

## THE KINGDOM OF GOD ON EARTH

Throughout the history of mankind on the earth, there have been first, individuals, gradually nations, and ultimately empires - world kingdoms. These have risen, prospered, decayed, and without exception fallen. The impermanence of man's arrangements is worthy of note. Considering recent history and the nations of today, the mind is similarly impressed.

There is no stability.

Government tends to be either a form of democracy with permissiveness, weakness - or one of absolute power, resulting often in tyranny and oppression.

Treaties and agreements among nations too often are meaningless - arrangements of expediency.

A thoughtful mind cannot help but feel a certain cynicism and helplessness.

And so, how uplifting and inspiring it is to examine what God has clearly promised to all in the world who will hear Him - His kingdom on earth.

### WHAT IS THIS KINGDOM?

It is to be a divine government, everlastingly established on this earth, first over-coming all existing political arrangements for the purpose of bringing the world into subjection to and harmony with the Creator, and to manifest His majesty.

"And in the days of these kings (the world rulers in the last days) shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: ... it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever." Daniel 2:44.

"... And there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." Revelation 11:15.

Some details concerning this kingdom may be helpful, which in its establishment is to fulfill God's promises and prophecies.

### A KINGDOM WHOSE CAPITAL IS JERUSALEM

Regardless of questions about this ancient city today, its ultimate position is absolutely sure, for God has said that He

"... shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever."  
Micah 4:7.

"... They shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it..." Jeremiah 3:17.

Are there any who will be permitted to share in the rulership of this kingdom?

## ASSOCIATED WITH HIM ARE HIS SAINTS

"... The saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.... and judgment was given to the saints of the most High ...." Daniel 7:18,22.

This new world empire is to be known as the Kingdom of God, and is to be established in fulfillment of a promise made to Israel, that their kingdom, once ruled over by God, should be in the earth again. It was their hope and the reason for the apostles' question to Christ, "... Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" Acts 1:6.

"... Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country; And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness." Zechariah 8:7-8.

To the Gentiles will go a gracious invitation to become subjects with the Jews.

"And I saw another angel ... having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying, with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him...." Revelation 14:6-7.

"Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the Lord. Thus saith the Lord of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you." Zechariah 8:22-23.

With the establishment of this kingdom, as opposition is vanquished, the reign of the Lord Jesus Christ and His faithful saints will bring to the earth - REST. There will be a state of harmony and peace never before experienced, because at last men will be subject to God, striving to know and honor Him. They will be privileged to live and rejoice in a righteous world, controlled by the wisdom of the Almighty.

"... The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord...." Isaiah 11:9.

"The Lord is exalted ... wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation..." Isaiah 33:5-6.

"O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth...." Psalm 67:4.

Universal peace and righteousness will prevail during this millennial reign of the Lord Jesus and His saints; and, as a consequence, there will be a vast harvest of redemption at its end. At this time, the Lord Jesus will bring to completion God's plan for this earth. He will turn over the kingdom, then perfected in every sense, to God, His Father ...

"THAT GOD MAY BE ALL IN ALL"  
I Corinthians 15:28