

## The Kingdom of Prophecy 11-08-15 AM

When it comes to understanding Bible language (and especially prophecy language), it helps greatly to set up a frame of reference (a baseline) to set any prophecy on, so that we can avoid leaving the context. When it comes to kingdom prophecy (or any “establishment” prophecy), it helps to understand that the baseline of such language is the church. In Ephesians 3:8-12 we are told that the church was God’s “eternal purpose”. This means that everything that God did in the Old Testament (and subsequently, the prophetic messages of the Old Testament) come into the church of Jesus Christ. This is what we are told repeatedly in the New Testament (I Corinthians 10:11, Romans 15:4).

The earliest prophecies of the kingdom to come to us after the kingdom of Israel has been established. First around 1000 BC in 2 Samuel 7:12-13, then around 740BC in the time of Hezekiah in Isaiah 9:7, 2:1-5 (which is a parallel to Micah 4:1-7. Those prophecies proclaim that the coming Kingdom would be established by the Seed of David, it would come in “the last days”, and all nations (Gentiles) would come to it. Perhaps the most important prophecies of the kingdom come at the end of the kingdom of Israel, when Daniel speaks about the vision of Gentile king Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 2:37-45 (c. 590 BC) and his own vision in Daniel 7:2-18 (c. 550-40 BC). In Daniel’s kingdom vision we are told the time of its coming (during the fourth kingdom after Babylon, Rome), its dominative nature over all the earth, and its possession by the Saints.

All of these prophecies are fulfilled in the church. Consider:

The Kingdom of Reality		The Kingdom of Reality		
<b>Seed of David</b> 2 Samuel 7:12 I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom.	2 Timothy 2:8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David	<b>Coming in the Last Days</b> Micah 4:1 And it will come about in the last days	Hebrews 1:2 in these last days (God) has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things	
<b>The Kingdom of Reality</b> All Gentiles will come to it Micah 4:2 Many nations will come and say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD	Matthew 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations	<b>The Kingdom of Reality</b> The time of its coming Daniel 2:44 "In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom	Galatians 4:4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son	
<b>The Kingdom of Reality</b> A possession of the Saints Daniel 7:18 But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever				Hebrews 12:28 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken

The Prophetic Kingdom is a reality in the church. Jesus' church is headed by the Seed of David; it came with the Last Days (Acts 2); it is composed of all nations; it was established at the specified time; it is a possession of the Saints.

So why is Kingdom Prophecy misunderstood? One reason is that there is a great deal of false teaching present today about the church (Matthew 11:12). As well, false teaching would not be a problem if it were not for weak Bible students (2 Thessalonians 2:10-11). Ultimately, much of the expectation of Jesus establishing a kingdom in a physical realm and way is the result of the carnal mind rejecting the Spiritual Kingdom (John 18:36). We as Christian are the Kingdom, possessed within the authority of Christ.