V. New Kingdom Mobilized

1. Fulfillment of longing and prophecy – Luke 2:25-32; Heb. 1:1-3
2. Context for Jesus’ life on earth
   1. Knowledge of Jehovah God had spread to many places in the world through the Jewish people and their scriptures (e.g. the wisemen)
   2. Much of the world was united under the stable rule of the Roman Empire
   3. Dissatisfaction with the current status of religion existed in both the Jewish and the Roman worlds
3. Jesus’ life and ministry
   1. Taught people the way of the new kingdom through example and word
   2. Trained disciples to carry on his mission after his exit
4. Jesus’ death on the cross - Isaiah 53:3-11
5. Jesus’ resurrection from the dead - Rom. 1:4
6. Accomplishment of Jesus’ life and work
   1. Established a new kingdom
   2. Reconciliation - Col. 1:20
   3. Sonship of God – John 1:12 (those who accepted Jesus became a part of God’s family)
   4. Justification and sanctification
   5. Hope of resurrection
7. **The core of the gospel:**

Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, Jesus restores the world to a proper relationship with God, breaking the power of Satan’s empire and taking his rightful place as King of the universe. As king, Jesus is restoring harmony and goodness in the world and bringing about his will and his glory. He invites all people to join his kingdom and be a part of his work. Those who have heeded this call, renounced their allegiance to doing things their own way, and trustingly yielded their lives to Jesus become his agents on earth and are known as the *ekklesia* or the church.