

A scenic photograph of a beach with waves crashing onto the shore. The foreground is filled with golden sand, marked with several footprints. In the background, the ocean stretches to the horizon under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. A dark, low-lying island or headland is visible on the horizon. A black rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the text 'THE CHURCH THE KINGDOM.' in bright yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

**THE CHURCH
THE KINGDOM.**

THE CHURCH and the KINGDOM.

We are going to look at the concept of **the Church** which is also described **as the Kingdom of God.**

Remember the term "**kingdom**" in the Bible characteristically means **the reign, rule or the exercise of sovereignty.**

So now we will see **the New Covenant Relationship** God has made with His people, His family the Church.

And how **the church** is seen as an **expression of God's Spiritual kingdom** as prophesied.

The word **'church'** is only mentioned **3 times** in the **gospels** In Matt it is mentioned twice, in Matt 16:16; and 18:17;

The **emphasis in the gospels** is on the **'kingdom of God'** mentioned 33 times in Matthew alone.

Why should there be this **difference in emphasis?** It has a **direct relationship** to our salvation.

When we come to the **book of Acts** the **church is established** and we **begin to speak about the church and the kingdom** almost as if speaking of one thing.

THE CHURCH and the KINGDOM.

There has always been a **kingdom of God** and since it is **based on His status as Creator and Sustainer** there cannot cease to be a **kingdom of God.**

Man's rebellion against the **Kings Moral Government** was **sin and treason.**

This fall (which has been participated in by the whole of mankind as they **each made their choice to rebel**) made necessary what we call "**redemption**" the need of a "**universal kingdom of grace of God.**"

The **history of the Kingdom of God** is simply the unfolding of the **scheme of redemption** in which **man may have a right relationship with his God.**

The **'Kingdom of God'** was not a new concept in the first century nor is the idea of the **'New Birth.'**

The idea of as **'New Birth'** was used at least 100 years before Jesus was born.

When the **Romans** accepted a new kind of **Philosophy** which would involve a new kind of **life style** they called this a **New Birth.**

When an **Idolater** would **throw out an old Idol** and **take on a new Idol** this would be **called a New Birth,** because that would effect and change **their lifestyle in a different way.**

This is true also of the **'kingdom of God'**
for it was a term employed
hundreds of years before Jesus was born.

It was often referred to as part of **a covenant relationship** which God had with His people

Whether it was **the Covenant** that God had
with **Abraham** or **Moses** or **King David**.

The idea of a **kingdom reign** was included
by **Jeremiah** in Jer 31:26; to Jer 34:31-34;

The New Spiritual Covenant.

The New Covenant contains
Similar basic themes to the Old:-

Nation: “Shall not cease from being
a nation before Me forever.” (Jer 31:36;)
(It was to be a **spiritual nation.**)

Seed: “I will sow . . . with the seed of man.”
(Jer 31:27;) “the offspring of Israel
shall not cease.” (31:36;)
(Both **Jew** and **Gentile** in **the church** today.)

The New Spiritual Covenant.

Blessing: “I will put My law within them . . .
I will forgive.” (Jer 31:33–34;)

Land: “The city shall be rebuilt for the LORD.”
(Jer 31:38); “it shall not be plucked up
or overthrown anymore.” (31:40;)
Heb 12:22; “But you have come to **Mount Zion** and
to **the city** of the living God, **the heavenly Jerusalem.**”

Kingdom: “the city will be rebuilt for the
LORD . . . And the whole valley of the
dead bodies . . . and all the fields . . .
shall be holy to the LORD.” (Jer 31:38–40;)

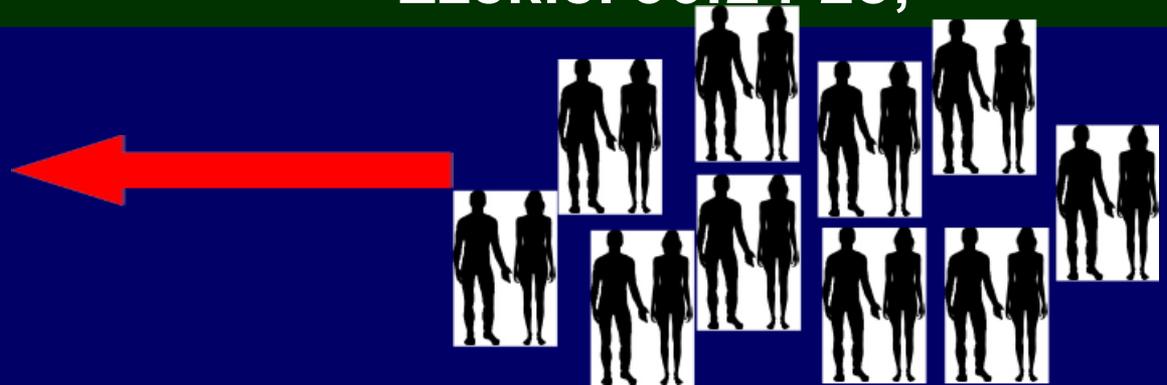
A New Promise of a Spiritual Kingdom.



“For I will take you out of the nations;
I will gather you from all the countries and
bring you back into your own land... I will
give you a new heart and put a new spirit
in you; I will remove from you your heart
of stone and give you a heart of flesh.”

“And I will put my Spirit in you and move
you to follow my decrees and **be careful
to keep my laws.** You will live in the land
I gave your forefathers; **you will be
my people, and I will be your God.**”

Ezekiel 36:24-28;



A New Promise of a Spiritual Kingdom.

I will bring you into your own land...

(Ezekiel 36:24). Yes indeed, **God did it through his servant Cyrus**, just as He had promised more than a century earlier.

There cannot possibly be any doubt that such an event as **Cyrus' sending Israel back to Palestine** would have been hailed as **a signal act of God** all over the world.

The re-establishing of Israel in Canaan was a giant step indeed toward the redemption of the reputation of Yahweh as the God of all nations.

What a shame it was that Israel's response was so inadequate, yet it was sufficient for God's purpose.

A New Promise of a Spiritual Kingdom.

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.” Ezek 36:25,26,27;

**This cleansing of Israel, consisted of three steps:-
(1)the forgiveness of sins; (2) regeneration;
and (3) the reception of the Holy Spirit;**

Significantly, none of these was available under the Law of Moses. Only under the gracious terms of the New Covenant has there ever been available to mortal men such blessings as these.

There was no forgiveness of sins under Moses;

There was no regeneration. (New Birth.)

There was no Holy Spirit within all the people;

The Kingdom of God was prophesied in the OT.

The kingdom would one day be restored to Israel but **without the trappings of the Mosaic system of which the Davidic covenant was independent.**

It would be restored in the hands of a **Priest-King who would in Himself** and therefore in the kingdom perfectly combine **religion and submission-spiritual state and acceptable service.**

This manifestation of the kingdom of God would perfect the subjects. Furthermore the King would perfectly represent the claims of God to the subjects in life and in teaching.

(Thus He is also a Prophet!)

THE NEW SPIRITUAL KINGDOM PROPHESED.

At the time of the exile **God was ruling Israel through foreigners**. This state of affairs was not to continue.

The prophets spoke of the "**former dominion.., even the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem**" **returning to Israel**. This it did in Jesus as the angel testified it would in Luke 1;

"And He will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God." Luke 1:16;
"He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end." Luke 1:33;

As the prophets had indicated, the glory which the Messiah would enjoy and bring to Israel would exceed by far anything David ever enjoyed or brought.

