



THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Physical?

Spiritual?

Rejected?

Postponed?

Established?



The Kingdom – Postponed?

- **Were the OT prophecies concerning the kingdom fulfilled on Pentecost, AD 33?**
- **Could God fulfill these prophecies even though man rejected His Son?**
- **Was it Prophesied that Christ should reign among His enemies?**
- **Is God's will limited to the will of man?**
- **What is the Nature of God's Kingdom (Physical or Spiritual)?**
- **Was Jesus consistent in His teaching regarding His kingdom?**



THE REJECTION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- ▼ *“The purpose of the writing of the Gospel of Matthew was to record the presentation of Jesus Christ as Messiah, to trace the opposition to Him and His offered kingdom by the nation, and to record the official and final rejection of that King and kingdom by Israel. An analysis of the theme of Matthew will be undertaken to trace this argument because of its crucial relationship to the whole kingdom concept and program.*



THE REJECTION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- ✔ *“There are three major movements in the Gospel of Matthew; (A) The presentation and authentication of the king (1:1-11:1); (B) The Opposition to the King (11:2-16:12); and (C) The final rejection of the King (16:13-28:20).” Dwight Pentecost “Things To Come” (pg 456)*
- ✔ *“It (Matt 12) is the great turning point in this Gospel and with it the offer of our Lord to Israel as their King, as well as the offer of the kingdom ceases!”*
- ✔ *“Some contend that neither the Lord nor John ever offered Israel an earthly kingdom, but only a spiritual kingdom. Such a view entirely fails to comprehend the nature of the “the kingdom” preached by John, the Lord, and His disciples.”*

