA courses and 4 cps for 32 cps MA courses.

CO- AND PRE-REQUISITES

None.

EXCLUSIONS

None.

UNIT OUTLINE

The unit is made up of the following sections:

1. The Kingdom of God in recent theological discussion
2. A Biblical Theology of the Kingdom of God
3. The Kingdom of God in the understanding of the contemporary church

UNIT OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this unit, students should be able to:

1. Identify recent critical issues in the study of the Kingdom of God.
2. Articulate a biblical theology of the Kingdom of God.
3. Apply the concept to a range of contemporary issues in the church and its mission.
4. Develop the ability to preach meaningfully about the Kingdom of God.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this unit, students will:

A. Knowledge and understanding

1. Know and understand the major biblical contours of the Kingdom of God and its significance for other Christian doctrines;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of particular aspects or genre of the Bible's teaching about the Kingdom of God;
3. To be able to evaluate contemporary discussions, both academic and more popular, of the Kingdom of God.

B. Skills

1. Articulate a biblical theology of the Kingdom, especially in reference to the teaching of Jesus;
2. Describe and appraise recent scholarship concerning the Kingdom of God;
3. Discern the validity of some contemporary applications of the Kingdom of God in the church.
4. Express a coherent argument, weighing evidence and setting out the writer's own view and position.

C. Application

1. Participate in systematic study of a Biblical theological theme;
2. Relate the Kingdom of God to contemporary church practices;
3. Proclaim the Kingdom of God more meaningfully for today's missional context.

WORKLOAD REQUIREMENT

A 4-cps unit is reckoned at a notional time value of 130 hours (10 hours per week over 13 weeks). A 6-cps unit is reckoned at a notional time value of 195 hours (15 hours per week over 13 weeks).

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The 4cps students shall complete the following assessment requirements:

1. Major Biblical Essay.
2. Essay on a related theological theme.
3. Book Review.

The 6cps students will be required to complete additional pre-reading and complete a book review based on that material.

Students will be expected to attend all lectures, without exception.

REQUIRED RESOURCES

In order to complete the unit, the student will be required to have access to the following resources:

G. Eldon Ladd, *A Theology of the New Testament*, ed. D Hagner, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, Erdmans, 1994

Christopher W. Morgan and Robert A. Peterson (eds), *The Kingdom of God*, Wheaton, Crossway, 2012 – Available as an eBook through the Malyon College Library.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

The unit will be taught in intensive mode from Monday 7 to Friday 11 July.

Students should note that, in terms of ACT and Malyon College requirements, permission will not be granted for late arrival and/or departure.

	Monday 7 Aug	Tuesday 8 Aug	Wednesday 9 Aug	Thursday 10 Aug	Friday 11 Aug
9:30-10:30	The KoG in recent discussion	Jesus' coming and KoG	KoG in rest of NT (Paul)	KoG and church	Review 4
10:30-11:30	The KoG and creation	Review 1	KoG in rest of NT (John)	KoG and the nations	KoG and the future
Morning Tea					
12:00-13:00	The KoG in Israel's monarchy	Parables of KoG	Review 2	Review 3	Preaching and living the KoG
13:00-13:30	Lunch Break				
13:30-14:30	The KoG in Israel's worship	Ethics of KoG	KoG in Hebrews	KoG and mission	
14:30-15:00	Afternoon Tea				
15:00-16:00	The KoG and the prophets	Already/not yet nature of KoG	KoG and atonement	KoG and social justice	

The four **Review sessions** will provide opportunity to review the books which have been reviewed prior to the intensive (see below), and the material taught in the previous sessions, and work in small groups to formulate questions and discuss applications.

UNIT LECTURER



Derek Tidball is a British pastor and theologian. He holds degrees in sociology, theology and history. On graduating from London Bible College in 1972 he became Pastor of Northchurch Baptist Church, Berkhamsted, north-west of London, and also became visiting lecturer at LBC. After five years he returned to LBC to become its Director of Studies, teaching pastoral theology and sociology of religion while completing his PhD on Victorian Nonconformist Home Missions.

In 1985 he was called to become senior pastor of Mutley Baptist Church, Plymouth, and expected to spend the rest of his life in ministry there. While there, however, he became President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain (1990-91) and began to travel overseas to teach, including a first visit to Australia. Shortly afterwards he was asked to become the Head of the Mission Department of BUGB in which he served for four years before returning to LBC (now London School of Theology) as Principal, a post he held for 12 years. Derek has fairly wide experience of Christian leadership, including being Chair of the Evangelical Alliance in the UK.