In the book of **Daniel** you will remember that Daniel says that in **the days of those kings** God will set up **a kingdom made without hands** which will **never be destroyed**.

Dan 2:44; 600 BC

The **Kingdom of God** is spoken of in **2 Sam 7:11-16**; when Nathan the prophet comes to David.

Why is **David** important in this context? You remember in **Gen 3:15**; after man had sinned there is the **first promise** of the one who was to be born **to take away the sin** of the world –**Jesus of Course**.

God from eternity knew that man **would need a saviour** and **reached out in love** down through time to bring about that saviour.

In Gen 3:15; God speaks to the serpent and says “I will put **enmity (ill will)** between **your seed and the seed of the woman** He will **bruise your head you shall bruise his heel.**”

Then after Abel was killed we had **Seth** born to **replace Able** the **seed line** was to be established.

After **Noah and the flood** which was a **redemptive act of God** a cleansed world we see through **Shem** the **seed promise continues** through to **Abraham.**

In **Gen 12:1-5**; God renews with **Abram** the **seed promise** that began in Gen 3:15; “In your **seed shall all the families** of the earth **be blessed.**”

Paul quotes Gen 12:3; in **Gal 3:16**; and
“to **your seed** not seeds as of many.”
This refers to Jesus Paul says.

So we can see that from the very beginning our **Bible** is tracing the redemptive seed promise of God that “**all the families of the earth would be blessed.**”

This potential was achieved in **Jesus dying on a cross** for every one of us.

Paul quotes Gen 12:3; again in Gal 3:8; saying:-
“it was because scripture foresaw that God would give **saving justice to the gentiles through faith**, that it announced **the future gospel to Abraham** in the words: **All nations will be blessed in you.**”

So what is Paul saying that the blessing that Abraham was promised is?

It is **justification by faith in and through Jesus Christ.**

What God had said to the serpent in **Gen 3:15**; He was speaking of **the destruction of Satan's power** to take sinful man and keep him away from a relationship with God.

Jesus came and by His death burial and resurrection conquered Satan's greatest weapons of fear and death.

By what we have seen so far we realise that the entire message of the Bible is redemptive.

It is God working through History to bring about mans salvation from sin and bring man back into a relationship with God.

Every book of the Old Testament contains the seed Line.

That seed line is fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus blood brought the opportunity for man to be Justified by faith.

So when we look at the end of Genesis
We see that **the seed** is to come
through the **tribe of Judah.**

When we get to **2 Sam 7:12**; we find **David**
is also from **the tribe of Judah** and God
will continue **His redemptive plan through David.**

**“For when you die, I will put one of your sons
(Jesus) upon your throne and
I will make His kingdom strong.”**

**"He shall build a house (the Church)
for My name, and I will establish
the throne of His kingdom forever.”**

1 Tim 3:15; “but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the **household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.**”

“Set Him upon your throne.” This means **Jesus’ authority His right to reign as king.**

“I will establish the throne of His kingdom forever.” Jesus will have the right and authority to reign over His people forever.

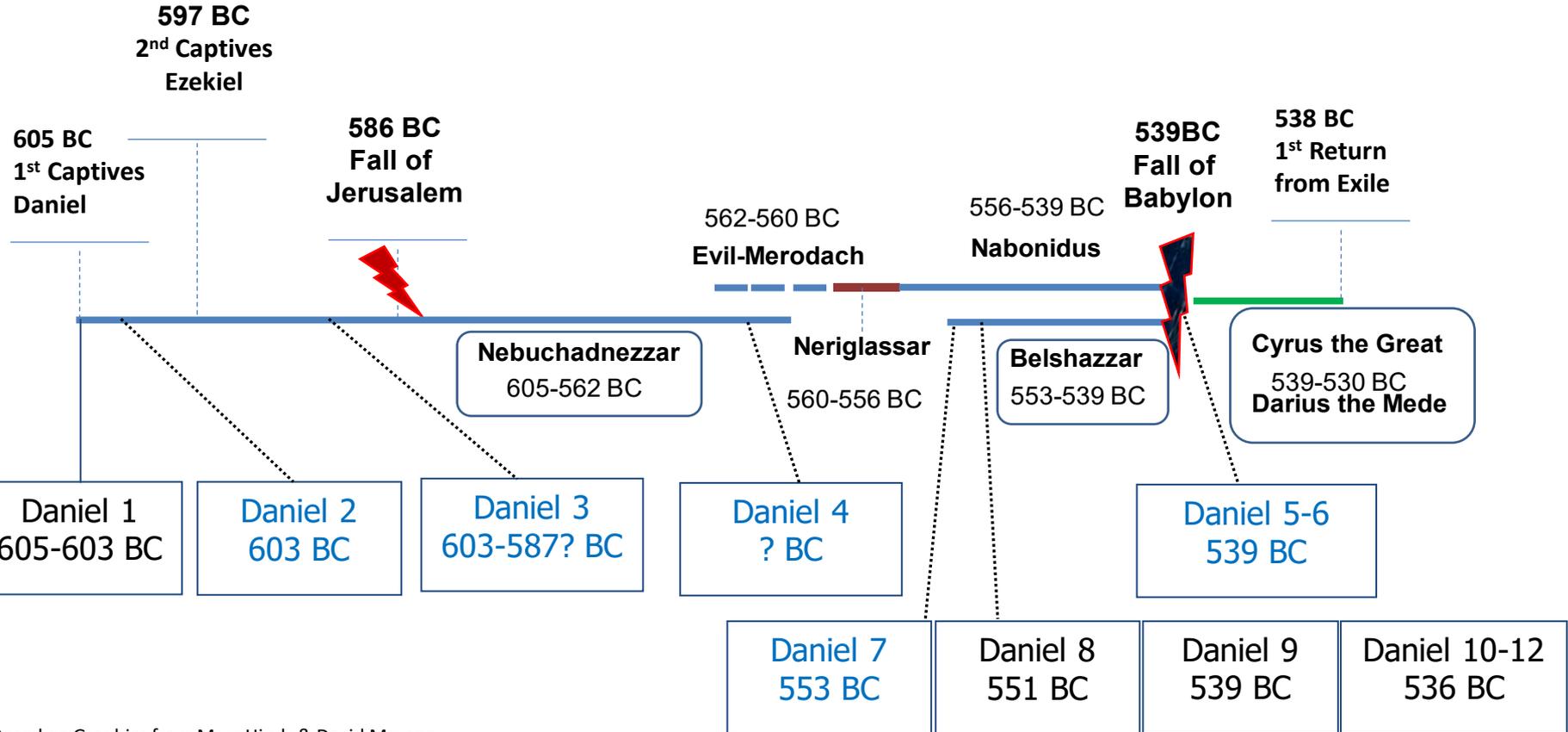
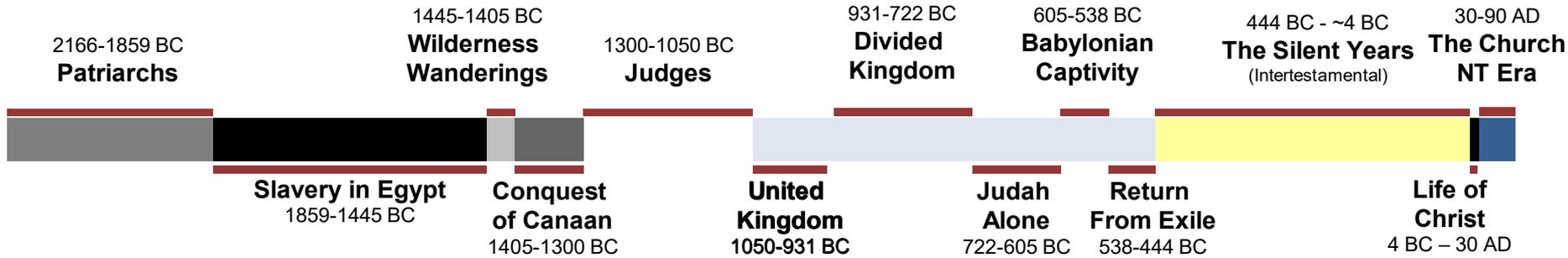
This is highly significant when we see that Peter in his first gospel sermon on Pentecost quotes that passage.

