

My Kingdom Is Not Of This World – Lesson 4

When Pilate asked Jesus if he was the king of the Jews, Jesus answered, "My kingdom is **NOT** of this **WORLD**; if my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews, but my kingdom is not of this world" **John 18:36**

There is a distinction to be made between (1) "the world of the spiritual kingdom" of Jesus and (2) the world of civil-political kingdoms of this fallen world.

As Jesus told Pilate: **John 19:11** "...You would have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above.

Romans 13:1 – Paul wrote, "there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

Matthew 4:17 -The kingdom, Jesus said, was a present reality. "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand!

Colossians 1:13 - Paul wrote, "that God had delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of his beloved Son."

Revelation 1:9 –" I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ".

Most translations have --"...And He (Jesus) has **made us** (past tense) kings and priests to our God; and we **shall** reign on the earth" **Revelation 5:10**

The word "**shall**" speaks of something in the future! But this word is not in the original manuscripts; the verb **basileuó** means "Kingdom," and the word God is implied: **HE** has made us kings and priests to our God, and "**we reign**" (present tense) on the earth in God's Kingdom!

Romans 14:17-19 "...For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men, therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another."

Question - When did Jesus promise his disciples to build --**His Church** and the Kingdom of God? **Matthew 16:13-19**

v13 "...When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am, **v14** so they said, "Some *say* John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets, **v15** He said to them, "But who do you say that I am? **v16**, Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ (Messiah), the Son of the living God" **v17** Jesus answered..."blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed **this** to you, but My Father who is in heaven, **v18** and I also say to you that you are Peter, and on **this rock**, **Peter's Confession**, **I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it, **v19** and I will give you (Peter) **the keys of the kingdom of heaven**, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Question - When was the Kingdom, or the Church, established -**Pentecost**

Acts 2:40-42 "And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying, "be saved from this perverse generation, **v41** then *those* who gladly received his (Peter's) word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them*, **v42** and *they* continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers".

Jesus' statement should have convinced Pilate that He was no threat to the Roman government.

It is hard to fathom what Pilate actually understood, but notice that Pilate ordered a sign with the words "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews" inscribed on it.

TWO KINGDOMS

The Kingdom of God/Heaven
The Kingdom of Light

The Kingdom of satan
The Kingdom of Darkness

Heavenly Kingdom

Earthly Kingdom

Ruled by a legitimate King,
Jesus Christ, with ordained lines
of authority and government

Ruled by illegitimate authority,
satan, with structured lines of
authority and government

Populated by angelic beings
and people

Populated by fallen
angels/demons and people

Redeemed men and women
are citizens of this Kingdom

Unredeemed men and women
are under the authority of this
Kingdom

This Kingdom operates from the
Third Heaven. Its authority is
entirely underived and absolute,
it is the source of all authority in
the universe

This Kingdom operates from
the second heaven, the spiritual
realm of the earth. Its authority is
entirely derived, having no
authority of its own

This Kingdom will ultimately
swallow up all other Kingdoms

This Kingdom will ultimately
fall and fail completely

Since this kingdom of the Lord is comprised of willing, obedient persons, the question is, are you willing to serve Him?