

November 8, 2020 – The Coming King and His Kingdom

We had an election this past Tuesday, and as of now, we still don't know who our President will be. And we need to pray for God's will to be done, for indeed people have voted, but God is sovereign, the One who really decides, for it says in Dan. 2:21, *"He changes the times and the epochs, He removes kings and establishes kings."* Indeed, God knows what He is doing, and His purposes will be carried out. Eph 1:9-11

We live in an evil age, an age when *"the whole world lies in the power of the evil one."* And we see the pride, anger, hate, greed, immorality, and the crime, the conflicts, the corruption, that is in our country and is all over the world. Now God has established governing authorities, rulers, kings, Presidents, etc. Rom. 13:1-7. And the ruler is to be *"a minister of God to you for good."* He is to be *"an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil."* And we are to submit to our authorities, we are to do what they tell us to do unless what they tell us to do is in direct violation of what God says in His word. Acts 4:18-20

Acts 5:27-32. It's important to remember that you're a stranger in this world, and then you're headed to heaven. But while you're here, you're to do the work that God has given you to do. Eph. 2:10

- Matt. 5:14, 16 - *"You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."*

- Acts 1 tells us that Jesus and His disciples are talking about the kingdom of God, and they wanted Jesus to set up His kingdom on earth. But He told them that they first had work to do, that they'd receive power from the Spirit, and were to be *"witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."* Matt. 28:19-20

1 Thess. 1:5-10. Here is this young Thessalonian church and they were working for God by sharing the gospel, but they were also waiting for Jesus to come back from heaven. And that's because they really wanted to be with Jesus, but they also wanted Him to come back and set up His kingdom on earth.

We talked last week about Jesus coming back as a King, but there is much more that needs to be said. In this present political climate, I must remind you not to put your hope in earthly leaders but in Christ Himself, for He's the only One who can really help you now, at this present time, and He's your only hope for the future. Psalm 146:1-10
- In this present world there is so much sin and evil that is not dealt with, and that's why we need to think ahead to that time when Christ will be King over this world, and when He will be perfectly ruling this world, and judging the people who are sinning.

We need to be praying about this too. As it says in Matt. 6:9-10, *“Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”* The most famous prayer in the world instructs us to ask God to set up His kingdom on earth, and for His will to be done on earth.
- And so pray this, and pray it every day, and you know what, it’s going to happen. The kingdom of God is going to be set up on this earth, and sooner than you think.

That’s because we live in the end-times, the last stage of this church age. The reason we know this is because the Jews, who were driven out of their land in 70AD, and then scattered all over the world, have come back to their land, just as God predicted.
- Over the past 140 years ago, the Jews began returning to their land, and then they became a nation in 1948, and today there are literally 6.6 million Jews in the land.

But I want to sum up for you what is going to happen next:

1. The Antichrist, the fake King, the one who will act like he is God, will be revealed at the midpoint of Daniel’s 70th week, and then begin to rule this world, and then will be worshiped by the world. And he will persecute both Jews and Christians. Rev. 13:7
2. Then there will be these great signs in the heavens, which is God’s way to show us that this evil age is over, and also that this church age has ended. Matt. 24:29
3. Christ will return to rapture the believers who are on earth. And these believers will be joined with all believers from all time, those who are now in heaven - and all these believers will be given brand new bodies, and then be with Christ forever. 1 Thess. 4:17, 1 Cor. 15:51
4. God will pour out His wrath on earth during what is called the day of the Lord, which is when He is punishing the unbelievers on earth, and many people will die. Rev. 8-9
5. Jesus Christ will literally return to earth as the King of kings. Rev. 19:11-16
6. Jesus Christ will return to Jerusalem and He’ll reign from there. Zech. 14:4, 9
7. God will save a remnant of Jews. Rom. 11:25-26, Zeph. 3:12-17
8. The earth will be restored, renovated, remodeled. Acts 3:19-21, Rom. 8:18-21
9. Jesus Christ will begin His reign on earth, a reign that will last for a total of exactly 1000 years, and Christians will reign with Him during that glorious time. Rev. 20

Now God’s future plans for the Jews are going to intersect with His future plans for the church. That is, the fulfillment of God’s promises for the Jews will converge with the fulfillment of His promises for the church. God’s work with Jewish and Gentile believers from all time from the Old Testament times, and from the church age, will all come together in the millennial kingdom, during that time when Christ is reigning over the earth. Heb. 11:39-40
- That’s why it’s necessary for you, the Christian, to know what God says about the Jews, for much of it relates to the future God has for you. Ps. 37:11, Matt. 5:3