Peter says **it is fulfilled in Jesus** when He is **resurrected to reign at the right hand of God** taking over the Universal Sovereign Reign of the cosmos **to bring redemption to you and me.**

Peter was living in time of the fulfillment of these Old Testament prophecies.

So in 2 Sam 7 **we see a distinction** between **the KINGDOM** (the **sovereign reign** of God) and **the HOUSEHOLD** of God. (**The church.**)

The Kingdom must PRECEDE the church.



Daniel 2:1; Nebuchadnezzar's dream!

1 “Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him.”

2 “Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.”

**3 “And the king said to them, “I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream.
4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation.”**

Daniel 2:5f; Neb. conceals his dream!

5 “The king answered and said to the Chaldeans,
My decision is firm: **if you do not make known
the dream to me, and its interpretation,**
you shall be cut in pieces,
and your houses shall be made an ash heap.”

6 “However, if you tell the dream and its
interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts,
rewards, and great honour.

Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation.”

7 “They answered again and said,
“Let the king tell his servants the dream,
and we will give its interpretation.”

Daniel 2:5f; Neb. conceals his dream!

8 “The king answered and said, I know for certain that you would gain time, because you see that my decision is firm:-”

9 **“If you do not make known the dream to me,** there is only one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed.

Therefore **tell me the dream,** and **I shall know that you can give me its interpretation.**

10 “The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, There is **not a man on earth** who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean.”

Daniel 2:5f; Neb. conceals his dream! Uselessness Of False Religion.

Idolatry & Occult Condemned.

(Deut 18:9-14; Rev 21:8;)

"When you enter the land which the LORD your God gives you, **you shall not learn to imitate the detestable things of those nations.**

"There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices **witchcraft**, or one who **interprets omens**, or a **sorcerer**,"

"**or one who casts a spell**, or a **medium**, or a **spiritist**, or **one who calls up the dead**. "For whoever does these things is **detestable to the LORD**; and because of these detestable things the LORD your God will drive them out before you."

Daniel 2:5f; Neb. conceals his dream!

This condemnation applies to:- Horoscopes, Ouija Boards, Tarot Cards, Channeling, Séances, Charms, Transcendental Meditation, Etc.

There is a clear Difference demonstrated between these and the workings of God.
(Acts 8:9-13; 13:5-12; 19:13-20;)

When Tested, Found False. (2:7-12; 1 Jn. 4:1;)
Modern day claims are found just as false
no matter how good they sound!
(Acts 3:1-10; & 4:13-22;)



Daniel 2:5f; Neb. conceals his dream!

11 “It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.”

12 “For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave a command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.”

13 “So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.”

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:14-24;

God Knows Our Inner Thoughts.

John 1:43-49; Ps 139:1-12, 23-24;

His Word Reveals The Heart.

(Heb 4:12-13; 1 Cor 14:23-25;

But We Can Have Confidence Before Him.

1 John 3:19-24;

“...abide in Him; that, if He shall be manifested, we may have boldness, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming...”
(1 John 2:28-29;).



GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:27-28;



“Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, “The secret which the king has demanded, **the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king.**”

“But **there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets,** and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar **what will be in the latter days.**

Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these:-”

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:29-30;



“As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and **He who reveals secrets** has made known to you what will be.”

“But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and **that you may know the thoughts of your heart.**”

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:37-38;
God through Daniel reveals the vision down through
the future, starting from the Babylonian Kingdom
down to the times of the Roman empire.



Babylon

**“You, O king, are a king of kings.
For the God of heaven
has given you a kingdom,
power, strength, and glory;”**

**“and wherever the children of
men dwell, or the beasts of the
field and the birds of the heaven,
He has given them into
your hand, and has made
you ruler over them all
-you are this head of gold.”**

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:39; Chest/Arms of Silver!



**"But after you shall arise
another kingdom
inferior to yours."**

**Isaiah in Isa 13; 200 years
earlier than Daniel,
prophecies of the
destruction of the
Babylonian kingdom,
the golden kingdom."**

Medo-Persian Empire.

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:39; Belly/Thighs of Bronze!



"then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth."

Silver is harder than **gold** but not as precious.
Brass is harder than **silver** but not as precious

GREECE. Philip of Macedon followed by son Alexander.

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:40; Legs/Feet of Iron/Clay!



“And **the fourth kingdom** shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, **that kingdom** will break in pieces and **crush all the others.**”

ROME.

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:41; Legs/Feet of Iron/Clay!



ROME.

“Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, **the kingdom shall be divided;**”

“**yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.**”

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:42-43; Legs/Feet of Iron/Clay!



“And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be **partly strong and partly fragile.**”

“As you saw **iron mixed with ceramic clay**, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, **just as iron does not mix with clay.**”

This strong kingdom will become brittle.

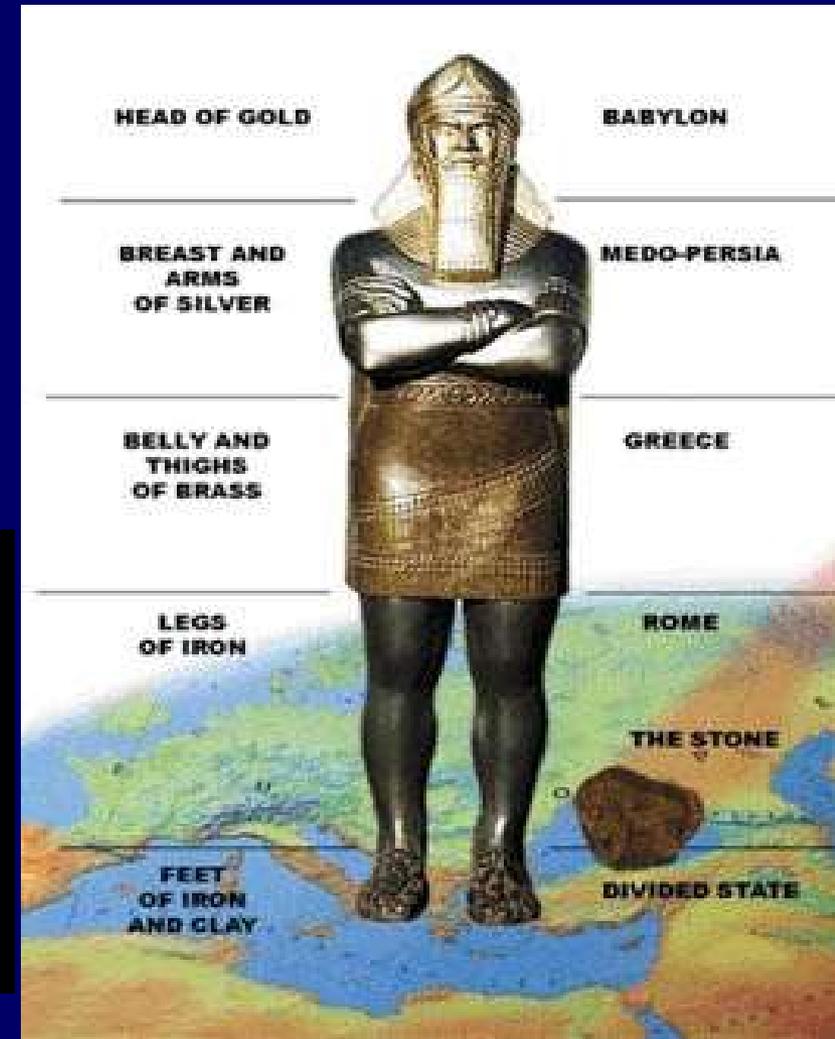
ROMAN EMPIRE.

GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:14-44;

"In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people."

"It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever."
Daniel 2:44;

Dan 2:44; "In the days of this last Kingdom, in the last days, God would establish His Kingdom."



GOD REVEALS THE DREAM! Dan 2:44-45; Legs/Feet of Iron/Clay!



“Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold”

“the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”

Thus we see the kingdom of God prophesied in the Old Testament.

GOD'S KINGDOM



Daniel 7:1-17;

Babylon

Lion –With wings like an eagle.

Medo-Persia

Bear –three ribs in its teeth.

Greece

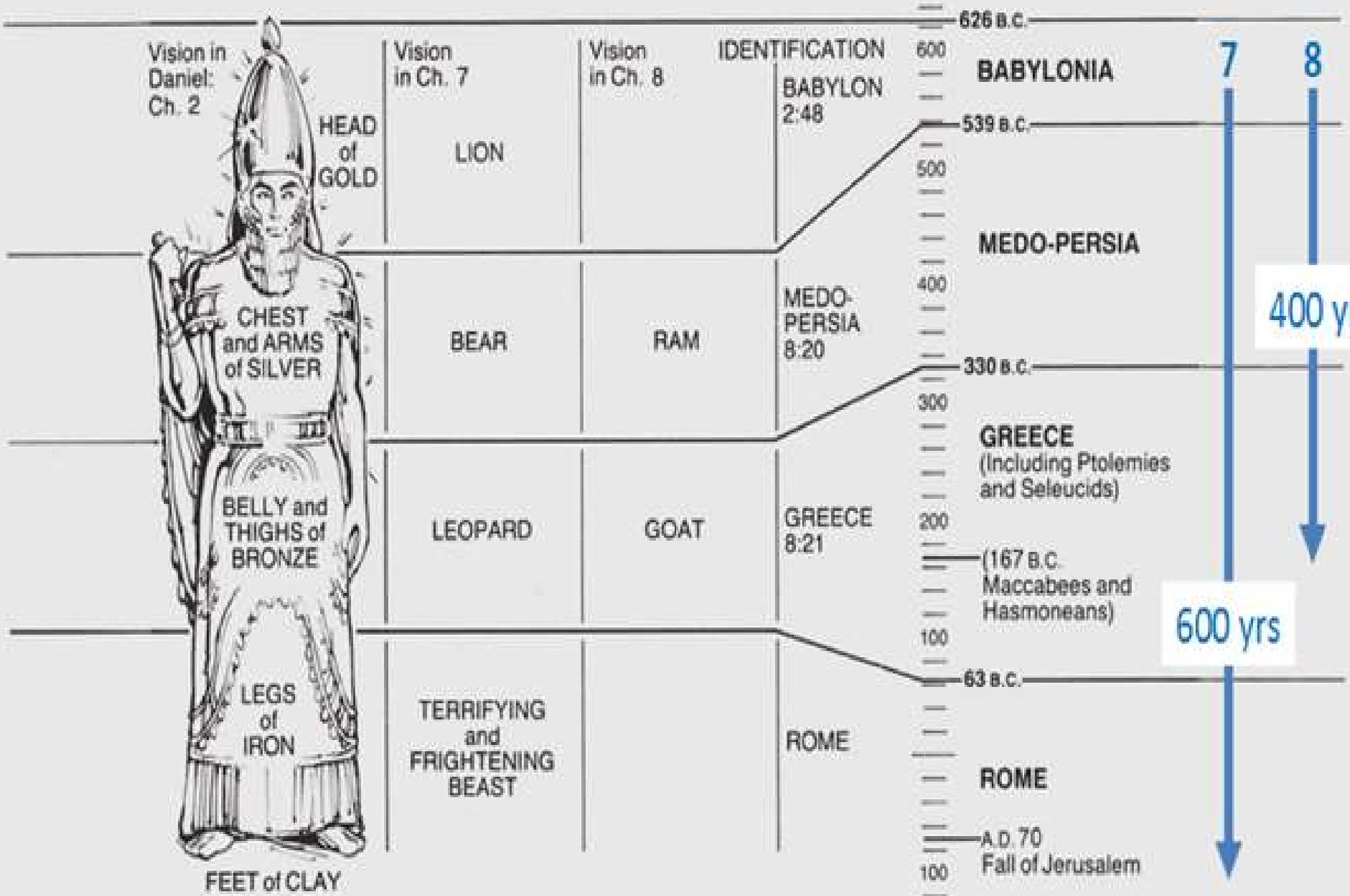
Leopard –
4 Wings on its back.

Rome

Beast with 10 horns.

Identification of the Four Kingdoms

Chronology of Major Empires in Daniel



Cycle of Visions.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

**Mighty
Metallic
Man**

**Four
Beasts**

**Seventy
Weeks**

1
Gold⁴

2
Silver

3
Bronze

4
Iron/clay

Stone³⁴

1
Lion⁴

2
Bear⁵

3
Leopard⁶

4
(ugly)⁷

**Son of
Man¹³**

Ram³
He-Goat⁸
Fierce
King²³

(Intro)

3 more Kings²
Kings of N&S⁶
Vile Person²¹
[evil] King³⁶

Messiah²⁵

**time of
Trouble,¹
time of
the end.⁴**

**“These great beasts,
which are four in number,
are four kings who
will rise from the earth.”
Daniel 7:1-17;**



**“These great beasts,
which are four in number, are four kings
who will rise from the earth.”
Daniel 7:17;**

**Dan 7:13-14; “I kept looking in the night visions,
And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like
a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the
Ancient of Days And was presented before Him”**

**“And to Him was given dominion, Glory and
a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and
men of every language might serve Him.”**

**“His dominion is an everlasting dominion
which will not pass away; And
His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.”**

“A Kingdom is given to one like a Son of Man”
Luke uses the term **“son of man”** about Jesus,
it is a Messianic term –Jesus constantly
referred to Himself as the **“son of Man.”**

So Daniel 600 years before Christ **see the Christ**
as one raised and ascended up into heaven.
Remember Peter in Acts 2 **This Jesus you crucified**
but “God has raised up.”

