



BAND of BROTHERS – WEEK 5: The Coming of the King

FALL 2021

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
– Matthew 1:1 ESV

- **The Coming of the King**

- The Abrahamic Covenant

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." – Genesis 12:1-3 ESV

- The Davidic Covenant – 2 Samuel 7

- God reaffirms His promise of **the land**

"And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more..." – (Vs 10)

- God reaffirms His promise of **offspring**

"I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom..." – (Vs 12)

- The same promise God made to Abraham...

"...kings shall come from you." – Genesis 17:6 ESV

- and that He made to Abraham's grandson, Jacob...

"...kings shall come from your own body." – Genesis 35:11 ESV

- And God promises to extend **David's dynasty**

- This was partially fulfilled in Solomon

“He shall build a house for my name...I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men...”
(Vs. 13-14)

- Solomon would oversee construction of the temple
- But he would end his reign as an idolater
- As a result, God would split his kingdom in two

- So, God adds the promise of an **everlasting kingdom**
*“...I will establish the throne of his kingdom **forever**.”* (Vs. 13)

*“...your house and your kingdom shall be made sure **forever** before me. **Your throne shall be established forever.**”* (Vs. 16)

- Zedekiah was the last king to sit on David’s throne
And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle, king in his place, and changed his name to Zedekiah. – 2 Kings 24:17 ESV

- 586 B.C. saw the end of David’s dynasty
- The Babylonians defeated Judah and their final king was put to death

*Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, and he passed sentence on him. The king of Babylon slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes...He put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him in chains, and the king of Babylon took him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death. – Jeremiah 52:9-11
ESV*

- **The Long Wait**

- More than 6 centuries will pass
 - 332 B.C..... Judea conquered by Alexander the Great
 - 201 B.C..... the Seleucids regain control of Israel
 - 67 B.C..... the Romans invade and occupy Judea
 - 40 B.C..... the Romans expand into Galilee
 - 37 B.C..... Herod the Great appointed “King of the Jews” by Rome
- The Jews were still waiting for their promised king
 - The Scriptures repeatedly spoke of the coming one

***The scepter shall not depart from Judah,**
*nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet,
until tribute comes to him;
and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.* – Genesis 49:10 ESV*

As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. He

was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. **His rule is eternal**—it will never end. **His kingdom will never be destroyed.** – Daniel 7:13-14 NLT

Rejoice, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem! Look, **your king is coming to you.** He is righteous and victorious...and **your king will bring peace to the nations.** His realm will stretch from sea to sea and from the Euphrates River to the ends of the earth. – Zechariah 9:9, 10 NLT

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. **The government will rest on his shoulders.** And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **His government and its peace will never end.**

He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!— Isaiah 9:6-7 NLT

“For the time is coming,” says the Lord, “when I will raise up a righteous descendant from King David’s line. **He will be a King who rules with wisdom.** He will do what is just and right throughout the land. And this will be his name: ‘The Lord Is Our Righteousness.’ In that day Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety.” – Jeremiah 23:5-6 NLT

- **High Expectations**

- When the **Messiah** comes, he will...
 - ...restore the Davidic dynasty
 - ...defeat the enemies of God
 - ...bring peace and unite all the nations
 - ...rebuild Solomon’s Temple in Jerusalem
 - ...Establish the worldwide worship of Yahweh

Messiah – Title derived from the Hebrew, *mashiach* (maw-shee'-akh), a verbal adjective meaning anointed one. Along with its NT equivalent, *christos* (Christ), it refers to an act of consecration whereby an individual is set apart to serve God and anointed (smeared or perhaps sprinkled) with oil. – W.A. Elwell & B.J. Beitzel, *Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible*

- Israel longed for the Messiah’s arrival – but why?

“After the fall, God’s kingdom remained the eschatological goal, although now in the form of not only eschatology but of redemption.” – Jeremy Treat, *The Crucified King*

- The redemption of Israel

Remember these things, O Jacob,

*and Israel, for you are my servant;
I formed you; you are my servant;
O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.
I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud
and your sins like mist;
return to me, for **I have redeemed you.***

*Sing, O heavens, for the Lord has done it;
shout, O depths of the earth;
break forth into singing, O mountains,
O forest, and every tree in it!
For the Lord has redeemed Jacob,
and will be glorified in Israel. – Isaiah 44:21-23 ESV*

○ But did God's Kingdom come and was His will done on earth as it is in heaven?

