

= Kingdom Come (Millennium) =

" ' Kingdom Come " is the sixth episode of the first season of the American crime @-@ thriller television series Millennium . It premiered on the Fox network on November 29 , 1996 . The episode was written by Jorge Zamacona , and directed by Winrich Kolbe . " Kingdom Come " featured guest appearances by Lindsay Crouse and Tom McBeath .

Forensic profiler Frank Black (Lance Henriksen) , a member of the private investigative organisation Millennium Group , chases a serial killer who targets clerics and holy men due to his frustration with his own faith .

" Kingdom Come " marked the first contributions to the series by Zamacona and Kolbe , who would both return for future episodes . The original broadcast date set for " Kingdom Come " was pushed back several weeks , as it was felt by the network that it would be in poor taste following the death of Chicago archbishop Joseph Bernardin .

= = Plot = =

When a Catholic priest is burnt at the stake in Lander , Wyoming , private investigative organisation the Millennium Group despatch offender profiler Frank Black (Lance Henriksen) and Ardis Cohen (Lindsay Crouse) who had previously worked together on a case involving the murders of three clerics several years earlier . Black sees similarities between the murders and the methods of torture employed by the medieval Inquisition . This is confirmed when a Protestant minister is drowned in imitation of another ritual torture . At the scene of the drowning , two wedding rings are found ? a man 's in the stomach of the victim and woman 's nearby .

At a church , the killer is searching through files when he is interrupted , and flees , leaving bloodied fingerprints at the scene . Black constructs a profile of the man , and deduces that his actions are attacks on faith , believing that the killer has suffered a devastating loss which has caused him to lose his own faith . As the manhunt for the killer tightens , another cleric is tortured and killed ; however , Black senses that the killer has returned to where his life fell apart . He and the police are able to identify the killer as Galen Calloway (Michael Zelniker) , whose wife and daughter had been killed in a house fire several years earlier . Black knows the killer 's next target will be the church that held the family 's funeral .

Calloway enters the church wielding explosives , taking the congregation hostage . The building is quickly surrounded by police and reporters as Calloway gives a sermon to his hostages about the loss of faith . Black believes he can connect with Calloway , and is allowed to enter the church . Calloway is initially hostile , but Black is able to talk him down , convincing Calloway that his faith has not been lost , but simply tested ? despite all that has happened , Calloway has never lost his belief in God . Realizing the truth of this , Calloway surrenders .

= = Production = =

" Kingdom Come " is the first of two episodes of Millennium to be written by Jorge Zamacona , who would also pen the later season one episode " The Wild and the Innocent " . The episode also marks the first of four directorial credits for Winrich Kolbe , who would also take the reins on " Force Majeure " , " Lamentation " and " Broken World " , all in the first season .

Guest actor Laurie Murdoch , who portrayed one of the murdered priests in the episode , would later return in the third season episode " TEOTWAWKI " , in an unrelated role . Fellow guest Tom McBeath , who played a detective investigating the case , would also reappear in the third season , playing a prosecution lawyer in " Omertà " .

The episode opens with a quotation taken from the Book of Exodus , the second book of the Hebrew Bible , and one of the five books that make up the Torah . The passage used is Exodus 10 : 21 , " And there will be such intense darkness , that one can feel it " . Biblical verses were also used at the beginning of other episodes in the series , including the Book of Job in " Wide Open " and " Dead Letters " ; the Book of Jeremiah in " Weeds " ; and the Gospel of Luke in " Blood Relatives " .

" Kingdom Come " was the fourth episode of the series produced , postponed from its original broadcast date to be the sixth episode aired . Fox Broadcasting Company announced that the reason for this was that it would be " in poor taste " to run an episode involving the murder of clergymen soon after the death of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin , the Archbishop of Chicago . However , it was rumoured at the time that the postponement may simply have been a way to draw attention to the series , as its ratings had begun to fall .

= = Broadcast and reception = =

" Kingdom Come " was first broadcast on the Fox Network on November 29 , 1996 ; and earned a Nielsen rating of 7 @. @ 2 , meaning that roughly 7 @. @ 2 percent of all television @- @ equipped households were tuned in to the episode . The episode was watched by approximately 7 million households .

" Kingdom Come " received mixed reviews from critics . Robert Shearman and Lars Pearson , in their book *Wanting to Believe : A Critical Guide to The X @- @ Files , Millennium & The Lone Gunmen* , rated the episode two stars out of five , calling it " a particularly superficial addition to the series " . Shearman and Pearson felt that the episode 's lack of complexity was refreshing , but ultimately the " awkward " performances and " cheesy " approach to its subject matter detracted from it . Writing for *The A.V. Club* , Todd VanDerWerff rated the episode a B , describing it as " an episode about a man who finds himself trying to lose his faith but being unable to do so " . VanDerWerff felt that the episode suffered from " the typical Millennium problems " , including " an overreliance on trite philosophical dialogue " ; however , he found that it contained " something pure and believable at its core that keeps the episode moving along nicely " . The episode 's thematic concern with the role of religion in society was noted as being " the tension Millennium would build its best episodes on " . Bill Gibron , writing for *DVD Talk* , rated " Kingdom Come " 5 out of 5 , describing it as being " classic Millennium " . Gibron felt that the episode had " an exceptional script that delightfully fails to spell everything out for us up front " , and noted that it served as " the blueprint for all better Millennium episodes to come " .