Jesus is raised up to receive the Kingdom,
the Reign, the Rule, the Authority, Sovereign power.
Matt 28:19-20; “All authority is given unto Me”

Acts 1:9-11; “Jesus is seen Going up.” The angels
standing there say **He will come again in like manner**

In Acts 1:9; We see Jesus going up having **lived** as an example having **died** and been **buried** and **resurrected** demonstrating **His power over Satan, sin and Death.**

In Daniel 7; we Jesus **coming up to heaven to get the Kingdom** promised in 2 Samuel 7;

At Qumran in the **dead sea scrolls** it is evident that the idea of the **“kingdom of God”** was **a prominent concept among the Jews.**

In the **first century Israel** had a **high expectation** for the **coming of the Messiah and His Kingdom.**

DANIEL 7 THE FOUR BEASTS.

GOD'S KINGDOM ESTABLISHED.

A. Thrones placed. (7:9; Rev 4:1-5;)

B. Ancient of Days sat:-

1. Holiness. (7:9;)

2. Judgment. (7:10b-12;)

C. Son of Man. (7:13-14;)

1. Came with clouds. (Acts 1:9-11;)

2. Received kingdom. (Acts 2:30-36;)

3. Kingdom above all kingdoms.

(Dan. 7:27; Rev. 5:9-10;)

Vision of the 4 Beasts.

C. The judgment scene (9-14;)

2. Son of Man receives kingdom.

- a. ascension of Jesus seen from a heavenly view. (*cf. Acts 1:9;*)

D. dominion (authority) over all peoples. (*cf. Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:20-23;*)

- a. everlasting kingdom – will never be destroyed. (*cf. Heb. 12:28;*)

Remember, this everlasting kingdom is established “in the days of these kings.”
(Dan. 2:44;)

So the idea of the Kingdom of God was not something to suddenly burst on the scene the Jews had been expecting it for centuries.

One of the prayers said every morning by every Jewish married man involved “I thank God that I am not a Gentile and that you will use my wife to be the mother of the Messiah.”

And every woman would pray “please make me the mother of the Messiah.”

So when John the Baptist said the King is coming and Jesus said the kingdom is coming multitudes flocked to hear the message and prepare themselves for the coming king and His kingdom.

Why did the multitudes follow Him?

John 6:1; gives us a clue :-

**“A large crowd followed Him,
because they saw the signs which
He was performing on those who were sick.”**

**“Jesus said “If I do not do the works of My Father,
do not believe Me; “but if I do, though you do not
believe Me, believe the works.” (John 10:37-38;)**

The signs vindicated who Jesus was.

**“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth,
a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders,
and signs which God did through Him in your midst,
as you yourselves also know.” (Acts 2:22;)**

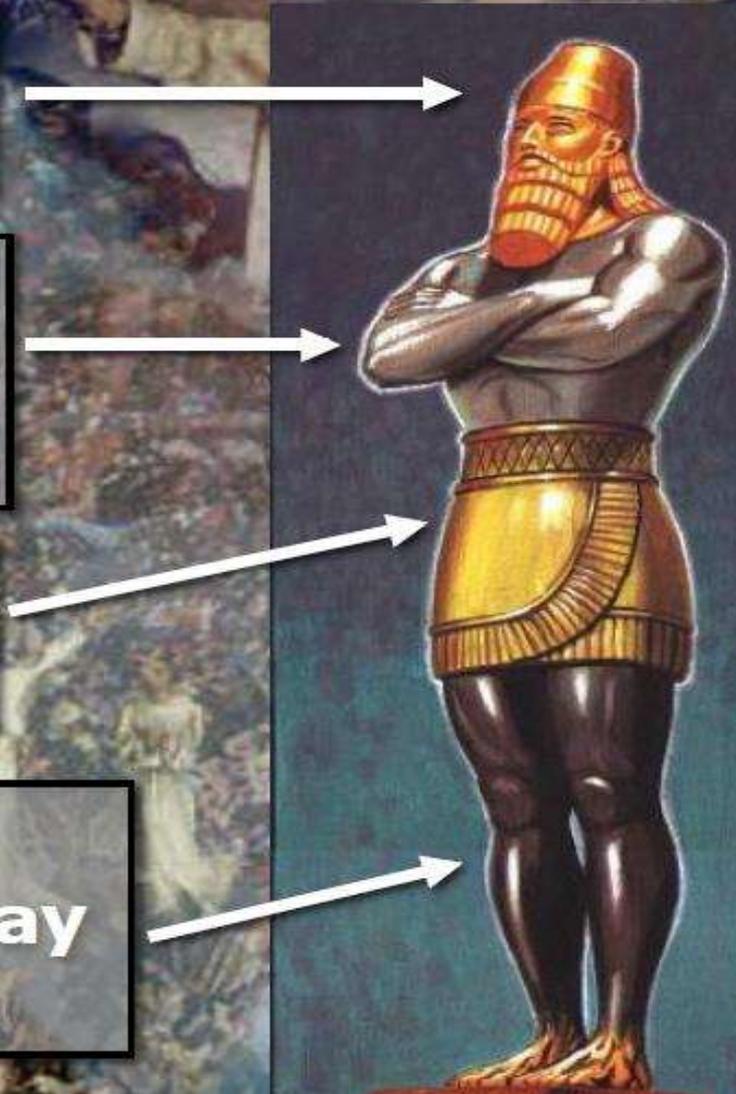
THE FOUR KINGDOMS OF DANIEL 2

The head of fine Gold –
The Babylonian Empire

The breast and arms of
silver – Medo-Persian
Empire

The belly of brass – The
Grecian Empire

The legs of iron and feet
part of iron and part of clay
– The Roman Empire



**Jesus said it was to be a spiritual kingdom.
John:18:36;**

Kingdom of

Babylon

**Medo-
Persian**

Greek

Roman

Daniel 2 / Isa 2

Latter Days

Many people shall
come and say
“Come, and let
us go to the
Mountain of
The LORD

Teach Us:

His Ways

His Paths

His Law

His Word

Subject =

Mountain of the
LORD'S House

Established on top of the mountains

Daniel 2:35

Dan 2:38

Dan 8:20

Dan 8:21

Dan 2:44

Babylon

Medo-
Persian

Greek

Roman

Dan 2:45; “Forasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king **what SHALL COME TO PASS** and the dream is **CERTAIN**, the interpretation is **SURE.**”



Many people shall come and say “Come, and let us go to the Mountain of The LORD

His Ways
His Paths
His Law
His Word

Subject =
Mountain of the LORD’S House

Established on top of the mountains



Dan 2:38

Dan 8:20

Dan 8:21

Dan 2:44

Babylon

Medo-Persian

Greek

Roman

GOD'S SPIRITUAL KINGDOM! Dan 2:45;



Head of Gold.

Chest/Arms of Silver.

Belly/Thighs of Bronze.

Feet/Legs of Iron/Clay.

**Stone
Destroyed Image
Filled the Earth**

GOD'S SPIRITUAL KINGDOM!