Derek has written some thirty books. *Skilful Shepherds*, published first in 1986, continues to be used by many as a pastoral theology textbook. More recently his writings have been in the area of Biblical Theology. He contributed *The Message of Leviticus* to IVP's Bible Speaks Today OT Series and is privileged to edit the BST Bible Themes series for IVP. He wrote *The Message of the Cross and the Message of Holiness* in that series and together with his wife, Dianne, *The Message of Women*. More recently he has written an introductory theology of the New Testament entitled *Voices of the New Testament* (IVP, UK and USA) that scripts a conversation between the authors of the New Testament as a means of exploring their unity and diversity.

Since stepping down as Principal of LST, Derek has lectured in various colleges, including Spurgeon's College, London; Moorlands College, Christchurch; Colombo Theological Seminary, Sri Lanka and SAIACS (South Asia Institute of Advance Christian Studies), Bangalore. He has been privileged to lecture previously at Malyon, Moorling and Vose Baptist colleges, as well as Moore College in Sydney. He continues to supervise postgraduate students.

He is married to Dianne who, on her recent retirement from being the Regional Minister, Team Leader, of the East Midlands Baptist Association, is now serving this year as President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain (2017-18). They have one married son.

UNIT ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTIONS

In completing assessments, students should note that:

1. The **College requirements** for the writing and submission of assignments are to be adhered to at all times, as marks will be deducted for incorrect and poor presentation. Of particular importance is that the official College title page is to be used, and that the word length be indicated.
2. The current **Assignment Style and Writing Guides** are available to all students on the Moodle site; it should be studied, both when starting out and at the beginning of each academic year as adjustments or changes may be made from time-to-time.
3. The **due date** is non-negotiable; in exceptional circumstances students are to adhere to College protocol for requesting permission for late submission. Penalties for late submission are set at 5% per College week. The Assignment Style Guide contains details of the protocols to be followed.
4. With respect to **length**, students are permitted to write at a length of 10% either side of the stated length; for example, a 1000-word assignment should be within a 900-1100 word length. Students will be penalized 1% per 100 words, or part thereof, under or over the stipulated length.
5. With respect to the **List of References**, a specific number of references will not be set; however, students should note the guidelines indicated for the specific assessment requirement. However, students should note that:
 - a. Bibles (including study Bibles), basic dictionaries and devotional guides are not regarded as academic references.
 - b. Electronic sources should generally not number more than half the required number of references, and should be used with caution.

GRADE CRITERIA

Candidates in Master's courses will be expected to demonstrate superior knowledge and skills in their analysis of texts and ideas, and to arrive at independent judgements appropriate to early postgraduate level in their select area of study. Candidates are expected to demonstrate a developing capacity for further postgraduate research.

Guidelines pertinent to each grade listed above are as follows:

Pass

The candidate demonstrates a pronounced ability to engage primary sources, a sound grasp of the foundational features of the discipline as that intersects with the topic, and an ability to critically evaluate a range of scholarly viewpoints.

Credit

The candidate demonstrates a pronounced ability in the analysis of primary sources and in the tasks of evaluating and assessing empathically a range of scholarly points of view, and evidences ability to arrive at genuinely independent scholarly judgments in a select area of study.

Distinction

The candidate demonstrates superior ability in the analysis and critique of primary sources and ideas in dialogue with a wide range of scholarly points of view reporting these empathically, to the extent that genuinely independent scholarly judgments are beginning to emerge in a select area of study.

High Distinction

The candidate demonstrates superior knowledge and skills in the analysis and critique of primary sources and ideas, and evidences genuinely independent scholarly judgments appropriate to early postgraduate level in a select area of study.

The learning outcomes of MA essays differ from the outcomes expected in the higher research degrees in that the following are *not* expected in MA essays:

1. Advanced critical or synthesising ability.
2. A comprehensive and penetrating assessment of scholarly literature.
3. The sustaining of extended and sophisticated argument.
4. The emergence of a creative or original contribution.

A 50% average over all the items of assessment is needed to pass the unit. All compulsory items of assessment must be submitted for an overall pass to be achieved.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Requirement 1: Book Review

Students prepare for the intensive by reading ahead one of the books marked with an * in the bibliography below. Before arriving, students are expected to have read one of the books, written a 1000-word review, and are prepared to discuss the book at the relevant review session. Ideally, students will not all review the same book!

The **key assessment criteria** for the book review will be:

1. Provided an accurate summary of the book's contents and significance.
2. Engaged in a critical evaluation of the book's arguments.
3. Included a final reflection (one paragraph) of the book's potential relevance to mission or ministry.

Length: 1000 words

Due: by 6 August at 11:55pm by electronic submission on Moodle

Mark allocation: 4cps - 20%, 6cps – 15%

Learning Outcomes addressed: A.1-3

Requirement 1a: Book Review (NT789-6 Students only*)

Read the book below and summarise its assertions about the Kingdom of God:

Wright, N. T. *How God Became King: The Forgotten Story of the Gospels* [Electronic Resource]. New York: HarperOne, 2012 – Available as an eBook through the Malyon College Library.