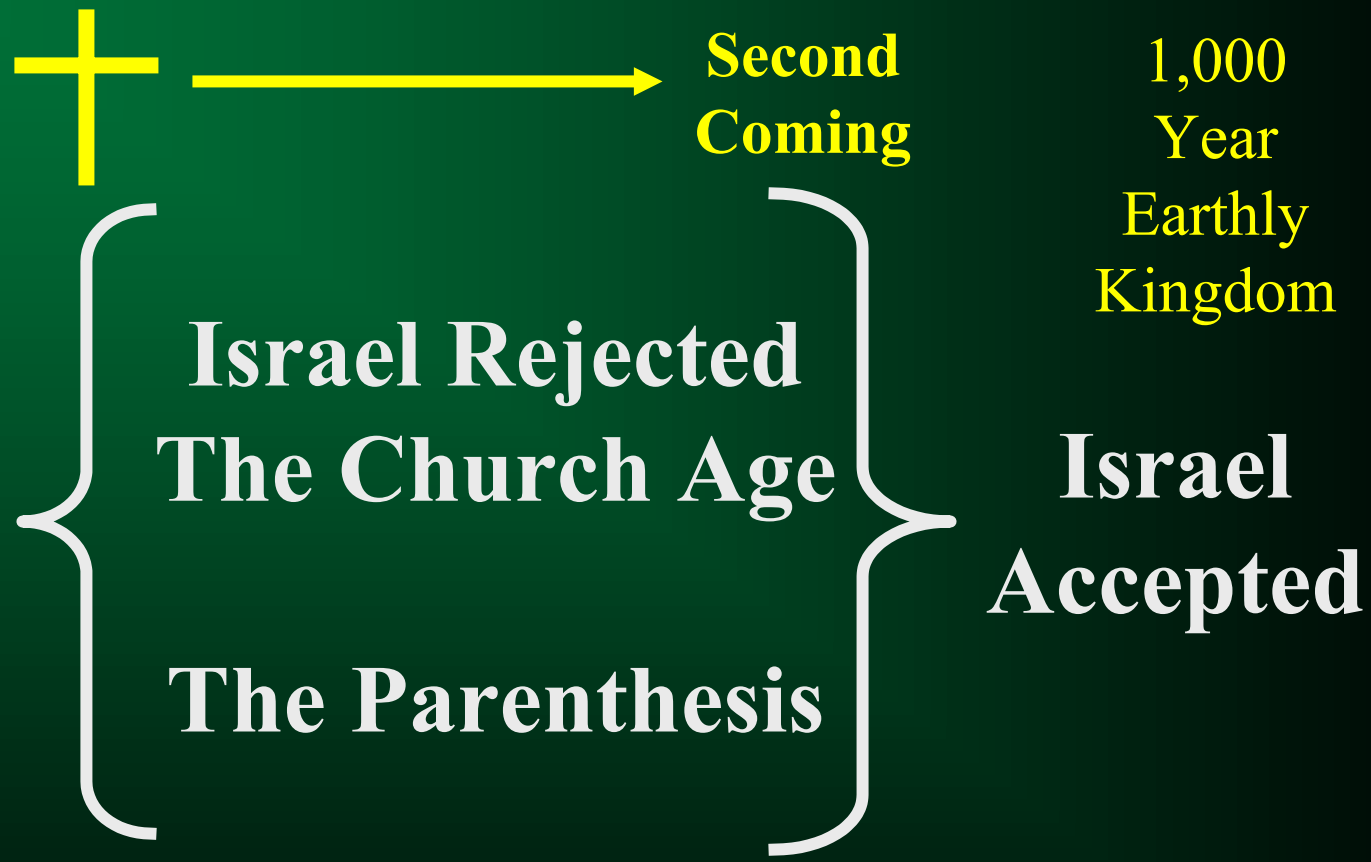


The POSTPONEMENT Of The KINGDOM OF GOD

- ✔ *“It was after the rejection of Matthew 12:23-24 that the Lord first makes a prophecy of the coming church in Matthew 16. The church is manifestly an interruption of God’s program for Israel, which was not brought into being until Israel’s rejection of the offer of the Kingdom.”*
- ✔ Walvoord makes the same claim; *“...the present age is a parenthesis or a time period not predicted by the Old Testament and therefore not fulfilling or advancing the program of events revealed in the Old Testament fore view...”*
- ✔ Matt 21:43 – Jesus said “The kingdom of God shall be taken away from you...”



The Church and the Nation of Israel



Israel Selected



Does the OT Reference the Church?

- ✔ Walvoord says “No”
- ✔ Lindsey “No evidence that the church was revealed anywhere in the OT”
- ✔ Rom 1:2 – “..the gospel was promised beforehand through His prophets.”
- ✔ Acts 26:22 – Paul said before Agrippa “I have said nothing than what Moses and the prophets said would take place.”
- ✔ Did Paul Preach the church? (Eph 5:22-23)



Postponement Theory

▼ DANIEL 9

- *“While the most literal interpretation of the first 69 weeks is thus afforded a literal fulfillment, nothing can be found in history that provides a literal fulfillment of the last seven weeks. It has been taken by many that this indicates a postponement of the fulfillment of the last seven years of the prophecy to the future preceding the second advent. If so, a parenthesis of time involving the whole present age is indicated.”*



Church and Kingdom

- ✔ Reference the same institution.
 - Kingdom of God can be broader at times because all men everywhere are subject to His authority whether they believe in Him or not!
- ✔ Christ is “HEAD” of the Church and “KING” of the kingdom. (Eph 1:22; Col 1:18; Acts 17:7; Rev 1:5; 17:14)
- ✔ The “LAW” of the Church & Kingdom are the Word of God.
 - Lk 8:4-8, 11; 2 Tim 3:16, 17; 2 Pet 1:3; 2 Jo 9
- ✔ The “Members” of the church and the “Subjects” of the kingdom are the same people. (Col 1:12-13)
- ✔ One becomes a member and a citizen the same way
 - Col 1:13; 1 Pet 1:22, 23; Acts 2:47; Jo 3:3-5; Gal 3:26-27
- ✔ The Territory are the same
 - Matt 28:18, 19; Eph 1:20-23; Col 3:15; Heb 8:10)



Kingdom – Physical or Spiritual?