- **A Kingdom of Priests**

*"You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, **you will be my own special treasure** from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. And **you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.**" – Exodus 15:4-6 NLT*

- The people of Israel were called to be priests
- A priest was an intermediary between God and man
- And God gave them laws to regulate their behavior
- God's chosen people living according to God's law were to reflect God's image to the nations
- But they failed

"Son of man, when the people of Israel were living in their own land, they defiled it by the evil way they lived. To me their conduct was as unclean as a woman's menstrual cloth. They polluted the land with murder and the worship of idols, so I poured out my fury on them. I scattered them to many lands to punish them for the evil way they had lived.

"But when they were scattered among the nations, they brought shame on my holy name. For the nations said, 'These are the people of the Lord, but he couldn't keep them safe in his own land!' Then I was concerned for my holy name, on which my people brought shame among the nations." – Ezekiel 36:17-21 NLT

- Israel failed to honor their covenant commitment
- They rejected the warnings of His prophets
- They refused to repent and return to Him
- The kingdom of priests defiled God's reputation
- Rather than bear His image among the nations, they profaned His name

- So, God punished them
 - They were cast out of the “garden”
 - Their dominion was forfeited
 - They were deposed and deported
 - The set apart were set aside by God
 - But God had plans for their redemption

“Therefore, give the people of Israel this message from the Sovereign Lord: I am bringing you back, but not because you deserve it. I am doing it to protect my holy name, on which you brought shame while you were scattered among the nations

“I will show how holy my great name is—the name on which you brought shame among the nations. And when I reveal my holiness through you before their very eyes, says the Sovereign Lord, then the nations will know that I am the Lord. For I will gather you up from all the nations and bring you home again to your land.” – Ezekiel 36:22-24

- Partially fulfilled in 538 B.C.
- A remnant of the Jews returned to the land

- But wait, there’s more

“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.” – Ezekiel 36:35-26 NLT

“And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations. And you will live in Israel, the land I gave your ancestors long ago. You will be my people, and I will be your God. I will cleanse you of your filthy behavior. – Ezekiel 36:27-29 NLT

“When I cleanse you from your sins, I will repopulate your cities, and the ruins will be rebuilt. The fields that used to lie empty and desolate in plain view of everyone will again be farmed. And when I bring you back, people will say, ‘This former wasteland is now like the Garden of Eden!’” – Ezekiel 36:33-35 NLT

- The people had returned to the land
- But they were still waiting for part of the promise
- They lived in a time of darkness and despair

- Darkness and Despair

Nevertheless, that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever....The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine. – Isaiah 9:1, 2 NLT

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies will make this happen! – Isaiah 9:6-7 NLT

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. He went first to Nazareth, then left there and moved to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. This fulfilled what God said through the prophet Isaiah:

*“In the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali,
beside the sea, beyond the Jordan River,
in Galilee where so many Gentiles live,
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light.
And for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow,
a light has shined.” – Matthew 4:15-16 NLT*

- A great light
In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. – John 1:1-5 NLT

*The one who is **the true light, who gives light to everyone**, was coming into the world. He came into the very world he created, but the world didn’t recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. – John 1:9-10 NLT*

- **The Light of the World**

- Jesus came to dispel the darkness

“I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.” – John 8:12 NLT

- At creation, He spoke **physical light** into being

- At His incarnation, He brought **spiritual light** into the darkness of mankind's sinful condition
- The Good News of the Gospels
 - The four gospels declare Jesus to be Messiah

“Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). – Matthew 1:20-23 ESV

Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” – Mark 14:61 ESV

Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David...to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” – Luke 11:67-69, 79 ESV