Length: 1000 words

Due: by 6 August at 11:55pm by electronic submission on Moodle

Mark allocation: 6cps – 15%

Learning Outcomes addressed: A.1-3

Requirement 2: Theoretical Essay

Students are to write an essay on ONE of the following topics:

- Discuss the relationship between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of Israel.
- What can we learn about the Kingdom of God from Israel's worship?
- Expound Ladd's claim that, "If the Kingdom is the rule of God, then every aspect of the Kingdom must be derived from the character and action of God" (G. Eldon Ladd)
- To what extent and in what ways does the idea of the Kingdom of God play a significant role in the writings of Paul?
- Explain in detail how, although it never uses the phrase 'Kingdom of God', the book of Revelation might be a commentary on the ultimate victory of that Kingdom.
- How does the claim that Jesus is 'another King' impact our view of political power in his word, and ours?

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Demonstrate understanding of particular sections of the Bible's teaching on the Kingdom (A.1, A.2, B.1, B.2)
2. Awareness of recent relevant scholarship (B.2)
3. The construction of a clear and cogent argument (B.4).
4. Sufficient citation of underpinning sources (B.2).
6. Sufficient intellectual digestion of the topic and coming to one's own opinion (B.4, C.1).

Length: 2,500 words

Due: Sunday 1st October at 11:55pm by electronic submission on Moodle

Mark allocation: 4cps – 40%; 6cps – 35%

Learning Outcomes addressed: A.1, A.2, B.1, B.2, B.4, C.1

Requirement 3: Application Essay

Students are to write an essay on ONE of the following topics:

- In your view, what is the best way of expounding the relationship between the Kingdom of God and EITHER atonement OR ecclesiology?
- Discuss Russell Moore's contention (in *The Kingdom of Christ*) that the already/not yet dimension of the Kingdom of God has led to a new consensus between covenantal and dispensational theologians since the mid-twentieth century, especially with regard to eschatology.
- Write a contemporary manifesto concerning the 'ethics of the Kingdom'.
- Explore the relationship between the biblical teaching on Kingdom of God and contemporary ministry as EITHER charismatic acts of power OR social justice.
- Explain and evaluate William Abraham's contention (in *The Logic of Evangelism*) that evangelism is best conceived neither as proclamation, nor witness, nor church growth but as initiating people into the Kingdom of God.
- How might we meaningfully proclaim the Kingship of God in the context of the contemporary world and its problems?

The **key assessment criteria** for this assessment piece are as follows:

1. Ability to evaluate and apply contemporary discussions about the Kingdom of God (A.3, B.2, C.2)
2. Discern the implications for various theological views about the Kingdom of God for contemporary practice (B.1, B.3, C.2).
3. Articulation of a coherent argument based on engagement with recent scholarship (B. 2, B. 4)
4. Reflection on the significance of the Kingdom of God for the contemporary church and its mission (C.2, C.3).

Length: 2,500 words

Due: Thursday 30th October by 11:55pm by electronic submission on Moodle

Mark allocation: 4cps – 40%; 6cps – 35%

Learning Outcomes addressed: A.3, B.1, B.2, B.3, B.4, C.2, C.3

UNIT CONTRIBUTION TO GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

Developing Christians of Influence

“Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart,
who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.”
(Jeremiah 3:15)

	1.	2.	3.	4.
Graduate Attribute 1: Personal Maturity				
<i>'Shepherds with God's heart'</i>				
a. grows a deepening relationship with Jesus	√			
b. is secure in God's call with a desire and ability to learn and grow		√		
c. is self-aware and maintains self-care				√
d. seeks and builds healthy relationships				√
e. is committed to living with integrity and prayerful dependence on God			√	
Graduate Attribute 2: Theological Maturity				
<i>'Knowledge and understanding of God's heart'</i>				
a. knows and trusts the Bible	√			
b. understands the context of diverse theological ideas	√			
c. forms a personal theology which is both biblical and thoughtful	√			
d. reflects theologically and applies the Bible to real life	√			
e. is committed to helping others know God's grace and truth and live God's way		√		
Graduate Attribute 3: Ministry Maturity				
<i>'Knowledgeable and wise shepherds'</i>				
a. is able to have a godly influence over others		√		
b. possesses skills needed for chosen ministry path			√	
c. understands cultures and contexts and is able to minister in a range of contexts			√	
d. is able to work with and lead a team				√
e. is committed to serving, evangelising and mentoring others		√		
1. A major thrust of this unit 3. A possible function of this unit, but not targeted				
2. A contribution that this unit should make 4. An unlikely product of this unit				

