Luke 16:16 **Pressing into the Kingdom of God**

16 The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- Until the coming of John the Baptist, the message of the mystery of the Kingdom of God had been kept hidden. [Matthew 11:12-13, Luke 16:16, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, Ephesians 3:8-12, Colossians 1:24-27]
 - ♦ An enormous amount of information pertaining to the Kingdom of God was revealed in the law and the prophets, but it was concealed in the messages and not plainly discernable until John brought it out specifically.
 - ♦ John was the first to introduce the Kingdom of God to Israel as he began his ministry saying, "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand." [Matthew 3:1-2]
 - ♦ Jesus continued the theme with the exact same words. [Matthew 4:17, Mark 1:14-15]
 - ♦ The press of the multitude around John and then around Jesus demonstrated the eagerness of the people to enter in to the promised Kingdom especially as they wanted to take Jesus by force and make Him king . [John 6:15]
 - ♦ The violence of the religious leaders (Scribes, Pharisees, Lawyers, Chief Priests, and Elders) demonstrated that they wanted to take it by force as "the violent take it by force."
 [Matthew 11:12]