2 Samuel 7:12-13

¹² And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

Isaiah 2:2

² And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

Isaiah 2:3

³ And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Luke 1:31-33

³¹ And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. ³² He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: ³³ And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Isaiah 2:1-4 Visualized

Concerning Judah & Jerusalem vs. 1

Latter Days

“ALL Nations shall flow to it” vs.2

Subject =
Mountain of the LORD'S House

Teach Us:

His Ways
His Paths
His Law
His Word

Where
Out of Zion

Established on top of the mountains

Dan 2:38

Dan 8:20

Dan 8:21

Dan 2:44

Babylon

Medo-

Greek

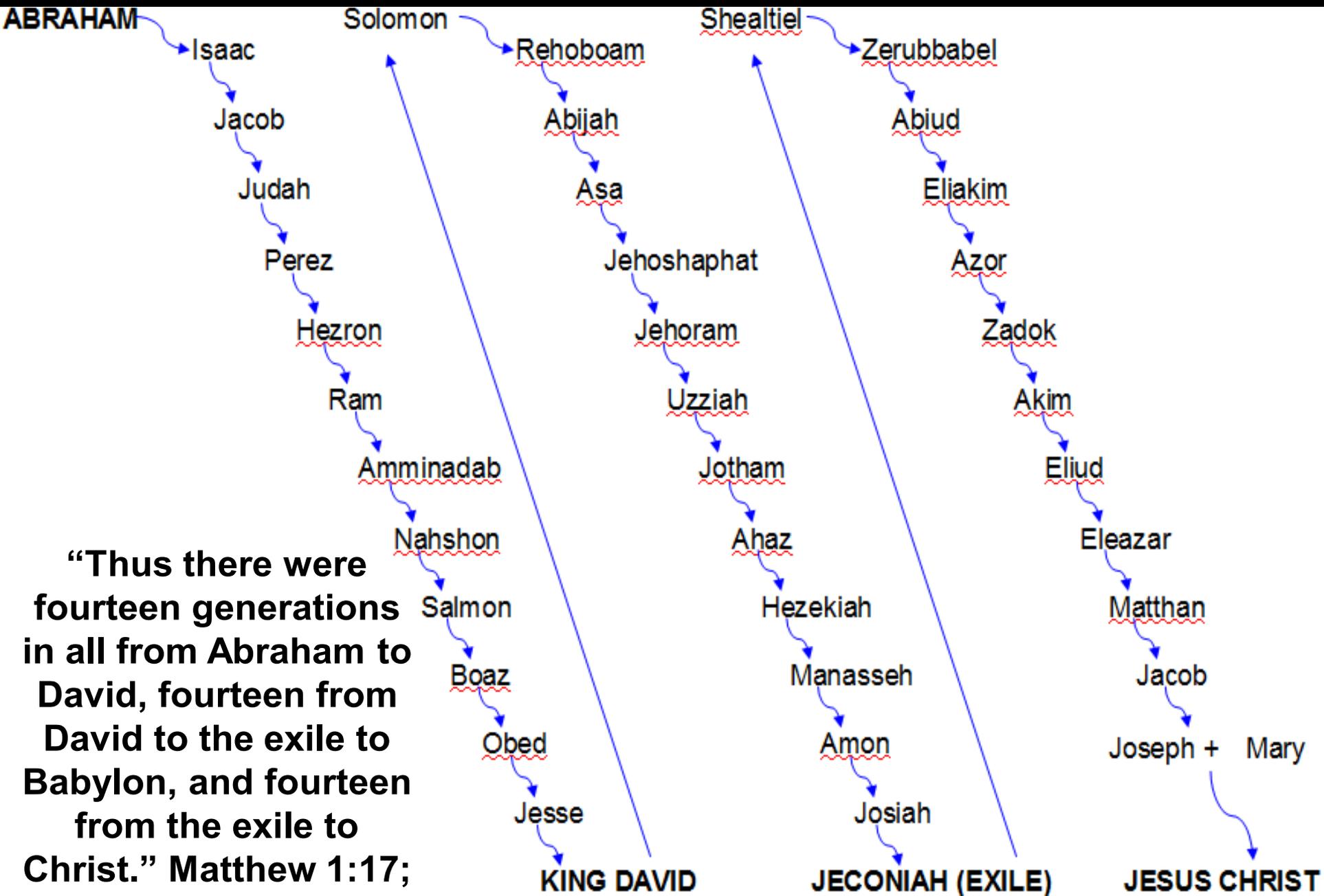
Roman

Isa 2; says God's new Kingdom beginning from Jerusalem will have ALL nations flowing into it, NOT just Jews.



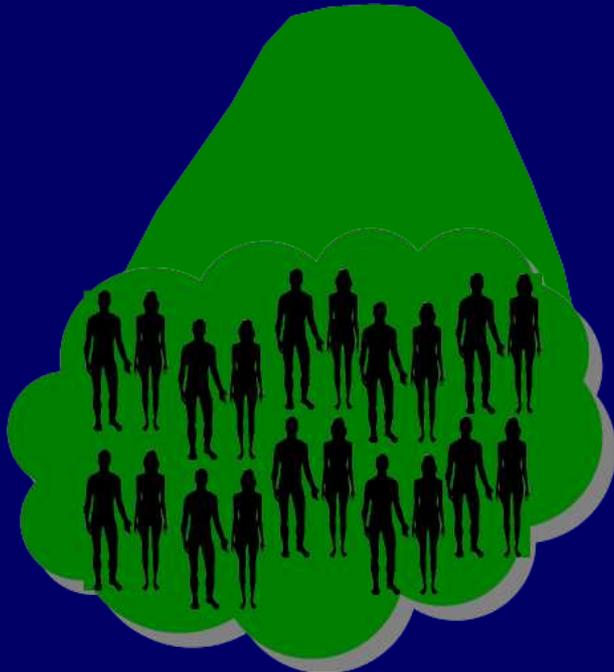
“The lion shall lie down with the lamb.” Isaiah

The King is Coming!



“Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to Christ.” Matthew 1:17;

Still Waiting for the Spiritual Kingdom.



“See, I will send **my messenger**, who will **prepare the way** before me.

Then suddenly the **Lord you are seeking** will come to His temple; The messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,’ says the Lord Almighty.”

Malachi 3:1;

God With US.

“All this took place **to fulfill what the Lord had said** through the prophet:-
‘**The virgin** will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will **call Him Immanuel**’- which means, ‘**God with us.**’
Matthew 1:22-23;



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GOD'S RULE IN HIS NEW KINGDOM.

“But you, **Bethlehem**,
in **the land of Judah**, are
by no means least among
the rulers of Judah; for
out of you will come **a ruler**
who will be **the shepherd**
of **my people Israel.**”

Matthew 2:6;



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GOD'S RULE IN HIS NEW KINGDOM.

“Then say to Pharaoh,
‘This is what the LORD says:
Israel is my firstborn son, and
I told you, “Let my son go, so
he may worship me.” But you
refused to let him go; so I will
kill your firstborn son.”

Exodus 4:22-23;

“So he got up, took the child
and his mother during the night
and **left for Egypt**, where he
stayed until the death of Herod.
And so was **fulfilled** what the
Lord had said through the
prophet: “**Out of Egypt I called
my son.**” Matthew 2:14-15;



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GOD'S RULE IN HIS NEW KINGDOM.



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“Like Adam, they have broken the covenant, **they were unfaithful** to me there.” Hosea 6:7;

“And a voice from heaven said, **‘This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.’**” Matt 3:17;

“JOHN AND JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM WAS “AT HAND.”

“During the days of THOSE KINGS.” “The ROMAN EMPIRE.”

