

**THY KINGDOM COME!
(Revelation 20:1-6)**

* Where have we come in our study in Revelation?

Please open to Rev 1:7 – From the prediction that Christ would return to planet earth – this finds its culmination in 19:11-16

Chapter 20, begins a new phase concerning God’s Kingdom on the earth!

We see the phrase “the kingdom” or the “kingdom of heaven” in many places in scripture

- How is the phrase “kingdom of God” used in scripture?

PP- **1. The universal kingdom rule over all due to God’s Sovereignty**

1 Chronicles 29:11-12—“*you reign over all*”

Psalm 103:19—“*His kingdom rules over all*”

Acts 17:24—Paul’s declaration to those on Mar’s Hill of who God is— “*He is Lord of heaven & earth*”

2. God’s theocratic kingdom on earth through a mediator

Adam—Gen 1:28-- Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Israel & its kings—ruled the Theocratic kingdom as His regents

Even Gentile world powers—Daniel 2

Psalm 2—“*My Son... on my holy hill*”

3. God’s spiritual kingdom consisting of believers only

Jn 3:3— Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Rom 14:17—spoken to church age believers

Romans 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Col 1:13— He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed or translated *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

The context indicates which kingdom is which

Today we want to look closer at the 2nd aspect of these three... **God’s theocratic kingdom on earth through a mediator**

A. Why the Kingdom of God on Earth?

1. Because it was captured by **Satan** in the Garden of Eden due to Adam's fall into **sin** (Mt 4:8-9)

Jesus never challenged the devil's claim to the kingdom's he offered Him in this temptation of Luke 4:4-5

2. Because God's **complete salvation** was offered after man's fall into sin, which involves the **reverse** of the **curse** (Genesis 3:14-15)

When we think of salvation we normally think of salvation from sin's penalty, but God's salvation also provides salvation from sin's power and presence, as well as the redemption of our bodies one day at the rapture.

But that is not all. God is seeking the redemption of other things as well-PP

That is why we can expect some aspects of the curse to be reversed at the 2nd Coming of Christ

3. Because it was covenanted by the Lord in the...

- a. **Abrahamic** Covenant (Gen 12:1-3; 15:8, 18-21)

this included the land covenant 15:8

then God made the covenant binding on just Himself, as he put Abraham to sleep, & then confirmed the covenant by passing through the sacrifice by Himself

- b. **Davidic** Covenant (2 Samuel 7:12-16)

this included a seed forever & a throne or dominion that would rule on earth

- c. **New** Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

- it was new in relation to the old covenant that God had made with Moses when He brought them out of Egypt by His power & the blood of the Passover Lamb
- the new Covenant was an unconditional promises to the nation of Israel that one day God would fulfill to them

4. Because it was repeatedly **prophesized** in the **OT** (1 Chron. 16:14-19; 2 Chron. 21:7; Psa. 89:3-4, 29, 36; 105:8-11; Isa. 9:6-7)

1 Chron. 16:14-19

PP- 2 Chron. 21:7; Psa. 89:3-4; 29, 105:8-11; Isa. 9:6-7

This was fulfilled by Jesus in His 1st Coming to the nation of Israel (Mt. 1:1; 2:1-2; 10:5-6) as He came to be Israel's King!

5. Because it was **anticipated** in the **gospels** (Luke 1:26-33, 59-76)

Luke 1:26-33—prophecy about Jesus who is the Christ, who would rule over the house of Israel
1:57-79—Zacharias prophesied about the coming of Christ & what part his son would play in this as this would be according to the Abrahamic Covenant

6. Because it was again promised in **Acts** and in the **epistles** (Acts 2:25-30; Romans 11:1-2, 25-27)

Acts 2:25-30—Peter told of what David had said of the coming Christ—that He would not see corruption, but He would be raised up to sit & rule on David’s throne in the Millennium

Context of Rom 9-11

Israel’s Past Election by God-chp 9

Israel’s Present Rejection of their Messiah-chp 10

Israel’s Future Restoration in the future- chp 11

11:1-2—Has God cast away His people? No way!—they have a definite future

11:5—there is a present remnant of believing Jews

11:25-27—one day all Israel will be saved—this is the fulfillment of the New Covenant with them

7. Because it will be fulfilled in the **future** as predicted in the book of **Revelation** (Rev 20-22)

This is the section we are presently studying!

B. Was the Kingdom of God on Earth Previously Offered to Israel?

The answer is YES! How do we know this is true?

1. It was **proclaimed** by both **John the Baptist** and **JC** to be “at hand” (Mt 3:2; 4:17)

“At hand” **means** at the very door of appearance... near or about to come on the vestibule of time!

Had Israel accepted Jesus as their King He would have inaugurated the Kingdom at that time—but they didn’t!

2. It was **prayed for** by the **disciples** (Mt 6:9-10)

Mt 6:9-10-read

This is what is normally called the Lord’s prayer—but really should be called the disciples prayer—as in Luke 11:1, they stated, “*Lord, teach us to pray*”—so He said when you pray, pray like this...vs 9-10

Keep in mind! They were Jews with a kingdom orientation & here he teaches principles of the kingdom taught by the King Himself—thus this is a Jewish prayer for Jews who were looking for a physical kingdom on earth

The church in contrast, is a heavenly people, with heavenly blessings who are looking for Christ to come & take us to our heavenly home! (rapture)

Note as well the Lord’s admonition in 6:7—is this prayer prayed repetitiously by the church today?

