

The Church in Prophecy



Part 2

The Kingdom of God

Luke 24:46-49

The Kingdom of God

The Timing of the Kingdom's Arrival



Daniel's Prophecy

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

○ **Daniel 2:44** reads:

- *“And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.”*

The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

“These kings” – Roman Empire

Babylon – The Head of Gold

Medo-Persian – The Chest and Arms of Silver

The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

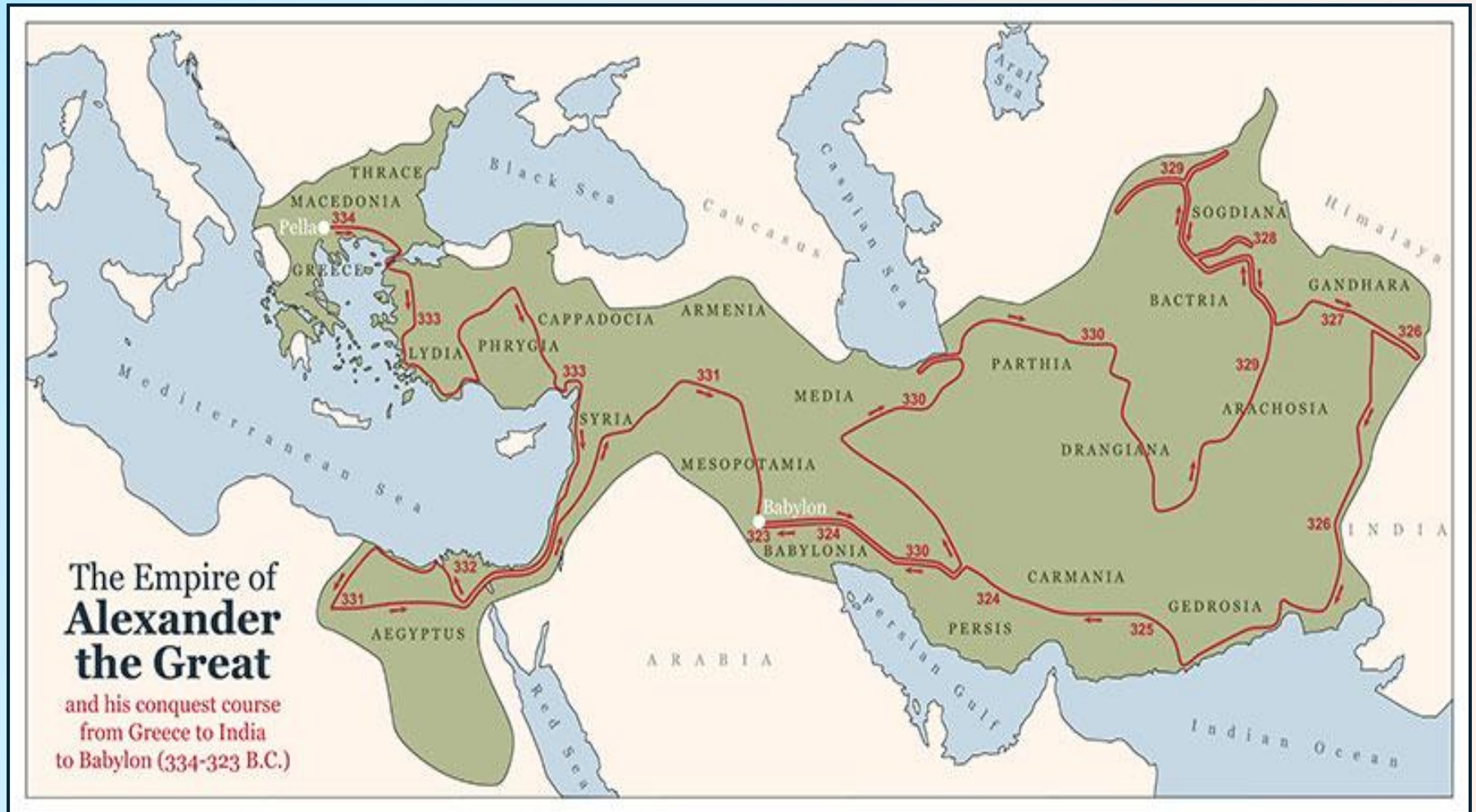
"These kings" – Roman Empire

Greece/Hellenistic – The Belly and Thighs of Bronze

- Alexander the Great was the great conqueror who built a vast empire from Greece to India.

