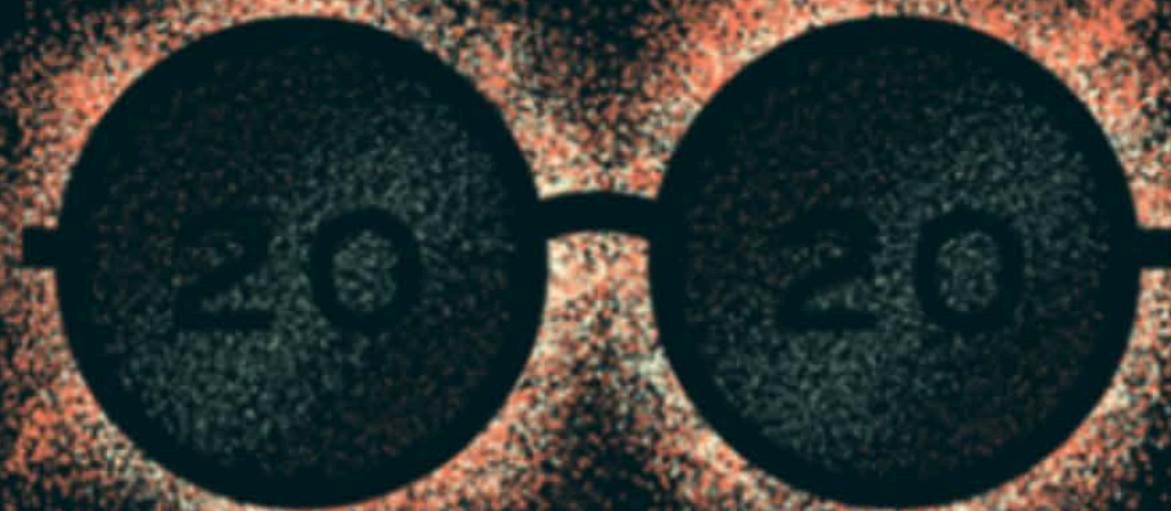


# Sermon

**Rev. Stephanie O'Brien**  
*Co-Pastor*

# HINDSIGHT

—  
TW  
EN  
TY  
—



—  
TW  
EN  
TY  
—

# “He picked the wrong house, bodybuilder 82, fights burgler”



A drunk man's attempt to burglarize 82-year-old Willie Murphy's home quickly backfired when he discovered she was a bodybuilder.

**“Russia Held First-Ever Competitive Slapping Contest And A Giant Named ‘Dumpling’ Dominated”**



**“Japan Held A 400-Years-Running Competition  
To Make Babies Cry”**



**The “headline” for Jesus ministry:**

**“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”**

**Matthew 4:17**

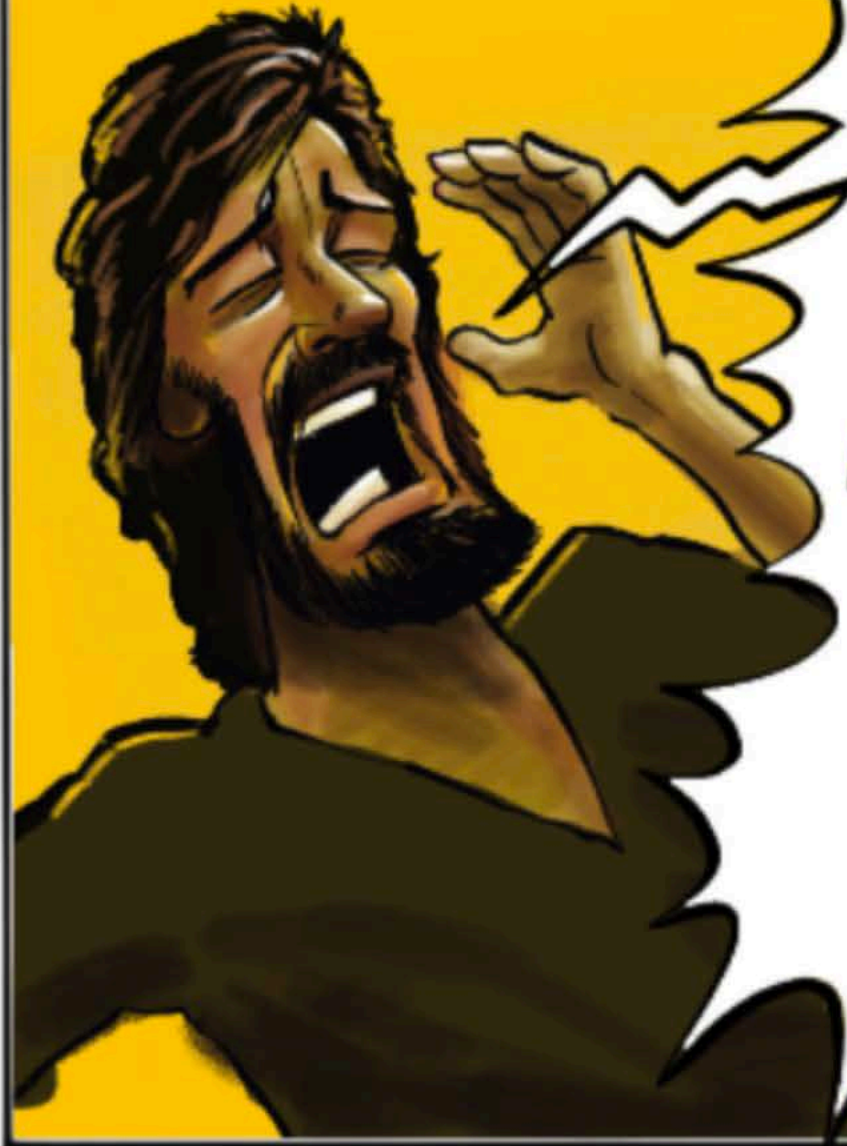
**When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:**

