

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

WHAT IS IT? [PART 2]

Reading: **Matthew 6:9 - 13**

Introduction

- The term '**Kingdom of God/Heaven**' is used multiple times in NT. (E.G. [Matthew 6:33], [John 3:3/5], [Revelation 11:15].)
- There are 3 types of '**kingdom**' referred to in the Bible.
- There are earthly kingdoms, Satan has a kingdom and God has a Kingdom.

1 Daniel Chapter 2

- The word '**kingdom(s)**' occurs 59 times in Daniel.
- Nebuchadnezzar the king has a dream that no one can interpret.
- Image of a man composed of gold, silver, bronze, iron and a mixture of iron and clay.
- A stone smashes the image while the wind blows all the remains of it away and the stone grows into a mountain that fills the earth.
- Daniel is given the meaning of the dream and interprets it to the king.
- The metals represent successive Gentile kingdoms. (Babylonians, Media-Persian, Greek and Roman).
- The stone represents the Kingdom of God.
- The Lord Jesus appears in the Roman era of the image.

- His Kingdom begins in the hearts of men and women and will eventually fill the whole earth. (The fulfilment of the Kingdom.)

NB That idea of a future coming Kingdom is NOT the full understanding of the term

2 This Present Age And The Age To Come

- The Bible talks about 2 ages.
- This '**present age**' from creation to the 2nd coming. Dominated by the kingdom of Satan working through the kingdoms of men.
- The '**age to come.**' Starting with the 2nd coming and proving to be eternal.

3 The Power Of The Kingdom NOW

- The Kingdom of Heaven is NOT entirely future.
- Consider [Luke 10:8 – 9], [Luke 11:20] and [Luke 17:21].
- In the Roman part of [Daniel 2] King Jesus invaded this '**present age.**'
- His miracles, healings, exorcisms were the evidences, manifestations of the Kingdom amongst them.
- They were '**foretastes**' of what the Kingdom will be like, not the whole meal.
- The Kingdom of Heaven was amongst them.

4 The Powers Of The Age To Come

- Consider [Hebrews 6:4/5].
- At Pentecost, Christ endured the church with the powers of the Kingdom.
- This was to enable His '**forces**' to branch out into Satan's domain.
- He left them the power to free captives.
- When the sick were healed, the demonic delivered and people baptised with Holy Spirit, this was the powers of the age to come and the Kingdom of God was amongst them.
- That power is still available today.
- When people are saved, restored, healed etc. the Kingdom of God is amongst us.

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