The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.



The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

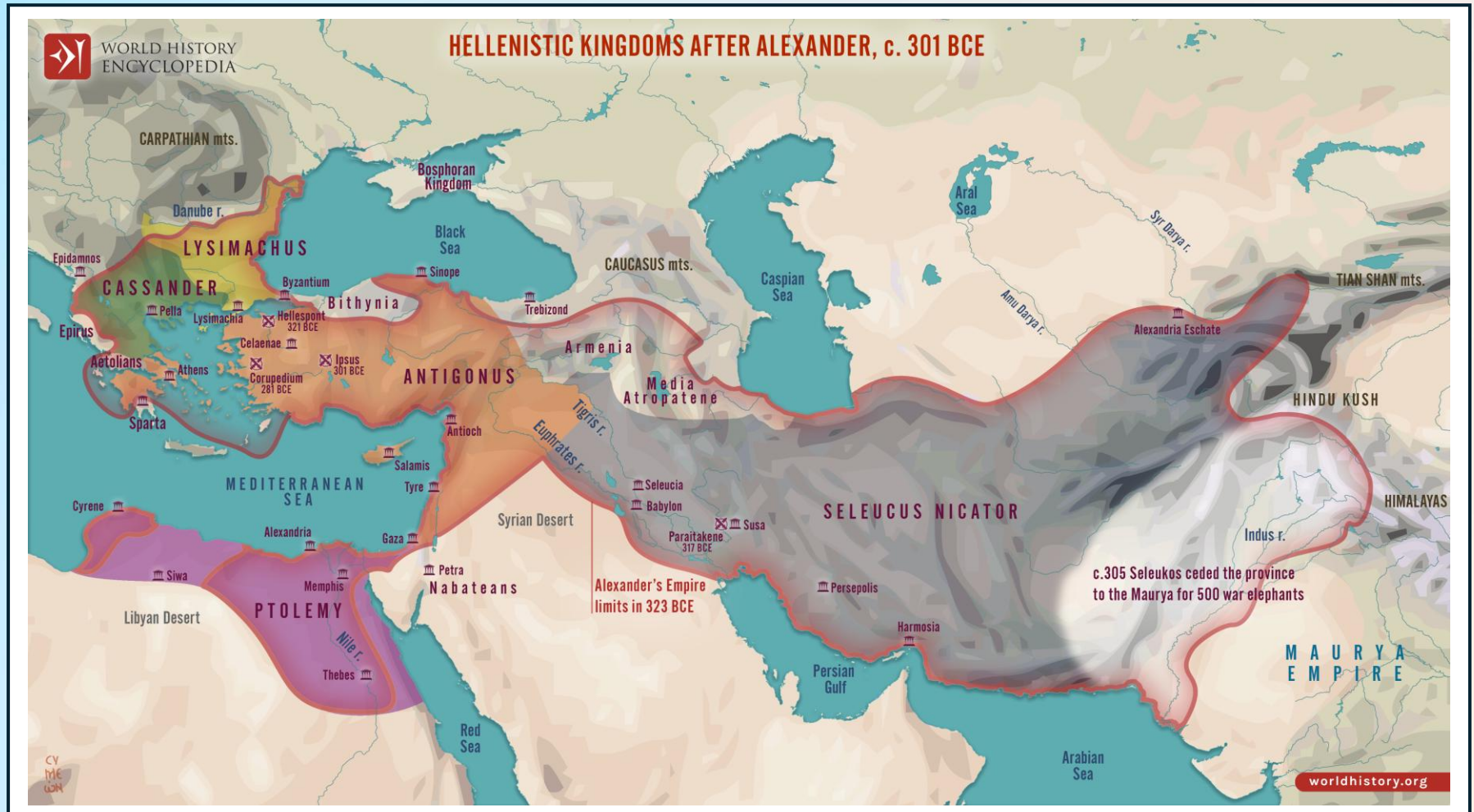
“These kings” – Roman Empire

Greece/Hellenistic – The Belly and Thighs of Bronze

- Alexander the Great was the great conqueror who built a vast empire from Greece to India.
- He died in 323 B.C. with no adult successors.
- His leading generals fought a series of wars over who would control the empire, 322- 281 B.C.

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.