**“Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,  
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,  
Galilee of the Gentiles—the people living in darkness  
have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of  
death a light has dawned.”**

**From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of  
heaven has come near.”**

**Matthew 4:12-17**

Matthew 3:17

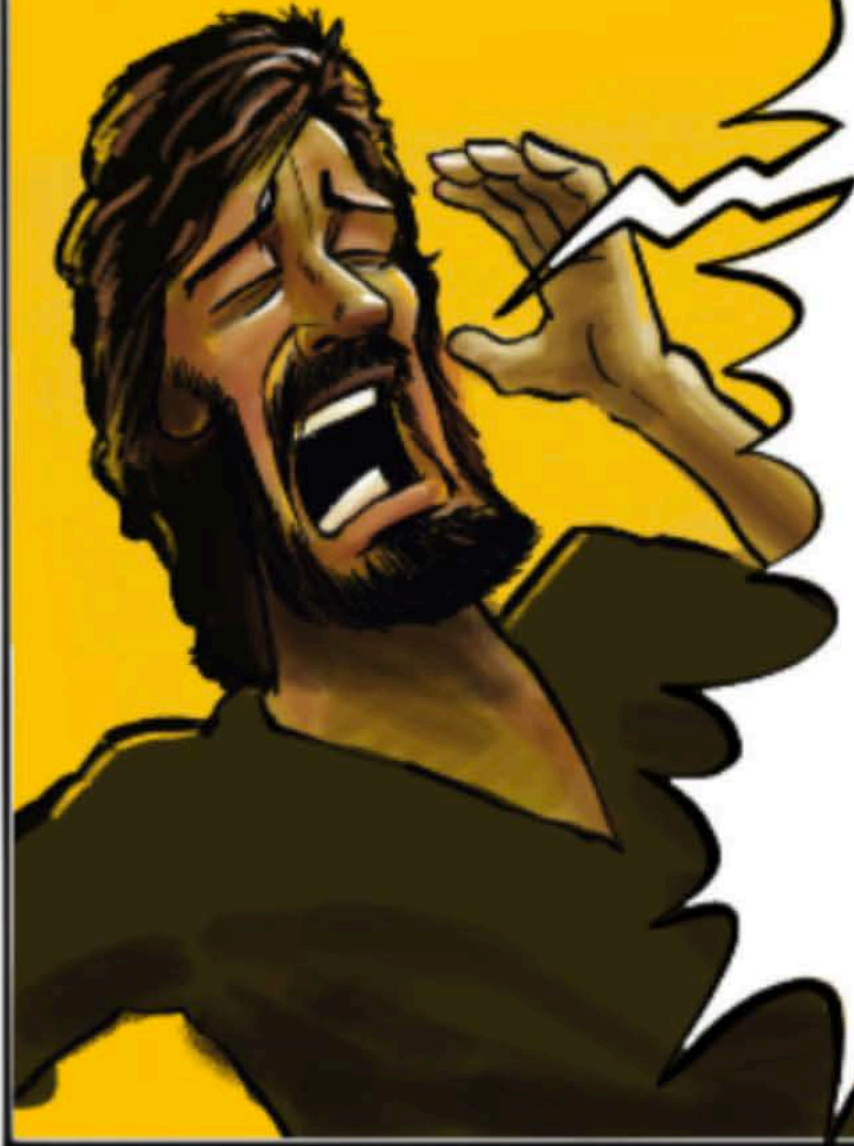


**REPENT, FOR THE  
*KINGDOM OF HEAVEN*  
HAS COME NEAR**

STEVE THOMASON ©2020



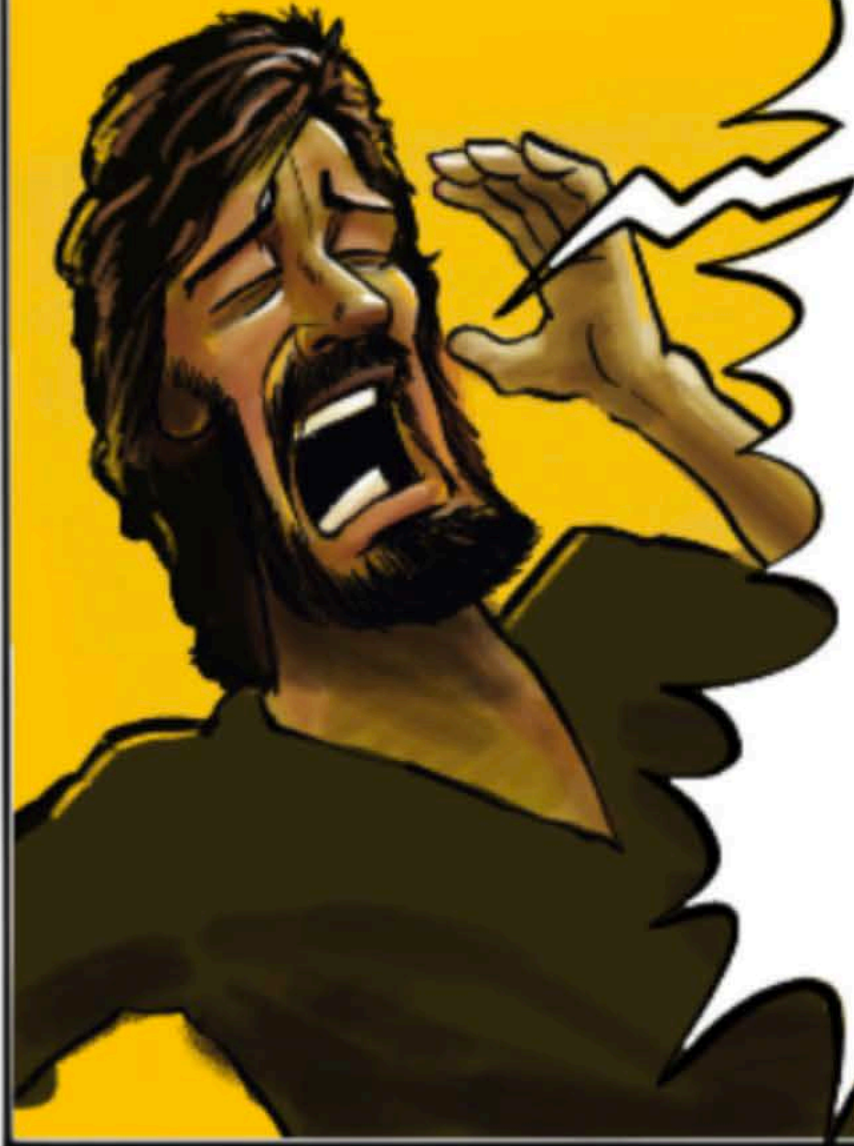
Matthew 3:17



**REPENT, FOR THE  
*KINGDOM OF GOD*  
HAS COME NEAR**

STEVE THOMASON ©2020

Matthew 3:17

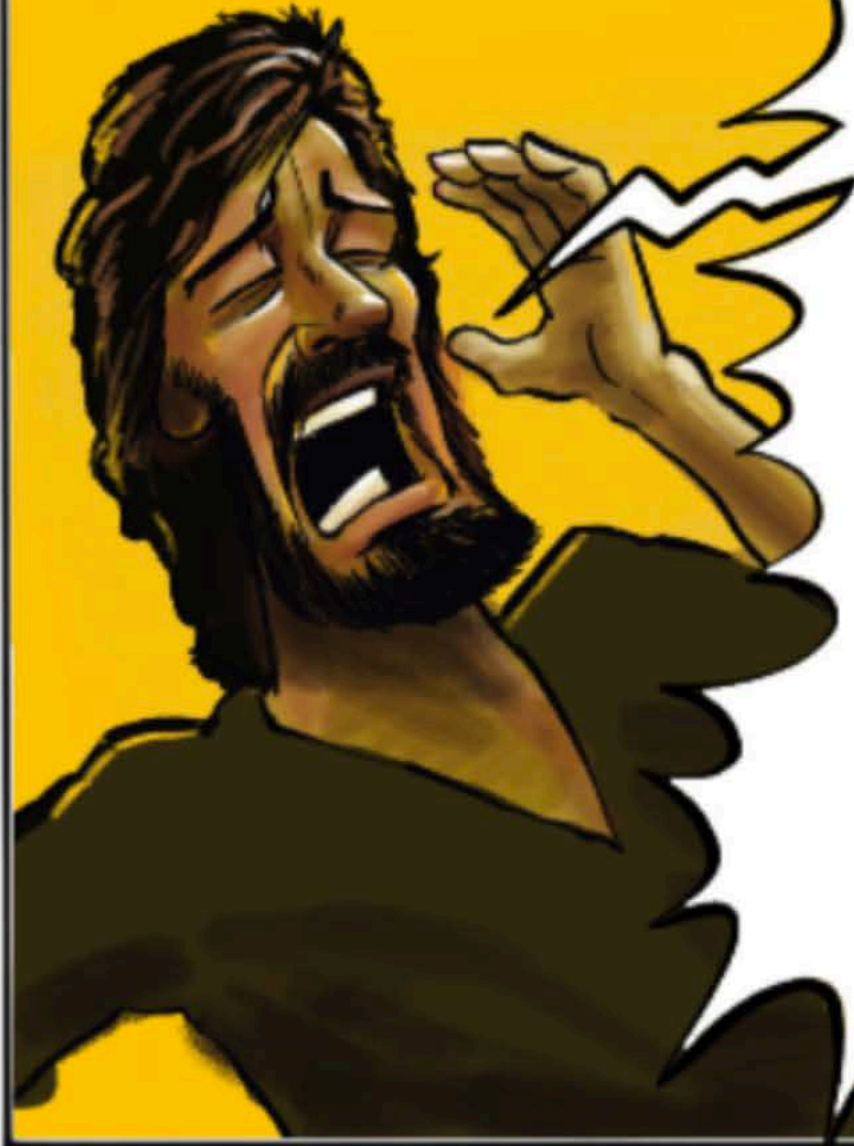


