

God's Kingdom and the coming Kingdom M. A., DANIEL

A kingdom is made up of a king, a domain and the subjects that live in it. The issue of the kingdom has been very divisive just like the issue of how the world will end. The Bible can easily help us solve this controversy. Your understanding of this topic will help with your understanding of an amazing God that gave you and me an opportunity to share in an extraordinary existence beyond the imagination of men.

The promise

The promise of the kingdom came with King David when he wanted to build God a house; the lord told him that it was the privilege of his son Solomon. He also went on to promise that the kingdom established will have an everlasting throne in the house of David. **2 Samuel 7:12-16.** This promise was further crystallised with the prediction of the birth of Jesus. Jesus was coming with a government that will continue to expand and will not end. His birth was certainly to herald a major change in the world. He was associated with the throne of King David that will last forever. **Is 9:6-8.**

Daniel's vision

Daniel had the privilege of viewing the snapshot of what will happen to the world from his days to the end. He saw a statue that represented Babylon, Mede-Persia, Greek, Roman and the broken kingdoms of the sons of Japheth. This covered years of history till now. Daniel saw another Kingdom of supernatural origins taking over the other kingdoms and lasting forever. **Dan 2:39-44** Daniel also had another vision seeing four kingdoms represented as beasts and the fourth one being particularly vicious, this kingdom was eventually replaced by the rule of the Saints forever. The second vision was more explicit than the first but giving the same picture; Babylon Empire will be succeeded by Mede-Persian Empire and then Greek and the Roman Empire. These are the same kingdoms in the second vision. The most important points in these two visions are the fact that God will set up his kingdom during the existence of the other kings, that a

very wicked king will come that will torment the Saints and that after this, God's kingdom will replace all the others.

Jesus

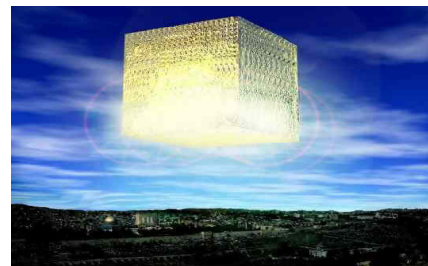
John the Baptist came preaching repentance and shortly after Jesus came preaching the kingdom. The Bible in the gospels interchangeably uses kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God. The explanation to this can be found in the book of Psalms which states that heaven belongs to God but the earth has been given to the sons of men and that God has set his throne in the heavens but his kingdom rules over

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all. (**Ps 115:16, Ps 103:19**). This gives us the clarity that God's throne is in heaven but the influence of that kingdom has spread to the earth. Jesus kept hinting at it on his sojourn here on earth. That is what that part means that says some of them will not see death before they see the kingdom coming in its full glory. This was referring to them witnessing Jesus resurrection and his triumph over Satan and his cohorts. (**Mat 4:17, Mat 11:11, Mat 12:28, Mat 16:19, Mat 16:28**).

God's kingdom

This kingdom was planted when Jesus came and fully glorified on earth when Jesus rose in power and glory. Jesus made a show of evil and principalities and collected the



keys to death and hell. This gave him full authority to the power in heaven and on earth which was placed at our disposal to spread the gospel. (**Col 2:15, Mat 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-18**) Jesus left and the Holy Spirit came in the fullness of power and resides in every born again Christian available to make all things happen. (**Acts 1:8, Acts 4:33, Rom 15:19, 1 Cor 2:4, 1 Cor 4:20**) When you operate in this power, you are in the kingdom with headquarters in heaven. This kingdom will be officially commissioned on earth when our king (Jesus) comes back with a city designed (New Jerusalem) to be inhabited by those who have overcome the devil by the blood of the lamb and the words of their testimony. (**Rev 12:10-11, Rev 21**). God bless.

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