

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOD'S KINGDOM

Text: Daniel 2:44

INTRO: An important & much misunderstood Bible subject is that of the nature & establishment of God's kingdom as prophesied in our text and in numerous other passages. It is commonly believed that Dan. 2:44 and similar passages are yet to be fulfilled with the 2nd coming of Christ and the establishment of an earthly political kingdom of 1,000 years duration.

We will show that such kingdom passages were fulfilled almost 2,000 years ago with the establishment of Christ's church. Please consider the evidence carefully.

I. THE N.T. KINGDOM IN O.T. PROPHECY. Dan. 2:44

READ MICAH 4:1-5 (cp. Isa. 2:1-4).

NOTE IN THESE PASSAGES:

1. Time: days of Roman empire, last days
2. Place: Jerusalem, Mt. Zion
3. Recipients: all nations
4. Nature: peaceful, Isa. 11

II. THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AT HAND. (630 yrs. later).

- A. The teaching of John B. READ MATTHEW 3:1-3
- B. The teaching of Jesus, MATTHEW 4:12-17
- C. The 12 apostles, MATTHEW 10:5-7
- D. The teaching of the 70, Luke 10:9-11
- E. Some specific details: MK 9:1; Acts 1:6-8

III. THE COMPLETE FULFILLMENT OF ALL THESE PROPHECIES AND PROMISES. READ ACTS 2:1-5, 44-47.

IV. THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST--AN ESTABLISHED REALITY.

Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9 READ HEBREWS 12:22-25.

CONCLUSION: Every O.T. prophecy with regard to the kingdom of God has been fulfilled. Every N.T. promise regarding it has been fulfilled except those that will take place at the 2nd coming of Christ, when the unfaithful will be gathered out of it & the kingdom then delivered up to the Father in heaven. Heaven is but an extension of the same kingdom into the eternal realm. That kingdom was established

in Jerusalem almost 2,000 years ago & it will never be destroyed. Its blessings will go on forever in the eternal realm.

La Porte, TX, January 1, 1984

Exton, PA, June 24, 1990

Exton, PA, November 3, 1991

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, December 31, 1995

Shippensburg, PA, June 7, 1998 (meeting)

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, June 14, 1998