metanoia

**REPENT, FOR THE  
KINGDOM OF GOD  
HAS COME NEAR**

STEVE THOMASON ©2020

Matthew 3:17



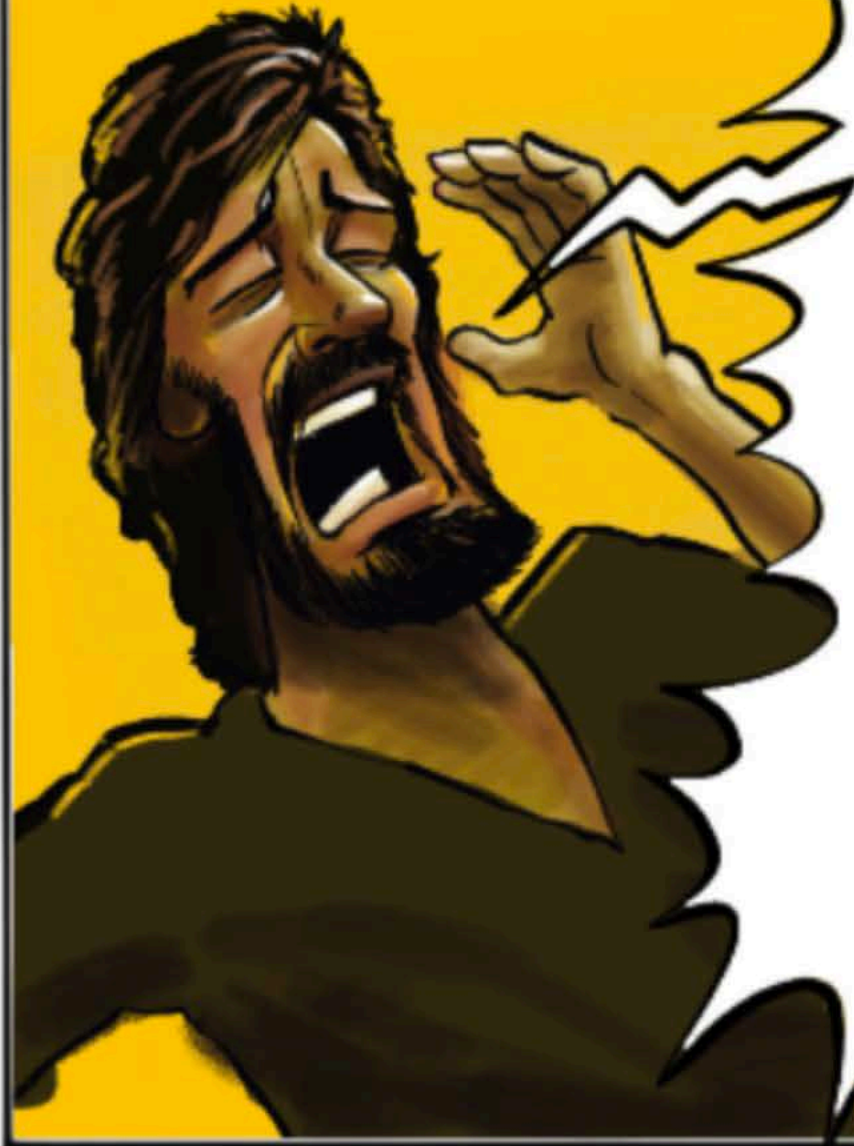
*metanoia*

Change the way  
you perceive reality

**REPENT, FOR THE  
KINGDOM OF GOD  
HAS COME NEAR**

STEVE THOMASON ©2020

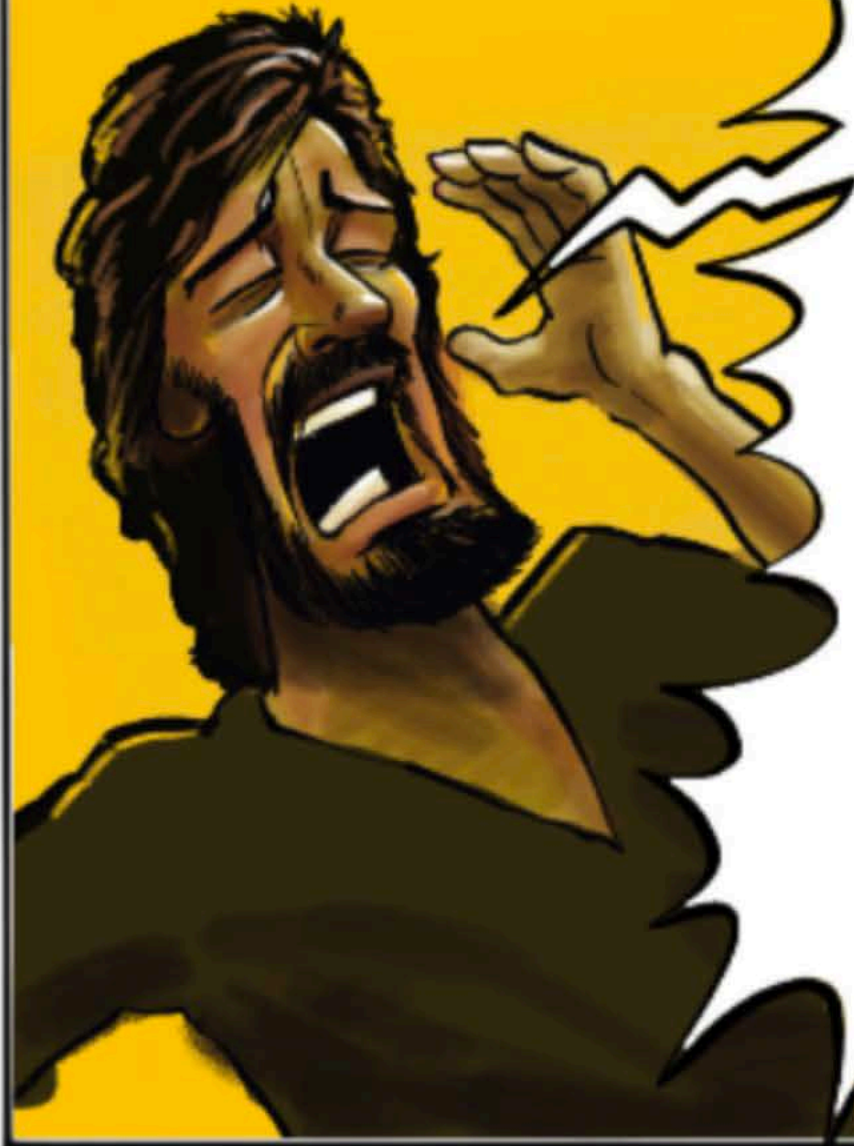
Matthew 3:17



**REPENT, FOR THE  
*REIGN OF GOD*  
