

# Thy Kingdom Come?

## Selected Passages of Scripture

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### Introduction

- Responding to a comment on Facebook of giving up dispensational, premillennialism for covenant, amillennialism
- Amillennialism or replacement theology paints a very negative picture of the world's future
  - No literal, 7 year tribulation period, but we are experiencing the "tribulation" now
  - The church replaces Israel, so there is no need for a restored Davidic kingdom
  - No literal, 1,000 year millennial kingdom, but the saints in heaven now are experiencing the millennium
  - Future bleak: world getting worse, Jesus returns, judgment follows, then destruction of present heaven and earth, creation of new, establishment of eternal kingdom.
- Premillennialism paints a positive picture of the world's future after the seven years of tribulation
  - The seven-year tribulation will be a time of unprecedented troubles and perils
  - At the end, Jesus Christ returns, the Antichrist and his forces are defeated, judgment and resurrection follows.
  - Jesus Christ establishes His kingdom here on earth! The BEST is yet to come!
- *Why does there have to be a kingdom age? Why must Jesus literally reign here on earth in a millennial kingdom? Why the kingdom?*

## Thy Kingdom Come? Three general reasons:

### A. PROMISES to be kept!

#### 1. The Abrahamic Covenant stated

- Genesis 12:2-3-- *"I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*
- Genesis 12:7-- *"To your descendants I will give this land."*
- Genesis 13:14-16-- *"Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever. And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered."*

#### 2. Two kinds of Covenants in Scripture

- a. Conditional covenants-- depends for its fulfillment on the recipient of the covenant and not upon the one making the covenant. (ex. Mosaic Covenant) A big "IF"
- b. Unconditional covenants-- depends solely on the one making the covenant for its fulfillment. No Big "IF". There may be little "ifs" connected to receiving the blessings of the promise, but these do not change the unconditional nature of the covenant.

#### 3. The Abrahamic Covenant is an Unconditional Covenant

- a. God says over and over, "I will"
- b. The formal ratification of the covenant reveals its unconditional nature.
  - Genesis 15:9-10-- *"Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. "*

- Genesis 15:12-- *“when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him.”*
  - Genesis 15:17-21-- *“And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: “To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates— the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.”*
- c. It is an Everlasting Covenant
- Genesis 17:7--*“And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.”*
  - Genesis 17:19-- *“No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.”*
- d. Based on the immutable character of God who cannot lie.
- Hebrews 6:13-18-- *“when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, ‘Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.’ And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.”*
4. **The Three-fold Expansion of the Abrahamic Covenant**
- a. **Land of Palestine**-- Palestinian Covenant of Deuteronomy 30
- Deuteronomy 11:24-- *“Every place on which the sole of your foot treads shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the River Euphrates, even to the Western Sea, shall be your territory.”*
- b. **Seed or Kingdom**-- Davidic Covenant of 2 Samuel 7
- c. **Blessing**-- New Covenant of Jeremiah 31
5. **These unconditional covenants have yet to be fulfilled literally and fully by God.** Thus there must be a kingdom age in which God will do for Israel what He has promised!

## **B. PROPHECIES to be fulfilled!**

1. **The a-millennialist objection to a literal kingdom based on so few verses in Revelation 20 that speak of the 1,000 year reign of Christ.**
- Revelation 20:4-6-- *“And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”*
- a. If there is to be a literal kingdom, one would expect more verses in Revelation dealing with the kingdom age. These verses therefore must be understood figuratively rather than literally.
- b. They fail to realize that there are literally hundreds of Old Testament prophecies yet to be fulfilled literally that will find fulfillment in Christ’s kingdom here on earth.

- c. The Old Testament has little to say about the tribulation period. It is expanded in the book of Revelation. The Old Testament has much to say about the coming Kingdom. Therefore no need for expansion in Revelation.
2. **The Prophecy of the Coming Kingdom that crushes the last Gentile world power, Rome.**
- Daniel 2:34-35-- *"he watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth."*
  - Daniel 2:44-- *"And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever."*
  - Daniel 7:26-27-- *"But the court shall be seated, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever. Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him."*
- a. The last world kingdom will not be Rome, but rather the Kingdom of God established here on earth.
- b. The first four kingdoms revealed to Daniel had a literal, historical fulfillment. Why should the fifth kingdom be spiritual and not actual?

### **C. PRAYER to be answered!**

1. **The Kingdom of God here on earth has always been on the hearts and minds of believers** since the days of the Psalmists and the prophets of Israel
2. **At the time of Jesus, Jews were looking for the coming of their Messiah and the establishment of His kingdom here on earth,**
  - Luke 1:31-33-- *"behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."*
3. **John the Baptist and Jesus both preached a message of repentance for the kingdom of God is at hand.**
4. **The nation though rejected Jesus as their Messiah, and the establishment of the kingdom was postponed.**
5. **Jesus instructs his disciples to pray, "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."**
  - Matthew 6:9-10-- *"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."*

a. We are to pray for the establishment of His kingdom!

b. Praying for His kingdom to come gives us the proper perspective on this world

***THY KINGDOM COME! THE BEST IS YET TO COME!!***