

John 18: 33-37



SUBJECT: The Coming Kingdom  
The Coming King

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ernmant there shall be no end. Upon the throne of His father David to establish it in judgment and in justice forever. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform it. Seven hundred fifty years after that prophecy the angel Gabriel was sent to a little city in Galilee named Nazareth to a virgin Jewish named Mary, and there he announced to her that she would be the mother of that foretold and foreordained child. And the angel said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee and the power of the highest shall overshadow thee. Wherefore also that holy thing that shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God, and he shall be the Son of the Highest, and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there shall be no end.

Then upon a night of nights when the heavens were filled with the harmony of the glory of God, when the very air was filled with the rhythm and resonance of the singing of God's created hosts in glory. When each star seemed to be let down like a golden lamp, close to the earth. The child was born. An angel came from heaven and announced to the startled shepherd that they would find the child in Bethlehem. Let them go see for themselves. Then, the heavens rolled back like a scroll and the angelic choir that had been waiting since the dawn of creation flung upward to the heavenly throne, there adoration, glory to God in the highest. Then they flung downward to the waiting earth, there benediction on earth peace, goodwill toward men. The King was born.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar, Jesus being then about 30 years old was baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. And he went forth to announce to the world and to Israel the coming kingdom, and to present Himself as the coming king. He carried with Him the credentials of His claim. Through His mother, Mary, he was decended from David to the line of Solomon.

Through Joseph, the husband of Mary, he was decended from David to the line of Nathan. By legal rights, by birth, by covenant promise he was a king. There came wise men from the East to Jerusalem saying, where is He that is born King of the Jews. He carried with Him the credentials of a sinless life. He carried with Him the credentials of matchless and incomparable words. He carried with Him the credentials of miraculous and marvelous deeds, and at the exact moment the angel Gabriel had foretold to Daniel the prophet, in the exact mannner as was foretold by Zachariah, the king of glory, the prince of peace came riding into the holy city of Jerusalem, there to present himself as the promised and covenant king.

As he rode into the city, the hosts on every side lifted their voices in praise to the coming king. Hosanna, they cried, in the highest. Hosanna to the son of David. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the coming kingdom. And when the scribes and the pharisees heard these words of adulation they importuned the disciples to hush the throng, but the Lord replied if these were to spill their voices the very stones would cry out. The great, mighty, promised covenant moment in world history had arrived. The king had come. Jesus, the Son of God, presented himself as the promised, covenant, coming kingdom and king of Israel. He is a rejected king.

He is a rejected king. When he was betrayed and arrested he was arraigned before the standards of the highest court in the Jewish nation, and the presiding officer, the chief justice of the court, placing Christ on the throne on the witness stand said, I adjure thee by the living God that thou tell us whether thou art the Christ, the Son of the Blessed. And the Lord replied, I am, and from henseforth ye shall see the Son of Man coming in power and in great glory. And when the Lord so answered under oath, the high priest rent His garment and

said to his fellow satirist, thou hast heard him for thyself. The blasphemy that He speaks, what dost thou think. And the satirist replied, he is worthy of death. Now at that time the satirist and the Jewish nation was deprived of the power of capital punishment so they took the Lord and arraigned Him before Pontius Pilate, the Roman procurator and they accused Him of treason and sedition saying that He calls himself a king. And Pilate said, are you a king? And the Lord answered, I am. Then Pilate turned to the Jewish nation and said, behold your king. And they replied, we have no king but Caesar. Away with Him. Let Him be crucified. Shall I crucify your king? And the mob replied, away with Him, crucify him. And He was crucified a king. He died a king. The superscription of His accusation was written for the whole world to read in Greek, and in Latin, and in Hebrew. The Roman governor wrote, This is Jesus the King of the Jews. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. He is an exiled king.

As He taught His disciples in the 19th chapter of Luke, a noble man went awau into a far country, there to receive a kingdom for himself, and said to his subjects occupy until I come. So the king has gone away into a far country, waiting the great covenant and consumating moment when God shall intervene in human history. But what of the kingdom, and what of the purpose of God? Here when the kingdom is postponed to some other day, to some other time in it's consumation, God has placed a great intermission, a vast interlude. It is a mysterion hidden in the heart of God. No prophet in the Old Testament ever saw it, it was a secret that God kept to himself until the day that he revealed it to His holy apostles, that there should be an intermission, an interlude between the death of the Lord and the consumation, the coming kingdom. In the day that He was crucified, in the day of the cross, how Satan



must have exalted, Israel has crucified her own Son. The chosen people lie in unbelief and rejection, and every promise and prophecy of God shall fall to the ground. There is no kingdom and there shall be no king. Death shall reign forever. Satan shall be crowned forever and sin shall rule forever. The world shall be plunged without amelioration, without alleviation, without hope, into darkness and death forever. How Satan must have rejoiced in the day of the cross when the Son of God died like a felon, hanged on a tree. But in the purpose of God, this mysterion, this secret He kept in His heart, which is revealed for us in detail in the third chapter of the book of Ephesians that God purposed some new creation. This says the apostle, in the revelation and the purpose of God, this day in which we live is the day of grace. It is the day of the Holy Spirit. It is the day of the church when God is calling out a new body and creating a new fellowship. In this new creation there is to be Jew and Gentile, bond and free, male and female, old and young, learned and unlearned. Out of all the nations and tribes and kingdoms of the world, they are now engrafted into the holy olive tree, and by invitation each one in this day of grace can become a member of the household of faith, a member of the chosen family of God. This is the day of the preaching of the gospel of the grace of the Son of God. And to the end of the earth any man who hears the voice of the Lord, who feels the wooing invitation of the Holy Spirit, who names the name of Jesus Christ can be added to the family of the Lord, a member of the chosen family of God. This great interlude, this vast intermission in which we now live, the creation of a new body the church of Christ, the bride of our Lord. But what of the kingdom, and what of the King? Jesus is not the king of the church. There is no such nomenclature in the Bible. He is the head of the church and we are members of the body, but he's no king