HAS COME NEAR**

STEVE THOMASON ©2020

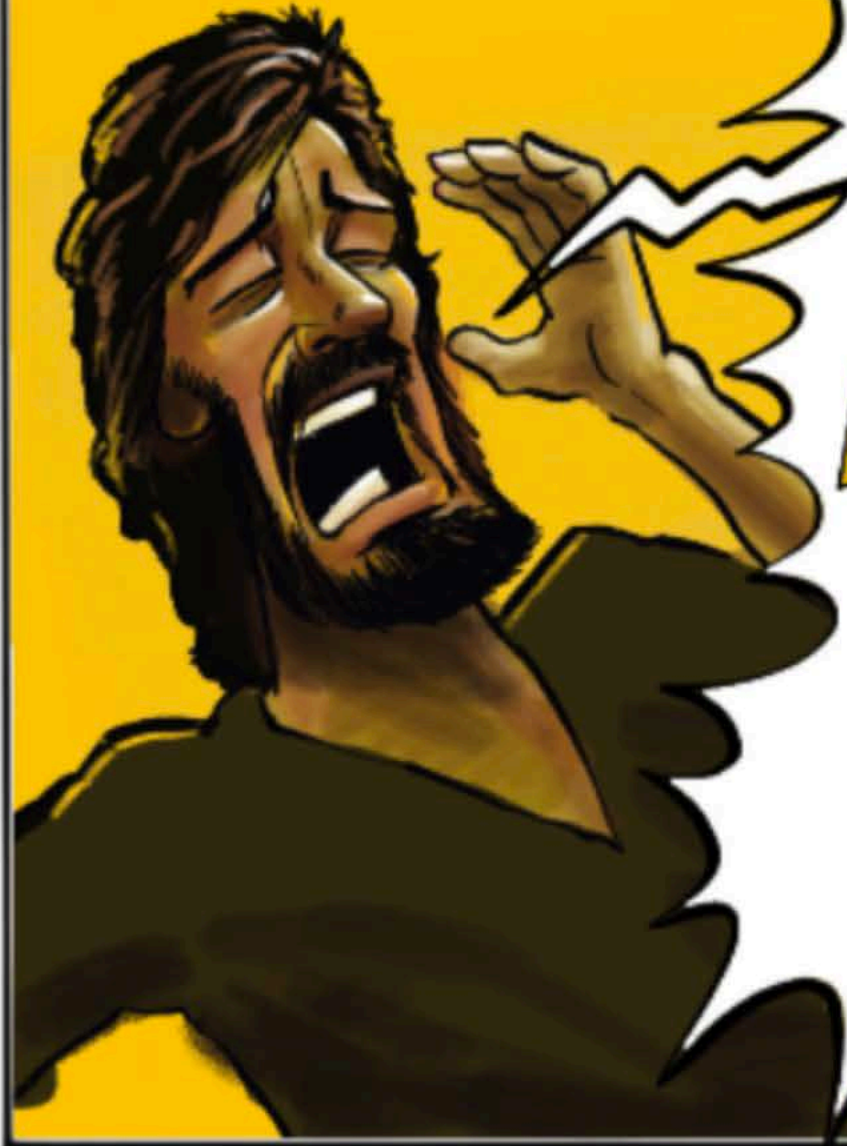
Matthew 3:17



**REPENT, FOR THE  
*WAY OF GOD*  
HAS COME NEAR**

STEVE THOMASON ©2020

Matthew 3:17



**REPENT, FOR THE  
*LIFE PATTERN OF GOD*  
HAS COME NEAR**

STEVE THOMASON ©2020

**Matthew 3:2**

and saying, "Repent, for the **kingdom** of heaven has come near."

