

HAVING RECEIVED THE KINGDOM

INTRODUCTION

- I. When Jesus was on earth, the Jews identified His coming with a kingdom. Luke 19:11
 - A. Following this text, we have the words of Jesus as he spoke of the kingdom. v. 12
 1. The “nobleman” refers to the Lord Himself.
 2. The “far country” is an illusion to heaven itself, to which the Lord ascended. Acts 1:11; John 3:13
 - B. In this parable of the pounds, Jesus spoke of two things: to **receive** and to **return**. v. 12
- II. Now let's look at these 2 words, with reference to the kingdom of God.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, THE RECEIVING OF THE KINGDOM.

- A. Daniel, in the O.T., spoke of this coming kingdom to be established in the days of the Roman kings. Dan. 2:44
 1. This kingdom would be on earth, but it was not to be a “worldly” kingdom. John 18:36
 2. Jesus, the Son of Man, had to ascend TO heaven to receive the authority to rule over this coming kingdom. Acts 1:11; Luke 19:11-12
- B. Later in the parable, Jesus stated that upon that “return”, He would have already received the kingdom BEFORE His “return”. v. 15
 1. He received the authority for the kingdom with His appearance before God, the Ancient of Days. Dan. 7:9-10, 13-14
 2. The enemies of God could not prevent His being power as king. Luke 19:14; Psa. 2:1-7; Acts 2:33-36
 3. This kingdom is identified with the church which was established on the day of Pentecost, as recorded in Acts 2. Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:47; Heb. 12:28; Rev. 1:4,9

II. 2nd, the RETURN OF THE KING OF THE KINGDOM.

- A. Jesus later told the apostles that He was going away (into heaven), but would “return” or “come again.” John 14:1-3; cf Acts 1:11
- B. Jesus will NOT “return” **TO** “set up a kingdom on earth, with headquarters in Jerusalem, to reign OVER such kingdom for 1000 years,” but when He turns, He will “already” have received the kingdom with authority over it, as He **now** reigns over the kingdom FROM HEAVEN. Luke 19:15; cf Heb. 12:28
 1. Jesus functions as a High Priest AND king—at the same time. Zech. 6:12-13
 2. Jesus is that High Priest (or sacrifice offerer) **in heaven**, so His rule as king over the kingdom, is **also** from heaven. Psa. 110:1-5
- C. The “return” of Jesus will be to **judge** the world in righteousness, and to **transfer** the faithful kingdom to God and eternal glory. 1 Cor. 15:23-24

CONCLUSION

- I. The kingdom Christ received can **only** be entered by means of the new birth. John 3:3-5
- II. Are you in the kingdom of God?

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