Note: Graduates who have not completed the curricular and non-curricular ministry aspects of Malyon's courses will tend to be most developed in Graduate Attribute 2.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Abernethy, Andrew T., *The Book of Isaiah and God's Kingdom: A thematic-theological approach*, Downers Grove, IVP, 2016

Beasley-Murray, George R *Jesus and the Kingdom of God*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986

Bird, Michael F., *Evangelical Theology: A Biblical and Systematic Introduction*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013

Blaising, Craig A., and Bock, Darrell L., *Progressive Dispensationalism*, Grand Rapids, Baker, 1993

*Boyd, Gregory A, *God at War: The Bible and Spiritual Conflict*, Downers Grove, IVP, 1997

Bright, John, *The Kingdom of God*, Nashville, Abingdon, 1953, 1981

Caird, G. B., ed by L. D Hurst, *New Testament Theology*, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1994

Chilton, Bruce and MacDonald, J. *Jesus and the Ethics of the Kingdom*, London: SPCK, 1987

Clowney, Edmund P. 'The Politics of the Kingdom', *Westminster Theological Journal*, 41 (1979) 291-310

Erickson, Millard J., *Christian Theology*, Grand Rapids: Baker, various eds.

*France, R. T., *Divine Governance: God's Kingship in the Gospel of Mark*, London, SPCK, 1990

Gentry, Peter J. and Wellum, Stephen J., *Kingdom through Covenant*, Wheaton: Crossway, 2012

Grenz, Stanley J., *Theology for the Community of God*, Carlisle: Paternoster Press, 1994

Henry, Carl F., *The Uneasy Conscience of Modern Fundamentalism*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1947

Hunter, James Davison, *To Change the World, The Irony, Tragedy, & Possibility of Christianity in the Late Modern World*, Oxford and New York, Oxford University Press, 2010

Ladd, George Eldon, *Crucial Questions about the Kingdom of God*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1952

• _____ *Gospel of the Kingdom*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1959

_____ *A Theology of the New Testament*, ed. Donald Hagner, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994

_____ *The Presence of the Future: The Eschatology of Biblical realism*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974

*McKnight, Scott, *Kingdom Conspiracy: Returning to the Radical Mission of the Local Church*, Grand Rapids, Brazos Press, 2014

McKnight, Scott and Modica, Joseph B. (eds), *Jesus is Lord, Caesar is not: Evaluating Empire in New Testament Studies*, Downers Grove, IVP Academic, 2013

Marshall I. Howard, *New Testament Theology, Many Witnesses, One Gospel*, Downers Grove: IVP, 2004

_____ 'The Hope of the New Age: The Kingdom of God in the New Testament' in *Jesus the Saviour: Studies in New Testament Theology*, London: SPCK, 1990, pp. 213-238.

Mihindukulasuriya, Prabo, 'How Jesus Inaugurated the Kingdom on the Cross: A Kingdom Perspective on the Atonement', *Evangelical Review of Theology*, 38:3 (2014) 196-213

*Morphew, Derek, *Breakthrough: Discovering the Kingdom*, Vineyard International Publishing, 1991

Morgan, Christopher W. and Peterson, Robert A. (eds), *The Kingdom of God*, Wheaton, Crossway, 2012

Moore, Russell D. *The Kingdom of Christ: The New Evangelical Perspective* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2004

Ridderbos, Herman N., *The Coming of the Kingdom*, Philadelphia, P & R, 1962

Schreiner, Thomas R. *New Testament Theology, Magnifying God in Christ*, Nottingham: Apollos, 2008

_____ *The King in His Beauty, Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013*

Tidball, Derek J. 'The Crown and the Cross: Recent discussions of the relationship between the Kingdom of God and the Atonement.', *Journal of the Colombo Theological Seminary*, XII (2016) 1-21

Treat, Jeremy E., *The Crucified King, Atonement and Kingdom in Biblical and Systematic Theology*, Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2014

*Wallis, Jim, *On God's Side* Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2013

Willis, Wendell (ed.) *The Kingdom of God in 20th-Century Interpretation*, Peabody: Hendrickson, 1987

Wright, Tom, *How God Became King*, London: SPCK, 2012

_____ *The Day the Revolution Began*, London, SPCK, 2016

*Wright, N. T., *Jesus and the Victory of God*, London, SPCK, 1996

ACT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

KEY POLICIES

Students should take note of the following ACT policies:

1. Unit Moderation Policy.
2. Academic Misconduct Policy.
3. Academic Appeals Policy.

ACCESSING DOCUMENTS

These and other policy documents are publically available in the following handbooks, through links on ACT's home page (www.acttheology.edu.au):

1. Undergraduate Handbook.
2. Postgraduate Handbook.
3. Student Policy Handbook.
4. International Student Handbook.
5. Distance Education Handbook.

These should be read in conjunction with the 'Recent Updates' link found on the home page.