**Matthew 4:8**

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the **kingdoms** of the world and their splendor.

**Matthew 4:17**

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the **kingdom** of heaven has come near."

**Matthew 4:23**

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the **kingdom**, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

**Matthew 5:3**

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the **kingdom** of heaven.

**Matthew 5:10**

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the **kingdom** of heaven.

**Matthew 5:19**

Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the **kingdom** of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the **kingdom** of heaven.

**Matthew 5:20**

For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the **kingdom** of heaven.

**Matthew 6:10**

your **kingdom** come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**Matthew 6:33**

But seek first his **kingdom** and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

**Matthew 7:21**

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the **kingdom** of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

**Matthew 8:12**

But the subjects of the **kingdom** will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

**Matthew 9:35**

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the **kingdom** and healing every disease and sickness.

**Matthew 10:7**

As you go, proclaim this message: 'The **kingdom** of heaven has come near.'

**Matthew 11:11**

Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the **kingdom** of heaven is greater than he.

**Matthew 11:12**

From the days of John the Baptist until now, the **kingdom** of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it.

**Matthew 12:25**

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them,

"Every **kingdom** divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.

**Matthew 12:26**

If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his **kingdom** stand?

**Matthew 12:28**

But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the **kingdom** of God has come upon you.

**Matthew 13:11**

He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the **kingdom** of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

**Matthew 13:19**

When anyone hears the message about the **kingdom** and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

**Matthew 13:24**

Jesus told them another parable: "The **kingdom** of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

**Matthew 13:31**

He told them another parable: "The **kingdom** of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.

**Matthew 13:33**

He told them still another parable: "The **kingdom** of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

**Matthew 12:25**

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them,

"Every **kingdom** divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.

**Matthew 12:26**

If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his **kingdom** stand?

**Matthew 12:28**

But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the **kingdom** of God has come upon you.

**Matthew 13:11**

He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the **kingdom** of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

**Matthew 13:19**

When anyone hears the message about the **kingdom** and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

**Matthew 13:24**

Jesus told them another parable: "The **kingdom** of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

**Matthew 13:31**

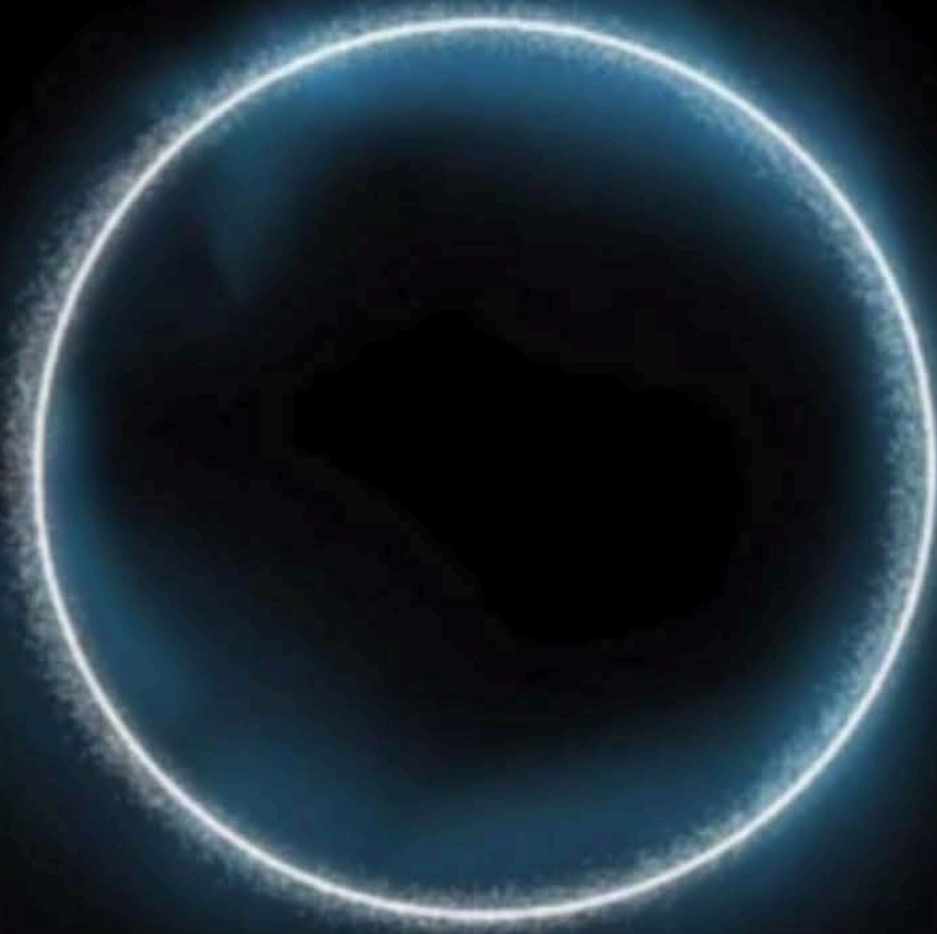
He told them another parable: "The **kingdom** of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.