What do you need to know about this reign of the King; that is, what is your hope?
Psalm 2:1-3. This describes our present condition on earth, that rulers are in opposition to God, are against God, and do not want His kingdom to be set up on this earth.
- Psalm 2:4-5. It's foolish for leaders and people on earth to defy God, and think they can do whatever they want, and that there will be no consequences. And we see that God is righteously angry, and He tells us that He has already installed His king, and in His mind, He has, but it just hasn't happened yet, but it will.
- Psalm 2:7-9. Here is Jesus, God's Son, telling us that He will be the King of the world, that the nations will be His inheritance, and that He will judge the world.

Isaiah 6:3. During Christ's reign, the glory and holiness of God will be seen all over the world. Hab. 2:14

- Psalm 47:7-8. Christ will be King over all the earth, over all nations, over all people.
- Psalm 48:1-2 – Jerusalem will be the city from which Jesus Christ will reign as King.
- Psalm 65:8-9 – Here we learn that the skies, earth, and land will be physically and greatly blessed, and will be a wonderful display of the glory and goodness of God.
- Psalm 66:3-4 – This is amazing, unbelievable, for in the millennial kingdom, all people will bow down to God and will worship Him, even the unbelievers. Phil. 1:9-11

Psalm 67:1-3 – God will bless the Jewish believers with the result that His way and salvation will be known all over the world, and people will get saved and praise the Lord.
- Vs. 4 – God will judge the nations, lead the nations, and make wise decisions, with the result that the nations will be glad and be singing and praising God.
- Vs. 6 – Again we see that God will physically bless this earth. Farmers will be very excited for they will see their land be more productive than ever before.
- Vs 7 – Again, God will bless His people, the Jews, but this blessing relates to Christians too, with the result that all the ends of the earth will fear God and be praising to Him.

Psalm 72. This Psalm is about King Solomon, for some of these things spoken of here happened when he was ruling, for during his reign, Israel was at its zenith - it was the greatest, richest, most powerful nation on earth. But this Psalm also and more-so sees its fulfillment when Jesus will be King, and in a greater and much more glorious way.

Vs. 1 – Jesus will be the King over all the earth.
- Vss. 3-4 – Jesus will be a righteous judge, and help those who are afflicted and hurting. The result of His righteousness and mercy is that there will be peace on earth.
- Vss. 5 – This kingdom age will last while the sun endures, which means for 1000 years, for we know from Rev. 21:1 that after 1000 years, that God Himself, during the eternal kingdom, will illumine the world.
- Vs. 6 – Again, we see God's great blessing upon the physical earth.

Vs. 7 – And the righteous will flourish, and again we see that there will be peace on earth.

- Vs. 8 - We learn that Jesus will reign from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth.

- Vss. 9-11 – We learn that all people, from nomads to kings, will bow to King Jesus, and bring Him gifts, and serve Him.

- Vss. 12-15 – We see that Jesus will take care of the afflicted, the poor, and the needy.

We all know there are lots of poor and hurting people in this world, and since we live in this country, we don't always realize how bad it is in other countries. But when Christ is King and is reigning over the nations, the needs of the poor will be met.

- Vs 16 – During that time, there will be a great abundance and blessing for both those who live in the city and those who live in the country.

Vs 17. This says that Christ's name will endure. He's not just in office for 4 years or 8 years, but for 1000 years. And Christ's name will increase, that is, He will become more well known and famous as time goes on. And people will be blessed because they know Him. Finally, the whole world will bless the Lord, will worship Him.

- Vss. 18-19. Here's the conclusion, and it applies to us now and forever, for we are to bless the Lord today, tomorrow, and forever. And during this millennial kingdom time that we're talking about, we'll be blessing and praising the Lord like never before, and that's because we will be glorified, and we will be able to perfectly bless Him.

And we will bless Him because we know Him and because we see all His wonderful works.

- Of course, we will bless His name after this millennial kingdom, during the eternal kingdom. And then the whole earth will be completely filled with His glory, and His goodness, and His love, and His holiness.

Now this is all very, very encouraging, for during this time that we live on this earth, during this time when we see all this sin and evil and corruption on earth, we can get very, very discouraged. And so we need to have this hope, and need to be thinking and praying about the great future that God has for us. Rom. 15:8-13