The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

“These kings” – Roman Empire

Greece/Hellenistic – The Belly and Thighs of Bronze

- By 281-275 B.C., Alexander's former empire had fragmented into three major kingdoms:
 - The Ptolemaic Kingdom (Egypt)
 - The Seleucid Empire (centered in Syria and extending east into Mesopotamia/Persia)
 - The Antigonid Kingdom (Macedon/Greece)

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.



The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

“These kings” – Roman Empire

Greece/Hellenistic – The Belly and Thighs of Bronze

- While these Hellenistic kingdoms were fighting, Rome began consolidating power in Italy and would eventually turn its focus eastward.

The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

“These kings” – Roman Empire

The Roman Republic and Empire – The Legs of Iron

- Eventually, Roman influence and power overtook the Seleucid Empire.
- It began with the defeat of Seleucid King Antiochus III at the Battle of Magnesia in 190 B.C., which led to the Treaty of Apamea in 188 B.C.

The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

“These kings” – Roman Empire

The Roman Republic and Empire – The Legs of Iron

- Rome continued to gradually absorb the remaining Hellenistic territories.
- In 63 B.C., the Roman general Pompey the Great intervened in local conflicts (including in Judea) and officially annexed Syria, turning it into a Roman province and delivering the final blow to the remnants of the Seleucid kingdom.

The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

“These kings” – Roman Empire

The Roman Republic and Empire – The Legs of Iron

- By the mid-first century B.C., the Roman Republic was fracturing due to internal political strife.
- Julius Caesar would emerge as dominant military leader. He would be assassinated in 44 B.C.

The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

"These kings" – Roman Empire

The Roman Republic and Empire – The Legs of Iron

- In 27 B.C., Octavian, Julius Caesar's heir, was granted the title of "Augustus" by the Roman Senate. He would rule until 14 A.D.

*It was during the reign of Augustus Caesar that
Jesus was born.*

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.



The Kingdom of God

- ❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

“These kings” – Roman Empire

The Roman Republic and Empire – The Legs of Iron

- Tiberius, Augustus Caesar's stepson succeeded Augustus, reigning from 14 A.D. to 37 A.D.

It was during Tiberius' reign that Daniel's prophecy was fulfilled.

The Timing of the Kingdom's Arrival



“The kingdom is at hand”

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- Before Jesus' death, the kingdom was "at hand."

- John the baptizer preached,
*"Repent, for the kingdom of
heaven is at hand!"* **Matt 3:1-3**

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- Before Jesus' death, the kingdom was "at hand."
 - Jesus said, *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."* **Mark 1:14-15**

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- Before Jesus' death, the kingdom was "at hand."
 - Jesus sent out the twelve to the *"lost sheep of the house of Israel"* preaching, *"The kingdom of heaven is at hand."*
Matt 10:5-7

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Timing of the Kingdom's Arrival



**The kingdom was to come
with power**

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- With power during the lifetime of the apostles.

- Jesus said, *“Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”* **Mark 9:1**

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- With power during the lifetime of the apostles.
 - After His resurrection, Jesus told His apostles to *“tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”*
Luke 24:46-49

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- With power during the lifetime of the apostles.
 - Jesus also said, *"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."* **Acts 1:8**

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Timing of the Kingdom's Arrival



**The kingdom was present
with power**

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- The kingdom was present with power on Pentecost.
 - Joel prophesied concerning this great event. **Acts 2:16-21**

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- The kingdom was present with power on Pentecost.
 - David foretold the resurrection of the Christ. ***Acts 2:23-28; cf. Psalm 16:8-11***

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

The Kingdom of God

❖ The timing of the kingdom's arrival.

- The kingdom was present with power on Pentecost.

- God had sworn an oath to raise up the Christ from David's lineage.

- *“Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him (David) that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne.” Acts 2:30; cf. 2 Sam 7:12-16*

Matt 3:1-3

Mark 1:14-15

Matt 10:5-7

Mark 9:1

Luke 24:46-49

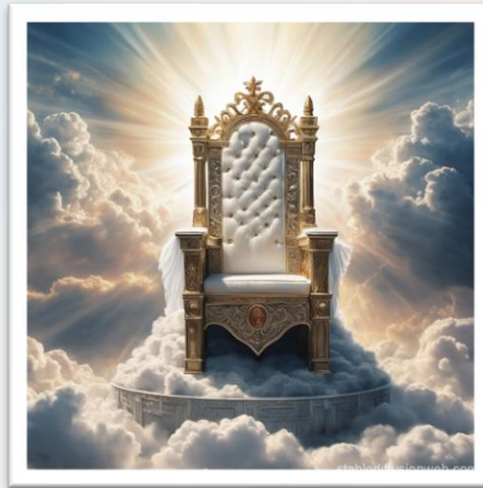
Acts 1:8

Acts 2:16-21

Acts 2:23-28

Acts 2:30

Jesus is Reigning Over the Kingdom



The Kingdom of God

❖ Jesus is reigning over the kingdom.