**“Turn from your sins and turn to God,
because the Kingdom of Heaven is near.” Matt 3:2;**

**“Go and announce to them that
the Kingdom of Heaven is near.” Matt 10:7; 4:17;**

**“and heal the sick. As you heal them, say,
'The Kingdom of God is near you now.’” Luke 10:9;**

**“At last the time has come!” he announced.
“The Kingdom of God is near! Turn from your sins
and believe this Good News!” Mark 1:15;**

**“JOHN AND JESUS SAID
THE KINGDOM WAS “AT HAND.”**

**Mark 9:1; “Jesus went on to say,
“I assure you that some of you standing here
right now WILL NOT DIE before you see
the Kingdom of God arrive in great power!”**

**“And behold, I am sending forth the promise of
My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city
until you are clothed with power from on high.”
Luke 24:49;**

**“They saw something which looked like flames of fire
separating and staying over each one of them.
They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and they began
to speak different languages; the Spirit was giving them
the power to do this.” Acts 2:2-4;**

**WHEN JESUS DIED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME
IN ACTS CHAPTER 2**

**THE APOSTLES WERE INSPIRED TO PREACH
THE GOSPEL OF THE RESURRECTED CHRIST;**

**WE COULD THEN HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF SALVATION
THROUGH THE BLOOD THAT WAS SHED.**

**BY BELIEVING, REPENTING, CONFESSING,
AND BEING BURIED WITH CHRIST IN BAPTISM
TO RECEIVE THE FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS
AND THE INDWELLING GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

**AT EXACTLY THE SAME MOMENT THAT WE RECEIVED OUR
SALVATION WE WERE ADDED TO THE BODY OF CHRIST,
THE CHURCH, THE KINGDOM, THE FAMILY OF GOD. HAVING
ENTERED INTO A NEW COVENANT RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD THROUGH THE BLOOD THAT WAS SHED.**

The King is Coming.

**Many prophecies, and promises
in the Old Testament have
predicted the Messiah, the coming of Jesus.**

John 4:7-26; "I who speak to you am He."

Mark 1:15; "The kingdom of God is near."

John 18:36; "My kingdom is not of this world."

**Luke 22:66-70; "Will be seated on the right hand
of the almighty God."**

**Matthew 26:29; "Drink it anew in My Father's
kingdom."**

THE NEW SPIRITUAL KINGDOM IS NEAR.

In the above scriptures the statements about the kingdom say that it is **near, coming soon.**

Later in the study we will look at some passages that refer to the **kingdom as being established** in the present tense.

Jesus has indeed established His kingdom.

The people around Jesus were wanting to know when Jesus was going to come in His kingdom.

Most of them were thinking of an earthly kingdom of the Israelites.

They did not understand that it was to be a spiritual kingdom, that it was for all people, and that Jesus would rule (reign) from heaven.

PREACHING THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM IS NEAR.

Preaching by John the Baptist. Matt 3:1-2;

“In due course John the Baptist appeared; he proclaimed this message in the desert of Judea, `Repent, the kingdom of Heaven is close at hand.”

Preaching by Jesus Mark 1:14-15; Acts 1:3;

“After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the gospel from God saying, `The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the gospel.”

Preaching by the twelve apostles. Luke 9:1-2;

“He called the Twelve together and gave them power and authority over all devils and to cure diseases, and He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.”

THE NEW SPIRITUAL KINGDOM IS NEAR.

Preaching by the seventy disciples. Luke 10:1,9-11;

**“But whenever you enter a town and they do not make you welcome, go out into its streets and say,
‘We wipe off the very dust of your town that clings to our feet, and leave it with you. Yet **be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near.**’”**

Preaching by Philip the evangelist. Acts 8:12;

“But when they came to accept Philip's preaching of the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptised, both men and women.”

Preaching by Paul the apostle. Acts 19:8; 20:25; 28:23,30-31;

“He began by going to the synagogue, where he spoke out fearlessly and **argued persuasively about the kingdom of God. He did this for three months.”**

PREACHING THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM IS NEAR.

The Kingdom was foretold by **Daniel 2:44;**

The Kingdom was foretold by **Gabriel Lk 1:31;**

Jesus:- “the kingdom is at hand.” Mk 1:14-15;

Jesus:- “the kingdom has come upon you.” Mt 12:28;

Jesus: “the kingdom will come with power.” Mk 9:1;

**Jesus sent out preachers to preach
the kingdom is at hand:-**

The Twelve in Matt 10:7;

The Seventy in Luke 10:9;

Jesus after the resurrection in Acts 1:3;

Luke says that “Jesus spoke about
the things **concerning the “kingdom of God.”**”

Jesus is magnificently obsessed
from the beginning of His ministry
to the day of His ascension with
the establishment of the Kingdom of God

What is the kingdom of God?

Matt 1:21; “call His name Jesus for
He will save His people from their sins.”

Luke 19:10; “Jesus came to seek and save sinners.”

What did Jesus come to do?

Did he come to:-

Establish a Kingdom?

Build a Church?

Or Save sinners?

YES-
all three.

Since the **church** is the **body of the saved!**
Acts 2:41; **“Those** who believed what Peter
said **were baptized** and **added to the church-**
about three thousand in all.”

This shows us that **when the church was**
established it was established in direct relationship
to the fact that Jesus was RAISED and now
Was REIGNING, seated at the right hand of God.

Again we ask the question since
the church is the body of the saved.

Why it is only mentioned 3 times in all four gospels
when the kingdom is mentioned 66 times?

There is a **definite contrast** because
from the Day of Pentecost in **Acts 2** we
begin to speak about **the church from then on.**

In 2 Sam 7; He says **I will take your seed David**
I will establish His Kingdom,
He will build a house for My Name.

**2 Sam 7:13; "He shall build a house (the Church)
for My name, and I will establish
the throne of His kingdom (Jesus Reign) forever."**

**In this passage we easily see
That the kingdom and the church
are not the same!**

Yet there are passages that show that the Kingdom and the church depending on the context can be DESCRIBED as the same.

Jesus rules over His people the saved the saved are His body the church and those who are saved accept His reign over them and are therefore part of His kingdom.

But in Matt 28:18; “And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Jesus kingdom reign is over far more than just the church, Jesus is over ALL. Everyone is part of His sovereign reign whether they accept it or not.

In reading Matthew when **Jesus is speaking of the kingdom** He **never defines** what it is.

Yet the phrase **'kingdom of God'** did not need to be defined for the people of those days because **THEY KNEW WHAT IT MEANT.**

In Acts 2:47; **“praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.”**

Colossians 1:12-13; “Because that is what He has done. It is He who has **rescued us** from the ruling force of darkness and **transferred us into** the **kingdom of the Son that He loves**, and in Him we enjoy our freedom, the forgiveness of sin.”

“Rescued us and transferred us INTO the kingdom of the Son,”

Often then we think about the church being **equal to or equal with the kingdom.**

It is true that whenever the saints, the saved, are added to, His body the church the saints, the saved are translated into the kingdom.

But WHEN that TRANSLATION into the KINGDOM takes place we are TRANSLATED INTO MORE THAN the body the church.

Because the KINGDOM that embraces (includes) the CHURCH embraces MORE than the Body of Christ, THE CHURCH.

So what is the real definition of THE KINGDOM?

The lexicons give a primary definition as:-

Rule, reign, kingship, kingly authority, kingly power, dominion, sovereignty.

**‘Kingdom’ (basilei‘) is best translated ‘sovereign reign’ ‘sovereign rule.’
Jesus is reigning now.**

If we look at John 18:36; “Then Jesus answered, **“I am not an earthly king.** If I were, my followers would have fought when I was arrested by the Jewish leaders. **But My Kingdom is not of the world.”**”

Jesus says **“His kingdom is NOT of this world?”**
But we know **the church is here in the world?.**

The lexicons also give a **secondary definition** of **Kingdom:-** “realm, territory, domain, the people over which the king has dominion.”

