

The Book of Daniel
"The Messianic Kingdom"
Daniel 2:1-49

Introduction

1. Will there be an earthly kingdom of Christ, the Messiah? This is a hotly debated question amongst many today.

Special Note: There are three major views concerning an earthly millennium:

Postmillennial--the belief that Christ will return to the earth after the earth has attained to a millennium of peace. This is a long standing liberal point of view and is largely defunct today.

Amillennial--the belief that there will not be an earthly kingdom with Christ reigning at Jerusalem. This view entirely ignores the Abrahamic covenant and the literal promises given to Israel in the O.T.

Premillennial--the belief that Christ will return before He reigns and set up His kingdom on earth. We believe He will come before the Tribulation Period first to take His church to heaven and then return in a second phase to the earth to establish His kingdom. Daniel 2 fully agrees with this view!!!

2. The Bible is clear on the matter of a kingdom, particularly from the Book of Daniel. What are the truths which Daniel 2 presents in this connection?

Study carefully the following:

1. The KINGDOM will be set up by God. v. 44.

Here is a forthright statement that the kingdom which shall set at naught the fifth kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar's dream will have an heavenly origin. Cf. John 18:36. Furthermore, this is specific divine intervention in the affairs of the world. He has done this in Israel history and He will do it again! Cf. Israel in Egypt, Babylon, etc.

2. The KINGDOM will be set up catastrophically. v. 45.

Whereas many teach that the kingdom is something which moves gradually amongst men until it envelopes the entire world, the Bible teaches it will come

about with a stroke of divine majesty. Cf. Psa. 2:9; Rev. 19:11-21.

Mark carefully the wrong interpretation of Matthew 13 suggesting that the Gospel is like "leaven" moving in human circles to envelope the world and thus bring about the kingdom of heaven on earth.

3. The KINGDOM will never be destroyed. v. 44.
There will NEVER be another earthly kingdom of human ordering when Christ's has been set up. This is the everlasting kingdom so often spoken about in the Bible. Cf. Isa. 9:6, 7; Luke 1:32, 33.
4. The KINGDOM will subject all nations under Christ. v. 44
With the setting up of the Messianic Kingdom, all others fall under the supereignty of the Lord. This is the final sound of the trumpet in the last days, cf. Rev. 11:15.
5. The KINGDOM will be set up at the end time.
Daniel clearly predicted this in harmony with other Bible passages. Cf. 2:28, 44,45. cf. Matt. 6:10.

CONCLUSION

Without controversy, participation in the coming kingdom is dependent upon one's submission to the Lord Jesus. To wait and expect some unusual opportunity to be related to Christ in the critical days ahead is sheer and unfounded hope. The only right decision is to get adjusted to HIM now so that when these things do come to pass, you will be ready and enabled to participate as one who KNOWS the Lord. Psa. 2:12.

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