

## **“THY KINGDOM COME”**

### **INTRODUCTION**

I. Jesus taught His disciples to pray “Thy kingdom come.” The Jews at this time expected a kingdom to come in somewhat of a restoration of the old earthly kingdom. Luke 19:11; Mark 15:43; Luke 19:11-12; John 18:33-40; Acts 1:6.

A. Today there are many who still aspire to a literal coming kingdom of an earthly nature.

1. “Jehovah’s Witnesses” maintained that Jesus was to establish his kingdom on earth in 1914.

2. He did not do so, but they say He DID come but people just did not see it, though Jesus said it could be identified.

a. Jesus came to built His CHURCH, or KINGDOM. Matt. 16:18

b. Those IN the church are IN the kingdom. Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:4, 9; Heb. 12:23, 28

B. Jesus taught that HIS kingdom would be of a different nature than the kingdoms of the world. John 18:36-37

II. This study will be about the coming of the kingdom of God, or the kingdom of heaven based on 3 points emphasized by Daniel in Dan. 2:44

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **I. 1<sup>st</sup>, in the first century the kingdom’s coming WAS IMMINENT, or “AT HAND.”**

A. John and Jesus both preached that was “at hand” or near. Matt. 3:2, 17

1. God said the kingdom was “at hand”, was very near.

2. If did NOT come in the first century, Jesus was not know it, or He lied—not knowing that He was wrong.

B. There WAS the church in the first century.

1. The book of Hebrews speaks of God’s House as the KINGDOM. Heb. 1:8; 12:28

2. The book of Hebrews also speaks of God’s House as the CHURCH. Heb. 12: 22:23

#### **2<sup>nd</sup>, Prophecy said the kingdom would be established in IN THE DAYS OF THE ROMAN KINGS.**

A. The 4 world KINGDOMS in the book of Daniel (Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Grecians and Roman) ranged from 606 BC until no later than 476 AD.

1. The Roman empire completely passed away by 476 AD.

2. Daniel wrote that GOD’S kingdom would be established **in the days of the Roman kings.**

a. Daniel 2:44 declares this truth. the first 3 kingdoms, God tells of something that would happen in the days of the 4<sup>th</sup> or Roman kingdom. **“And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom will set up a kingdom shall never be destroyed....”**, showing that the church (kingdom) would begin in the first century.

b. The church, or kingdom of God **WAS** established in the first century.

B. Thus, the KINGDOM or CHURCH of the Lord had to be established before AD 476 to fulfill this prophecy.

#### **4<sup>th</sup>, the Kingdom of God WILL STAND FOREVER.**

A. It was said to be a kingdom that would “never be destroyed” Dan. 2:44), or would “stand forever” Heb. 12:28.

- B. Paul taught this in 1 Cor. 15:23-26, "...**23**.At his coming, **24** Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. **25** For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.
1. 1<sup>st</sup>, Paul speaks of the **coming** of the Lord, v. 23.
  2. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Paul speaks of the **time** of His coming, the **end** of the world, v. 24.
  3. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Christ will **deliver up the kingdom to God**—NOT establish or begin the kingdom v. 24.
  4. 4<sup>th</sup>, Christ will then **put down** or give up the authority He has had till that time v. 24.
  5. 5<sup>th</sup>, Christ **must reign** prior TILL that time, v. 25.

#### CONCLUSION

- I. Since Jesus REIGNS after His death. And before His return He HAS to be over a KINGDOM **before** 1914, and this kingdom still stands, and will be till the end of the world.
- II You can belong TO that kingdom by means of the new birth as revealed in John 3:3-5
  - A. There are 2 elements to the new birth.
    1. The first element is the **seed** or word of God, or the gospel. Luke 8:11; Jas. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23
    2. The second element is the **water**, into which one is buried and from which he is raised to begin the new life. Rom. 6:3-5; Mark 16:16
  - B. When one is born again, he is added to the church or kingdom. Acts 2:47; 1 Cor. 12:13

**DON TARBET**