We read in Acts 20:28; “Be on guard for yourselves and **for all the flock**, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to **shepherd the church of God** which **He purchased with His own blood.**”

We read in **Rev 5:9-10**; “And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and **purchased for God with Your blood** men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.”

“You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.”

Mt 20:28; speaks of “the blood bought, the church”
Rev 5:10; Speaks of
“the blood bought as the kingdom and priests.”

THE NEW SPIRITUAL KINGDOM NOW EXISTS.

1Thess 2:12; “that your daily lives should not embarrass God, but bring joy to Him who invited you into His Kingdom to share His glory.”

Rev 1:9; “I am John, your brother. In Jesus I share with you the tribulation, the endurance, and the kingdom.”

“I was on an island called Patmos, because of the message of God and the evidence about Jesus.”

The basic meaning 'Kingdom' (basilei)
**“Any activity of God can be associated
with the idea of Kingdom of God.”**
Everett Ferguson. (church of Christ p27)

'Kingdom' (basilei)
**“describes the coalition of people
under the sovereignty of God.”**
The eternal kingdom. P 41 F.W.Madox.

We need to see the KINGDOM as:-
Rule, reign, kingship, kingly authority,
kingly power, dominion, sovereignty.

Check the context when you see the word kingdom
do not automatically think of the church.

Various translations of the word basilei

Dan 7:13-14; “**Sovereignty** and glory and **kingly power** were given.” NEB

“**Sovereignty**” is in the margin of the NASV.
“**Authority, glory and Sovereign power.**” NIV
Also Dan 7:27;

“Then the **Sovereignty the Power and the Kingly power** was given unto Him.” NEB

The kingdom is the POWER
that God exerts **OVER** the domain.

John 18:36; "My kingship is not of this world;" RSV
"My kingly authority comes from elsewhere." NEB
"but now my kingdom is from another place." NIV

Jesus kingdom is different in nature and origin
and is therefore of a different character.

Where is it from? It is from the Father 2 Sam 7;
He says I will take your seed David
I will establish His Kingdom,
He will build a house for My Name.

"He shall build a house (the Church)
for My name, and I will establish
the throne of His kingdom (Jesus Reign) forever."

Who will build the house?

The one who is GIVEN the power to reign

The Father gave the power to Jesus the Son

The Father gave the power to build the house.

Father gave Jesus the authority to forgive sin.

**The Father gave The Spirit the authority
to come and dwell within us.**

**Luke 17:19-23; “The kingdom
does not come with observation,
For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst.”**

John 3:3-5; “Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

You can see the church when you see the people who have been born again but you cannot see the kingdom UNLESS you are born again, it is seen with the minds eye.

**It is a spiritual Kingdom not a Physical kingdom
Christ is reigning in the spiritual realm.
Both over the world and over His people the church.**

The kingdom CANNOT be located here or there geographically, but the church CAN be located geographically we are looking at it, I am a part of it..

JESUS the CHRIST is REIGNING over His UNIVERSAL kingdom NOW. Matt 28:18-19; “He’s got the whole world in His hands.”



JESUS the CHRIST is ALSO REIGNING over His KINGDOM the CHURCH NOW. Acts 2:33; Col 1:18;

**JESUS the CHRIST is REIGNING over
His UNIVERSAL kingdom NOW. Matt 28:18-19;
“He’s got the whole world in His hands.”**

Jesus rules over Russia

Jesus rules over China

Jesus rules over America

Jesus rules over the Middle East

Jesus rules over the Church

**JESUS the CHRIST is ALSO REIGNING over
His KINGDOM the CHURCH NOW. Acts 2:33; Col 1:18;**

Remember 2 Samuel 7;

I will establish the THRONE of His kingdom!

The AUTHORITY of His reign!

He will build a HOUSE for My name!

**When will the seed of David build a house
(the church) for God's name?**

When He gets the POWER to do it.

What is the POWER for? SAVING SOULS.

**The saved souls are added by God
to the church, the family the body
of the saved. According to Peter in Acts 2;**

WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

Rom 14:17; “for it is not eating and drinking that makes the kingdom of God, but the saving justice, the peace and the joy brought by the Holy Spirit.”

Rom 14:17; “For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

These are qualities and characteristics of the marvellous reign of God over His people.

This is what God wants those He reigns over, (US), to have, to develop.

**RIGHTEOUSNESS:- Is
the church the body of Christ righteousness?
or is righteousness accredited to her faith?**

**The kingdom of God is JOY:-
The church the body is not joy- it HAS joy
it is the character that the church receives.**

**The kingdom of God is PEACE:-
The church the body is not peace- it HAS peace,
it is the character that the church receives.**

**Col 3:15; “Let the peace of heart which comes from Christ
be always present in your hearts and lives, for this is
your responsibility and privilege as members of His body.
And always be thankful.”**

It is only **IN CHRIST** in **HIS BODY** the **CHURCH** that is found **Salvation** and **real peace**.

Rom 5:1; “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

So we have defined **Basalei / Kingdom / kingship** as **the rule, the reign of God in Christ**.

It is the **absolute cosmic sovereign power** that **Jesus Christ** has been given by the Father in fulfilment of **2 Sam 7;**

Jesus speaks of The gospel of the Kingdom:-

Matt 4:23; 9:35; 24:14; The gospel, the message of John and the message of Jesus which is that the kingdom is at hand.

Makes repentance crucial to receiving the blessing of salvation from the reigning Christ.

Matt 5:3; "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." NAS

Matt 5:3; "God blesses those who realize their need for Him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is given to them." NLT

Matt 5:3; "Humble men are very fortunate!" he told them, for the Kingdom of Heaven is given to them." LB

“Poor in Spirit” a person who is not proud,
Meek:- power under control, one who has
bowed the knee to Jesus.

Giving their life to Jesus because they recognise
He is the **only one** who can **save them, forgive them,**
give them **real comfort** and **hope** not only
in this world but in the world to come.

People who have bowed the knee, given up their
sinful habits, **changed the direction** and purpose
of their lives, are renewing their mind daily
and are **transforming the way they do things.**

**Gal 2:20; “I have been crucified with Christ and
I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now
live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God.”**

What is the blessing:-

It is the kingdom the reign of Christ in our life.

We tried it our way and we messed up badly.

Titus 3:3; “We, too, were disobedient, foolish, and fooled. We were slaves to all kinds of human desires and pleasures. We lived our lives being mean to and jealous of others. People hated us and we hated them.”

We NEED to allow Jesus to take control.

**We need His Help His Guidance,
His encouragement, His Forgiveness.**

We NEED to allow JESUS TO REIGN!

Sin is missing the mark. We are the creation of God. He created us to live a certain way and we said NO THANK YOU, We REBELLED! We said No thank you I will do it MY way.

WE need to allow Christ to reign in our lives.
Matt 21:43; Jesus speaking to the Jews said:-

"Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it.

We are challenged by Jesus to allow the Spirit to produce fruit in our lives.

Gal 5:22-23; **"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."**

Those who allow Jesus to reign in their life:-

Will want to be like Jesus.

Will strive to be like Jesus.

**Not because we HAVE to
but because we WANT to.**

**A better world begins with ME when
I AM WILLING TO GIVE my LIFE
TO JESUS and allow HIM to REIGN.**

THE CHURCH THE KINGDOM.

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**Next in the series:-
JESUS IS KING!**