▼ Daniel 2 – Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream

– “In the days of those kings” God would establish His Kingdom

1. It shall never be destroyed (Heb 12:28)

2. It shall not be left to other people

– *Dan 7:18; Matt 16:18-19; Rom 2:9; Rom 9:6-8; Phil 3:3*

3. It will possess and be victorious over all other kingdoms

– (Rev 11:15)

4. It Shall Stand Forever. (Lk 1:33; Mic 4:7; Rev 22:3-5)



The Kingdom is “At Hand”

✔ “During the days of those kings” (Romans)

- John the Baptist preached “*The kingdom of heaven is at hand*” (Matt 3:2)
- Jesus Preached “*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*” (Matt 4:17; 10:7)
- Jesus Preached “*The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand*” (Mk 1:15)
- Jesus said the “*Kingdom of God is come nigh unto you*” (Lk 10:9)
- Mark 9:1 – *not taste death until they had seen the kingdom*

✔ Were Jesus and John Mistaken or Were The OT Prophets Wrong?



Who Rejected Whom?

- ▼ **JOHN 6:15:** *So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.*
- ▼ Millennialists claim: He came to become an earthly King, and to establish an earthly Kingdom and Throne.
- ▼ Christ Refuses Because That Was NOT His Purpose.



Consequences of Rejection

- ✔ Christ was **UNABLE** to accomplish what he set out to do.
- ✔ Will He be able to accomplish this at His **Second Coming?**
- ✔ Will There Be **Another Postponement?**



The Death of Christ Planned or Un-Planned?

- ✓ **A Matter of OT Prophecy**
 - *Zech 12:10 – They shall look upon whom they have pierced.*
- ✓ **He came for the Purpose of Dying:**
 - *Heb 10:5-6 – Lo, I come to do thy will...*
- ✓ **He Knew He Came To Die:**
 - *Matt 12:40 – so shall the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth three days and nights*
- ✓ **He Viewed His Death as Accomplishment – Not as a “setback”**
 - *John 12:27 – For this reason I came into this world.*



What is the Nature of the Kingdom – Spiritual or Physical?

- ✓ Luke 17:20-21 – “...the kingdom of God is within you”
 - The Pharisees and Premillennialist are looking for the same thing
 - “*WITHIN YOU*”
 - It is spiritual in nature
 - It can not be observed with the naked eye, but only with a spiritual eye.



Was Jesus Consistent?

▼ John 3:1-15 – Nicodemus

- Must be “Born Again” to enter the kingdom.
- Spiritual, Symbolic Birth – not literal
- The wind and spiritual birth are intangible, but we know they both exist. (8 and 12)

▼ Jo 18:36 – “My kingdom is not of this world...”



Was The Kingdom Postponed?

✔ Col 1:12-14 – *giving thank unto the Father which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints of light, (13) who hat delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son, (14) In whom we have redemption through his blood even the forgiveness of sins”*

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- | | | |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| ✔ No Kingdom Now | = | No light Now |
| ✔ No Kingdom Now | = | All in Darkness now |
| ✔ No Kingdom Now | = | No Saints now |
| ✔ No Kingdom Now | = | No Blood Now |
| ✔ No Kingdom Now | = | No Redemption Now |



Postponed?

- ✓ **Hal Lindsey** “Had the people received Him, He would have fulfilled the kingly prophecies in their day in addition to the ones regarding a suffering Messiah.”
 - **HOW???**
 - **If they received Him, They wouldn’t have rejected Him.**
 - **If they accepted Him, they wouldn’t have crucified him.**
 - **1 Peter 1:10-11**
- ✓ **Ryrie:** “From God’s viewpoint the fulfillment of Israel’s promised kingdom was never scheduled until the second coming, though it was offered at the first.”
 - **WHAT????**