3. It was proclaimed by the **disciples** originally to be **at hand** to **Israel** only (Mt 10:5-7)

10:5-7—don’t go to the Gentiles or the Samaritains—only go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel

When you go proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is at hand—about to appear or come

Why to only Israel? Because only Israel was offered God's Kingdom on earth!

4. This message was **rejected** by the **Jewish leaders** due to their rejection of **Jesus** as the **Messiah or Christ** of Israel, and thus it could no longer be stated to be **at hand**. (Mt 12:22-32; Mt 16:17-23; John 14:19, 21)

You see God had offered the Kingdom in the person of the King—Jesus Christ—but Israel's leaders for the most part, would not accept Jesus as the Christ of God—so the kingdom was postponed until they would receive Him as their rightful Messiah.

Their rejection is seen in Mt 12 as they attributed the miracles of Jesus to the power of Beelzubub, the prince of demons!

This was called the blasphemy against the HS

God's miraculous signs were not done in the power of Satan, but in the power of God

Their statement indicated their unbelief in Jesus as the Messiah

If they didn't believe when Christ was here to performed these miracles to prove His person – then they were rejecting the only person who could ever provide forgiveness—thus Jesus said “they could never be forgiven”

Soon after this Jesus announced a new plan for the future --Mt 16: 17-23 – the church--this plan included a needed stop at Calvary, as the church was based on His death & resurrection

This brings us to the fact that...the Kingdom

5. It has since been **postponed**, but not **canceled**, as it will again be preached in the **Tribulation** period to come (Luke 22:18; Acts 1:6; Mt 24:14)

PP- Mt 23:37-39

PP- Hosea 3:4-5

6. In its place, Christ is now **building** His **Church**—the Spiritual **Body of Christ** (Mt 16:18; Eph 1:22-23)

Of which we are members one of another

7. It will be set up as **promised** when God sends **Jesus Christ** to earth again (Daniel 7:13-14; Zech. 14:4, 9; Acts 3:19-21; Rev 19:15; 20:1-6)

Daniel 7:13-14—He will come as the smitting stone to crush the Gentile world powers, of which the Antichrist is its final leader, as we have seen

PP- Zech 14:4, 9

PP- Rev 11:15

- Why will God do all this? (Eze. 20:42,44; 28:25-26; 34:13, 27-29)

Repeatedly the OT especially the book of Eze. States... “that you shall know that I Am the Lord”

- What is the message we are to preach today?

The gospel of the grace of God—it is different from the gospel of the Kingdom

Differences on **PP**

- Does this mean that we should not teach about the kingdom to come? **No!**

Acts 20:24-25—Paul taught about it!

We are, however, to understand the time we live in & rightly divide the word of God

- What happens when we fail to rightly divide the word of truth regarding these matters?
 - the appropriate message for today may not be clear
 - law & grace are mixed
 - the church may seek to bring in the kingdom w/o the king, which it will never do
 - we may fall into replacement theology

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2. Because God’s _____ was offered after man’s fall into sin, which involves the _____ of the _____ (Genesis 3:14-15)
3. Because it was covenanted by the Lord in the...
 - a. _____ Covenant (Gen 12:1-3; 15:8, 18-21)
 - b. _____ Covenant (2 Samuel 7:12-16)
 - c. _____ Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
4. Because it was repeatedly _____ in the _____ (1 Chron. 16:14-19; 2 Chron. 21:7; Psa. 89:3-4, 29, 36; 105:8-11; Isa. 9:6-7)
5. Because it was _____ in the _____ (Luke 1:26-33, 59-76)
6. Because it was again promised in _____ and in the _____ (Acts 2:25-30; Romans 11:1-2, 25-27)
7. Because it will be fulfilled in the _____ as predicted in the book of _____ (Rev 20-22)

B. Was the Kingdom of God on Earth Previously Offered to Israel?

1. It was proclaimed by both _____ and _____ to be “at hand” (Mt 3:2; 4:17)

2. It was _____ by the _____ (Mt 6:9-10)

3. It was proclaimed by the _____ originally to be at hand to _____ only (Mt 10:5-7)

4. This message was _____ by the Jewish _____ due to their rejection of _____ as the _____ of Israel, and thus it could no longer be stated to be _____. (Mt 12:22-32; Mt 16:17-23; John 14:19, 21)

5. It has since been _____, but not _____, as it will again be preached in the _____ period to come (Luke 22:18; Acts 1:6; Mt 24:14)

6. In its place, Christ is now _____ His _____ —the Spiritual _____ (Mt 16:18; Eph 1:22-23)

7. It will be set up as _____ when God sends _____ to earth again (Daniel 7:13-14; Zech. 14:4, 9; Acts 3:19-21; Rev 19:15; 20:1-6)

- Why will God do all this? (Eze. 20:42,44; 28:25-26; 34:13, 27-29)
- What is the message we are to preach today?
- Does this mean that we should not teach about the kingdom to come?
- What happens when we fail to rightly divide the word of truth regarding these matters?