**Matthew 13:33**

He told them still another parable: "The **kingdom** of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

**Earth**

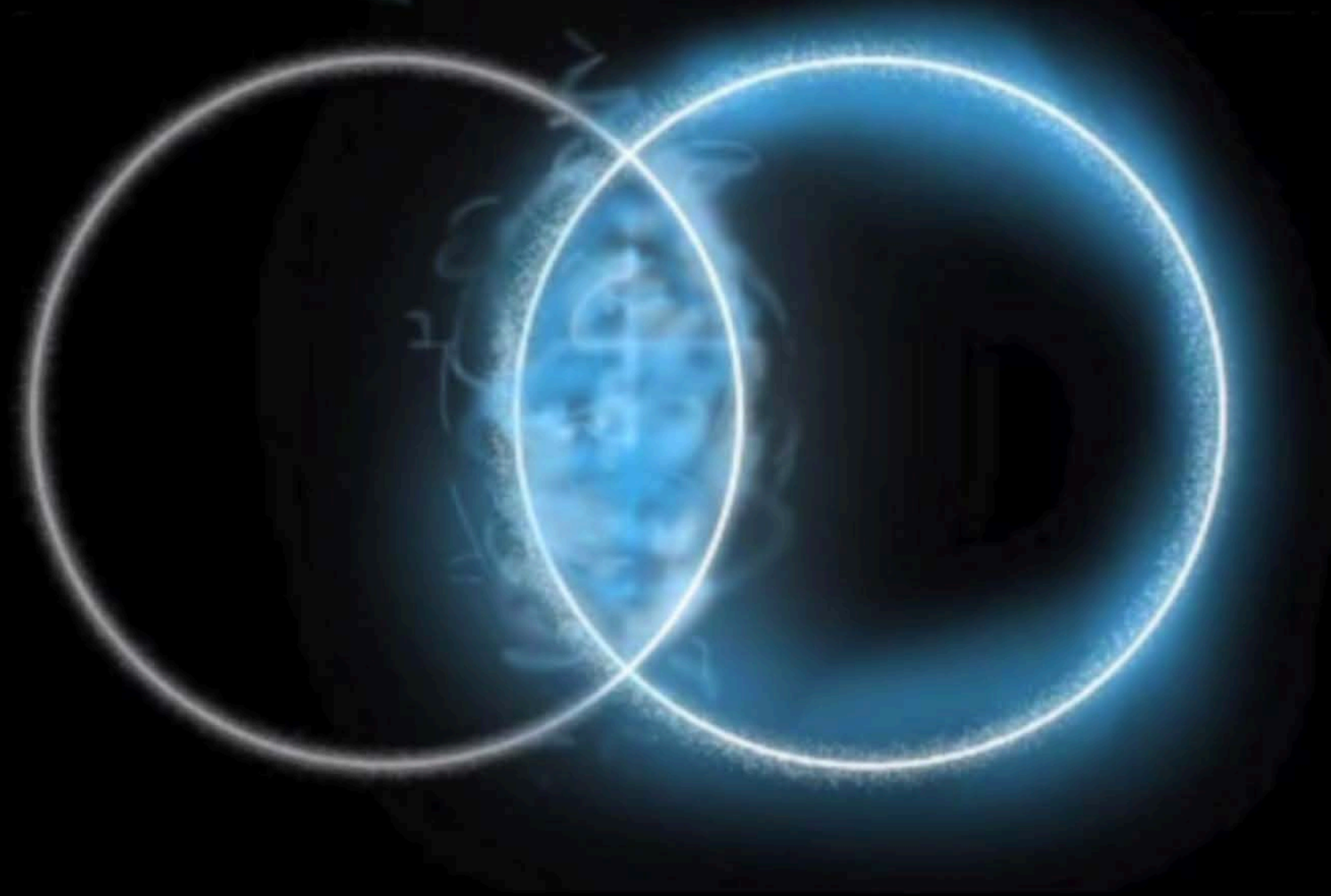
**Kingdom of God/Heaven**





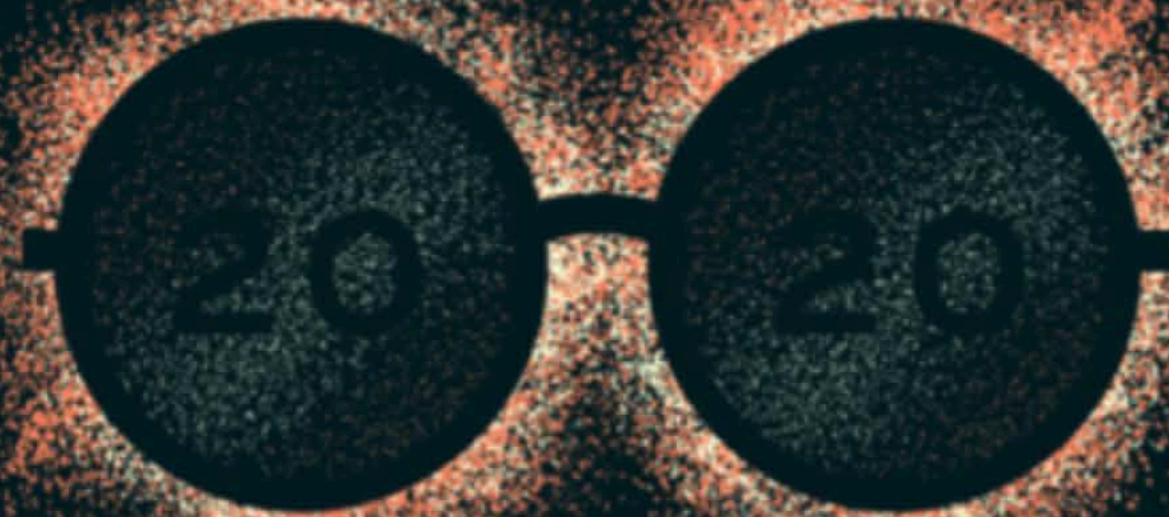
**Earth**

**Kingdom of God/Heaven**



# HINDSIGHT

—  
TW  
EN  
TY  
—



—  
TW  
EN  
TY  
—

**“You will be ever hearing but never understanding;  
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.  
For this people’s heart has become calloused;  
they hardly hear with their ears,  
and they have closed their eyes.  
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,  
hear with their ears,  
understand with their hearts  
and turn, and I would heal them.”**

**Matthew 13:14-15 / Isaiah 6:9-10**

## **The Kingdom of God is Like...**

- 1. Parable of the Sower**
- 2. Parable of the Weeds**
- 3. Parable of the Mustard Seed & Yeast**
- 4. Parable of the Hidden Treasure**
- 5. Parable of the Net**

**Matthew 13**

**Kingdom of God Questions for our lives...**

## Kingdom of God Questions for our lives...

1. Do we *want* to see the Kingdom of God, and are we looking for it?

## **Kingdom of God Questions for our lives...**

- 1. Do we *want* to see the Kingdom of God, and are we looking for it?**