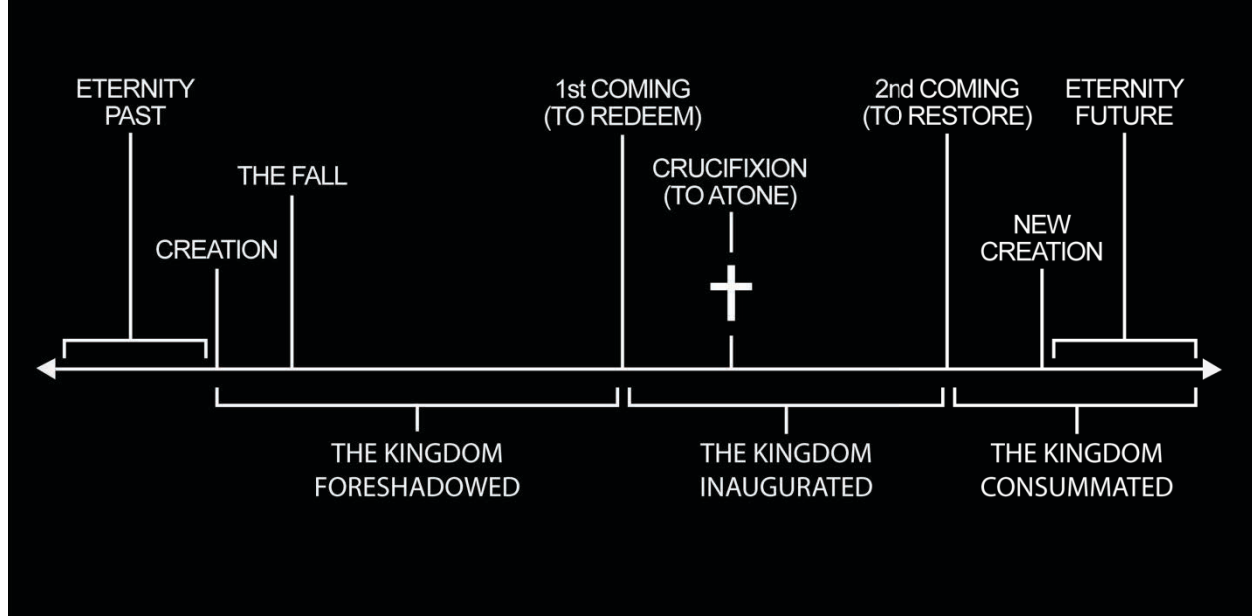
“You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.” – John 8:23-24 ESV

Jesus is...

- ...the Son of God and the seed of Abraham
- ...the long-awaited Messiah, the King of Israel
- ...the rightful heir to the throne of David
- ...the last Adam, a life-giving spirit

Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. – 1 Corinthians 15:45-49 ESV

GOD'S REDEMPTIVE TIMELINE



Next Week: The Nature of the Kingdom

For Further Discussion

- In light of all that we've covered over the last 4 weeks, what about 1 Corinthians 15:45-49 jumps out at you?
- Why is it so important that we consider the message of the gospels in light of the Old Testament backdrop?
- How has Jesus, the King, decided to shine His light into the darkness of our day? And what role are we to play?



WEEK 6 HOMEWORK: The Nature of the Kingdom

FALL 2021

What is the nature of the kingdom? Are we living in it or is it reserved for some future date? Is the Kingdom of Heaven a reference to the eternal state or does it have present ramifications? Are we living in the kingdom now or are we waiting for its fulfillment at some later date? All of these questions will be addressed in this week's lesson.

- Take a few minutes to consider what you think about the kingdom of God. Without taking into account anything we have studied so far, what would you say your understanding of the kingdom has been? Write it down here.

- To better understand the various interpretations or explanations of the kingdom of God, consider some of these more popular ones that have been around for centuries. As you read each one, write down your initial impressions.

The kingdom is within – this concept of the kingdom makes it a personal reality that exists within us. It's based on the idea: "The day I came to believe in Jesus is the day he set up his kingdom in my heart." The emphasis is on the soul or the interior life.

The kingdom is an organization – this conception of the kingdom is outwardly focused, characterized by certain practices, values, and attitudes. It is best displayed by the church. And in some sense, this interpretation characterizes the kingdom of God and the church as one and the same.

The kingdom is an earthly utopia – this interpretation is particularly prevalent today. It basically teaches that the kingdom is a social ideal awaiting realization within history. According to this view, Jesus came to start a political, social, religious, artistic, economic, intellectual, and spiritual revolution that would give birth to a new world.

The is some form of postmortem bliss – this is, by far, the most popular view of the kingdom. In this scenario, the kingdom has precious little, if anything, to do with the here and now. It portrays an otherworldly realm where the faithful go to spend eternity.

- To wrap up your study for this week, read the following quote and then write down your thoughts:

“The Kingdom of God proclaimed by the Lord Jesus Christ is *not* built through politics, commerce, music, or sports. Redemption does not consist in restoring people to fulfill Adam’s original task, but consists in the Lord Jesus Christ Himself fulfilling Adam’s original task once and for all, on our behalf. The redemption is not ‘creation-regained’ but ‘re-creation gained.’”

- To wrap up your study for this week read Jesus’ parables concerning the kingdom of heaven and consider what insights they provide. They are found in Matthew 13:44-52.