

## *The Future Kingdom & What It Will Bring*

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The seven kingdom parables of Matthew chapter 13 reveal an overall picture of the progression of the kingdom through the history of man on this earth. First it shows the kind of subjects that are in it. (vss. 3-9; 19-23) Second, how these subjects came to be in it. (vss.24-30; 37-43) Third, the unusual increase of the kingdom and its attraction of false teachers to it. (vss.31, 32) Fourth, its corruption by those false teachers. (v.33) Fifth & sixth, its redemption because of Israel and the church. (v.44-46) And seventh, the time when it shall be purged or purified. (47-51)

Many of the saints have lost sight of the substance of the hope before them that involves the kingdom. There is no question that today the brightness of the hope of Christ's coming and His kingdom, for the average Christian, is as a thick, heavy, dark cloak has been thrown upon it. It is an exception to the rule to find a Bible-believer that understands a millennial kingdom coming to this earth. That cloak began to be pulled over the minds of many as far back in history as the 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D., when through the fantastic imaginations of men like Origen (c.185-254) and Augustine (354-430) began applying a system of interpretation that was predominately a non-literal rule; a mystical-allegorical-spiritual sense, which is simply put –personal speculation. To Origen Scripture not only had a literal sense but also a spiritual sense; every text had both senses. He believed that the Scriptures had many senses behind them. So, no one could conclude the true sense of the word of God. Through the efforts of these two men, Origen and Augustine the kingdom of Christ began to be viewed in another way than had been the received understanding of the kingdom. The premillennial kingdom (chiliasm) was set aside for an ammillennial (non-millennial) or post-millennial view. As the confederacy of religion increased the new kingdom view that took root. And as it is with unholy unions, anyone that opposes the views of the majority suffers. So the dissenters, those that maintained the doctrine of a premillennial kingdom was ostracized, persecuted, and martyred. Why? Because the new view means the kingdom is come and that the Christians was to take the world for Christ now, without Christ, in order to welcome Christ, who will destroy everything and take us to heaven. This confederation of religion soon became

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called the Holy Catholic Church (Catholicism). After nearly a millennium there was a protest against some of the corruptions of the Holy Catholic Church. From this arose Protestantism. In reality the only thing that changed between Catholicism and Protestantism was, other than a necessary and slight tweaking of a couple of doctrines, the appointing of another head to rule over their part of the universal church. But the ancient teaching of Christ's premillennial kingdom was squelched by spiritualizing the Scriptures. In this way the kingdom and the church become the same. As a result the church and state become one. The kingdom and this world must become united. This church must leave no stone unturned to bring all men into it through all means at their disposal. But this is a gross contradiction of the truth of God's word. The kingdom preached by John the Baptist, the Lord Jesus, and His ministers, was of a future kingdom. The kingdom of Jesus Christ *is not of this world*. (cf. Jn.18.36)

*Mt.3.1, 2, In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand; 4.17, From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand; 9.35, And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom; 10.7, And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.; 24.14, And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*

This kingdom the saints of God were to live in expectation of coming to earth one day.

*Mt.6.10, Thy kingdom come, 33, seek ye first the kingdom of God; 20.21, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left in thy kingdom; Mk.15.43, Joseph of Arimathaea ... waited for the kingdom of God; 1Th.2.12, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory; 2Th.1.5, that ye may be accounted worthy of the kingdom of God); Da 2:44, And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom; Dan.7.27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of*

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*the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.*

This kingdom would come to pass only when the Savior, Jesus Christ returned. Then He should receive the kingdom.

*Mt.16.28, Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.; 20.8, when even was come; 22.11, when the king came in to see the guests; 25.5, and at midnight there was a cry, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; 25.19, After a long time the lord of those servants cometh; 25.31, When the Son of man shall come in his glory; Lk.19.15, And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom.*

Then when Christ returns He would remove from it all that know not God and that have not obeyed the gospel.

*Da 2:44, the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms; Mt.13.41, The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 48, but cast the bad away; Lk.19.27, But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me; 2Th.1.7-10, And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.*

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This kingdom shall be the last kingdom. There is no other kingdom after this kingdom. It shall exist eternally. It shall be upon this earth for 1,000 years, then after the earth is dissolved it shall come to the new heaven and the new earth.

*Re 20:6, Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years; 1Co.15.24, 25, 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. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet; Lk.19.12, 15, 27, He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. ... And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom ... But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me; Lu 1:33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end; Da 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and **the kingdom shall not be left to other people**, and it shall stand for ever.*

At the end of this kingdom the history of this world as it presently exists is ended.

*1Co.15.23-26, 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. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.; Re.20.14, 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.; 21.4, And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death ...*

When Christ comes in his kingdom the earth shall undergo some radical changes. The earth in the judgments which God pours upon the sinful man will be catastrophic. So much so that even the topography of the earth will become altered from what it used to be, especially in the land of Canaan.

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Is.47.6-11; Ez.47; Joel 3.18-21; Ze.14.4, 10; Re.16.18, 19

But what a kingdom this shall be! The knowledge of the Lord Jesus, His worship, His doctrine, His Law shall be universally known.

*Is.11.9 ... for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea; Is.65.24, And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.*

The curse will be lifted.

*Ge 3:17-19 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*

*Ge.9.1-6 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.*

And, the life of man is restored like to that of them of the antediluvian world; as the days of a tree.

Is.65.19-23; Ez.36.8-11; Am.9.13

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Israel shall be saved!!!

Ge.49.10; Is.25.7-10; 66.8; Jer.23.7, 8; 30.7, 16-22; Ez.37.23; 39.23-29; Dan.9.24; Hos.2.18b-23; Am.9.11, 14, 15; Zec.3.9, 10; 9.16; Mal.3.17, 18; Lk.14.29; Ro.11.26; 2Co.3.15.

*Is.2.5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.*

There'll be no more war; the whole earth shall come to peace.

*Is.2.2-4 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*

*Isa 66:12 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.*

*Ez.34.28 (esp. to Israel) And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid.*

*Mic.4.4,5 But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.*

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*Hos.2.18b ... and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.*

Man can lay in the forest without fear of anything.

*Ez.34.24, 25 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it. And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.*

The earth shall yield her increase without the toil and labor, the sweat of the brow.

The earth will produce like a garden of Eden. (cf. Is.35.1, 2, 7; 47.12; Ez.34.26, 27; 36.8, 10, 11; Am.9.13)

The animal kingdom will be at rest; no more dangerous beasts; no more zoos to see animals in cages.

Is.11.6-9; 64.25; 65.25; Ez.34.25, 28; Hos.2.18a; Ro.8.19-22

This is the hope and the kingdom that is promised to the children of God. This is what the saints of God are *waiting* for. But this kingdom is not being preached anymore. Most professing Christians have no idea of what there is before them. They have little knowledge of what is ahead. They have a false notion of heaven that is no more than that which we read of in Roman or Greek mythology; so far removed from that which is revealed in the Bible, God's word. For ignorance of God's word the hope that is before them in Jesus Christ is dimmed. A man will not live for that which he does not understand. Dear brethren, the kingdom is the most blessed time that the earth has ever experienced since its creation. It is a time when the whole earth, because of Jesus Christ's death upon the cross for sinners, His burial in the tomb, and His resurrection from the dead, the whole earth will become like a garden of Eden. And this is what the people God will enjoy even into eternity when this earth passes away and He brings us to that new heaven and new earth. These things concerning the kingdom are written so that we might have a strong hope in the coming of Christ and for that certain millennial day! Praise God!

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*Ac.2414 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:*

*15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.*

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