- Jesus is seated at the right hand of God.

- Peter declared this truth when he said, *“Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God,...”*

Acts 2:32-36

Acts 2:32-36

Rom 8:34

Heb 1:3

Acts 2:30

1 Cor 15:25-26

Col 1:13

The Kingdom of God

❖ Jesus is reigning over the kingdom.

- Jesus is seated at the right hand of God.

- Paul wrote, *“Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.”* **Rom 8:34**

Acts 2:32-36

Rom 8:34

Heb 1:3

Acts 2:30

1 Cor 15:25-26

Col 1:13

The Kingdom of God

❖ Jesus is reigning over the kingdom.

- Jesus is seated at the right hand of God.

- After Jesus purged our sins, He sat down at the right hand of God.

- *“who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.”* **Heb 1:3**

Acts 2:32-36

Rom 8:34

Heb 1:3

Acts 2:30

1 Cor 15:25-26

Col 1:13

The Kingdom of God

❖ Jesus is reigning over the kingdom.

○ Jesus is sitting on the throne of David. **Acts 2:30**

- *“Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,”*

Acts 2:32-36

Rom 8:34

Heb 1:3

Acts 2:30

1 Cor 15:25-26

Col 1:13

The Kingdom of God

❖ Jesus is reigning over the kingdom.

- Jesus will reign until He delivers the kingdom to God the Father.
 - Jesus must reign *“till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.”* **1 Cor 15:25-26**

Acts 2:32-36

Rom 8:34

Heb 1:3

Acts 2:30

1 Cor 15:25-26

Col 1:13

The Kingdom of God

❖ Jesus is reigning over the kingdom.

- Jesus will reign until He delivers the kingdom to God the Father.

- The Father has *“delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.”* **Col 1:13**

- *You cannot be “conveyed” or moved into something that does not exist yet.*
- *The kingdom was active in the first century and continues to be active today.*

Acts 2:32-36

Rom 8:34

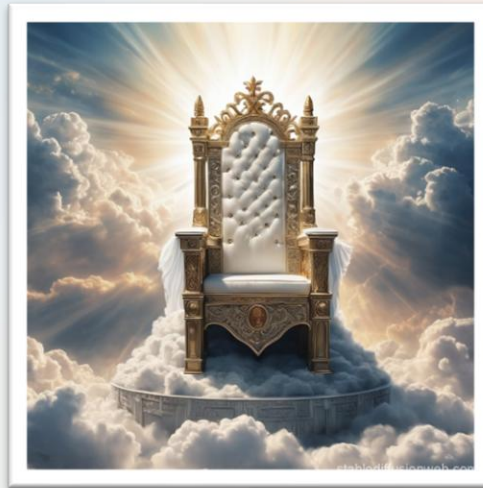
Heb 1:3

Acts 2:30

1 Cor 15:25-26

Col 1:13

The Kingdom is Spiritual



The Kingdom of God

❖ The kingdom is spiritual.

- Jesus said to Pilate, *“My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”*

John 18:36

John 18:26

Phil 3:20-21

The Kingdom of God

❖ The kingdom is spiritual.

- Paul said our “*citizenship is in heaven.*” **Phil 3:20-21**

John 18:26

Phil 3:20-21

- “*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body,...*”

Conclusion

- ❖ Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Majesty on high, reigning over the kingdom of heaven.
- ❖ He is King of kings and Lord of lords.
1 Tim 6:15
- ❖ His kingdom is not of this world. It is not advanced by sword or politics. The kingdom grows when people's lives are transformed by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Conclusion

- ❖ If you have not yet been conveyed into the kingdom of heaven, then repent of your sins and be buried with Christ through baptism.

Acts 2:38

- ❖ If you are already a citizen of the kingdom of heaven, then serve the King faithfully, and proclaim the good news that the eternal kingdom has come and will never be destroyed.

Conclusion

- ❖ In our next lesson, we will show the fulfillment of these prophecies, looking at the coming of the Kingdom of God and the reign of Jesus Christ.