of the church. What of the kingdom, and what of the king? That's why the apostles asked the Lord Jesus when he was ascending up into heaven, wilt thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel? And the felon who was crucified with the Lord Jesus turned to him and said, Lord when thou comest into thy kingdom remember me. Is there to be a kingdom. Is He a king? Is there coming the great final fulfillment of all the prophecies and all the covenants and all of the promises of God. Is there to be a kingdom? Then shall we ever look upon the triumphant glorious face of the king of the universe, of the king of kings, of the king of the Jews, of the king of the nations. Is Jesus a king? This is the consumation of the age, for somewhere, someday, sometime, in an hour known to God the heavens will be rolled back like a scroll and the king of glory shall come through. Christ our living, reigning Lord shall come down. The king is coming, someday, some glorious consumating hour we shall see Him personally and visibly descending from the sky. He is coming under a two-fold simile. He is coming first as a thief in the night. Then he is coming as the livid lightning, split the bosom of the sky. He is coming first under the simile of a thief in the night. He is coming to steal away His pearl of price, to take out of the world His jewels, the treasures hid in the earth. He is coming clandestinely, furtively with sandaled feet. He is coming to take away, to rapture His people. Without announcement, without placard, without advertisement, no one knows the moment, the hour. It could be anytime, any day, any second. It could be at high noon or at midnight. It could be at dawn or at twilight, any day, any moment. The Lord can come secretly, furtively, clandestinely as a thief to take away, to rapture His people. And all of us shall share in the glory of that triumph and that moment all of us, these who have fallen asleep in the Lord and who've been buried in the heart of the earth God shall speak to them and they shall rise to live again in His sight, and we

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who are alive and remain unto His coming shall be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trump, for the trumpet shall sound and the dead in Christ shall be raised incorruptable and we shall all be changed. There shall not be a bone left in the region of death, not a relic for Satan to gloat over. We shall all be changed, caught up to meet our Lord in the air. Two shall be sleeping in a bed, one shall be taken the other left. Two shall be grinding at a mill, one shall be taken and the other left. Two shall be working in a field, one shall be taken and the other left. Without notice, without harbinger, suddenly the Lord shall come for His people.

Nor can the tribulation and judgment fall upon the earth until first His people be delivered out of it. It was only after Noah was in the ark safely that the judgment fell. It was only after Lot was snatched out of Sodom did the fire and brimstone fall. Nor can there be judgment upon the earth as long as His people live in it, but there shall come a day as it was in the days of Noah, as it was in the days of Lot, when secretly, furtively, God shall take out of the world His people. He shall rapture His church and then shall the tribulation come, and then shall the judgment fall. Then at the end of that period of judgment and tribulation, then shall the heavens be rolled back like a scroll, and then shall the Lord who has come for His people. Then shall the Lord descend with the redeemed of all glory.. As Jude says, behold the Lord cometh with ten thousand of His saints, and as the text of the Revelation of the apocalypse says, Revelation 1:7, behold he cometh with clouds and every eye shall see Him and they also who pierced Him: And the families and tribes and peoples of the world shall wail because of him. Amen.

The Lord shall come openly and visibly and personally and every eye shall see Him as the vivid lightning shines from the East to the West. For the Lord



God is coming in triumph to be king over all God's creation, the earth, the planets, the universe, the milky ways, the siberial spheres, all of the handiwork of God shall bow in obiesance and in adoration before the Lord God Christ the coming king. He is coming in the glorious Father as God the Son, and the Son of God. He is coming in the glory of the angels as the captain of the hosts of heaven. He is coming in the glory of the church, as the bridegroom with the bride. And he is coming in His own glory as the Son of God, the Son of Abraham, the Son of David, the Son of man, the virgin-born man, the crucified man, the risen man, the eternal manifest Godman Christ Jesus. And He is coming to be the king of Israel and the king of the Jews, and the king of the nations, and the king of kings, and the Lord of Lords. He is coming to be Lord God pantokrator, the Lord God almighty. And he is coming to be the restorer and the recreator of this earth, and when Christ shall come and remake this creation then will be brought to pass those marvelous promises. They shall beat their swords into plowshares, their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore, but they shall sit everyman under his vine and under his victory and there shall make them afraid. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the carniverous and ravenous lion shall eat straw like an ox. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all God's holy mountain, for the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters of ~~earth~~ cover the sea. When the king comes.

Lo He comes on clouds descending  
Once for favored sinners slain  
Thousand, thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of His train  
Hallelujah, hallelujah  
God appears on earth to reign.  
Yea, amen amen



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Let all adore thee  
High on thy eternal throne  
Savior take the power and glory  
Claim the kingdom for thine own  
Oh come quickly, oh come quickly  
Everlasting God come down.

He that testifieth these things that surely, surely I come quickly. Amen

Even so come blessed Lord Jesus.