- 2. Will we give our allegiance to the Kingdom of God?**

## **Kingdom of God Questions for our lives...**

- 1. Do we *want* to see the Kingdom of God, and are we looking for it?**
- 2. Will we give our allegiance to the Kingdom of God?**
- 3. Are we asking God's Spirit for wisdom to know the difference between the little kingdoms and The Kingdom of God?**



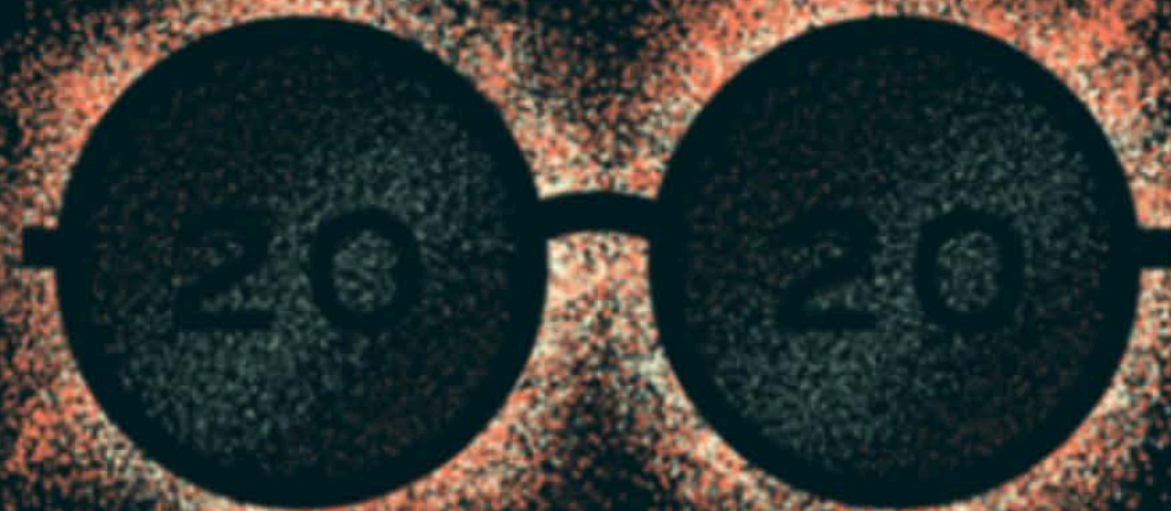
**“What counts is your life. Is it green and blossoming? Because if it’s deadwood, it goes on the fire. I’m baptizing you here in the river, turning your old life in for a kingdom life. The real action comes next: The main character in this drama—compared to him I’m a mere stagehand—will ignite the kingdom life within you, a fire within you, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. He’s going to clean house—make a clean sweep of your lives. He’ll place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false he’ll put out with the trash to be burned.”**

**Matthew 3:10-12 (The Message)**

**“Holy Spirit, as I take in the headlines of the day, will you help me hold on to what is important for life and to let the rest go. Burn it away leaving just what is needed to follow you faithfully in this world.”**

# HINDSIGHT

—  
TW  
EN  
TY  
—



—  
TW  
EN  
TY  
—