

His Kingdom Has Come...So What???

The Kingdom has come - not future

I. As Jesus Began His Ministry:

A. His message: The kingdom is AT HAND" (Matt. 4:17).

B. John preceded Him with the same message (Matt. 3:2). "At hand" signified "nearness."

C. So much of the Lord's teaching centered on THE KINGDOM: much teaching in parables, and many of them begin with "The kingdom of Heaven is like..." (cf. Matt. 13).

1. Zech 9.9

2. Dan 2.44; Dan 7.13-14

D. The point "kingdom at hand" is verified in Mark 9:1 — Some then present would not taste of death until they saw the kingdom come with power.

So the Kingdom has come -

1. Otherwise prophecies have failed

2. We are without hope

3. Christ Jesus was not a prophet of God Deut 18.20-22

4. Has come - Col 1.13

5. Not of this world - Jn 18.36

6. But it IS a kingdom

What is a kingdom?

A. Not too many around now - history

1. Nimrod - Gen 10.8-12 (a mighty hunter)

2. Israel wanted a king to "judge" them - 1 Sam 8.4-5

3. To lead them against their enemies - 1 Sam 8.19-20

B. A Kingdom consists of:

1. A King

- a. Absolute ruler - Mt 28:18
  - b. Life or death dominion over subjects - Luke 19:12-27
  - c. Sovereign (sole) determiner of laws - Jn 12:48; Mt 16:20
  - d. Must prove He is rightful king by power or decent - Rom 1:4
2. A territory - The whole world, heaven & earth - Mt 28.18; Rev 11.15; Lk 19.27
3. A people - The Church
4. Laws - which is what it means to "rule"
- a. Laws of citizenship - Jn 3.3, 5
  - b. Laws concerning access/approach to the King
  - c. Laws concerning acceptable conduct

When we acknowledge Him as King determines our eternal destiny - Rom 14:11; Phil 2:10-11

If we confess Him as King now He will help us overcome our enemies

Sin, the world, Satan and ultimately death itself

If we do no, we will be forced to acknowledge Him that Day with the certain knowledge that our next step is into the fires of Hell.

Which will it be?