

Session 8

Has Israel a Future?

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Has Israel a Future?



The Seventy Weeks Prophecy (Summary)

- Ezra 1 v 1 – 3.
- Nehemiah 2 v 1 – 5.
- Daniel 9 v 24 – 27.

1. First half of Daniel's 70th week

Revelation 6 v 1 – 11
 7 v 1 – 17
 11 v 15 – 19

2. The Midst of the Seventieth Week

Revelation 11 v 15 – 19
 12 v 1 – 10 or 17
 13 v 1 – 18
 17 v 1 – 18 v 24

Has Israel a Future?



3. Second half of the week Revelation

6 v 12 – 17

8 v 1 – 13

9 v 1 – 21

10 v 1 – 11

11 v 1 – 14

12 v 1 v 17

13 v 1 – 18

14 v 1 – 20

15 v 1 – 8

16 v 1 – 11

4. The Appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

Revelation 19 v 11 – 21, Isaiah 66 v 7 – 10

- Ezekiel 36 A picture of New Birth.
- Ezekiel 37 A picture of Quickening.

Romans 9/10/11 cf Leviticus 23 The Feasts of the Lord

- (Feast of Trumpets/Day of Atonement/Feast of Tabernacles)

Israel and its future:

- Israel now 'set side' but promises still valid.
- Tribulation and repentance.
- Earthly hope
- Hope related to the Land.
- Christ's Appearing and Christ's reign.

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Summary:

- At present, Israel is not recognised as God's people (Romans 9, Ezekiel 16, Hosea 1 and 2).
 - It will have to go through a terrible tribulation period (Jeremiah 30 v 7, Daniel 12 v 1, Matthew 24 v 21, Mark 13 v 19, Luke 21 v 20 – 26) and then a 'remnant' will be led to repentance (2 Corinthians 3 v 14 – 16, and Romans 9 again).
- Israel's blessings were earthly when they were given the promised land, and they are still earthly as far as the future is concerned (eg the context of Jeremiah 31 and 32).
 - Israel in the broadest sense is still dispersed over the globe.
 - Its earthly hope includes its being gathered together
 - Was 1948 the fulfilment? No, but probably a step in preparation of it.
 - Dispensational teachers had predicted the re-establishment of an Israeli state.

Has Israel a Future?



- Israel's hope is to be delivered from its enemies – namely by Christ's personal intervention in might and power (Zech 14:1 – 5; the remnant in the Psalms, Rev: 11 v 14 – 18; 19 v 11 – 21).
 - This is how the kingdom will be set up (not because the world is, as some teach, gradually being improved and prepared for Christ's reign. The world is getting progressively worse, not better).

Has Israel a Future?



So, how does God outline the future for Israel?

The terms God uses, in the scripture, include:

- The kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ
– e.g. 2 Peter 1 v 11
- The millennium – Rev. 20 v 1 – 6.
- The world to come
 - Mt. 12:32, Mark 10 v 30 (28 – 31),
 - Luke 18 v 30 (28 – 30), Eph. 1:21,
 - Hebr. 2 v 5 (5 - 8), 6 v 5 (1 – 6)]
- These terms emphasise different characteristics of the same period.

Has Israel a Future?



The World to Come (The Millennium)

THE KINGDOM OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.

1. The **CHARACTER** of the Kingdom.
2. The **KING** of the Kingdom.
3. The **SUBJECTS** of the Kingdom.
4. The **BLESSINGS** (Benefits) of the Kingdom.
5. The **COMMENCEMENT** of the Kingdom.
6. The **DURATION** of the Kingdom.
7. The **END** of the Kingdom.



1. THE CHARACTER OF THE KINGDOM

(1) One man in undisputed, complete control on God's behalf.

- See :- Daniel 2 v 38 – “Thou art this head of gold”.
- The implications of this are given in Daniel 5 v 18 – 19.

(2) The overriding principle will be righteousness.

- Acts 17 v 31 – “He will judge (rule) the world in righteousness.
- Isaiah 32 v 1 – “Behold a king shall reign in righteousness.

(3) The kingdom shall never be superseded by another.

Compare: - Ezekiel 21 v 26 – 27.

Daniel 2 v 44.

7 v 14, 18, 27.

2 Peter 1 v 11.



(2) THE **KING** OF THE KINGDOM

(1) His Name is Jesus.

- Matthew 2 v 2 - He was “born King”. The Gospel of Matthew gives a comprehensive survey of the qualities that make Him fit to be King.
- Zechariah 9 v 9 – “Behold thy King”.

(2) The King gives character to the Kingdom

The Kingdom will be ruled in righteousness because He is righteous. See: -

- Psalm 45 v 1, 6 – 7 (The Psalm of the King)
- Hebrews 1 v 8 – 9 (quoting the Psalm)
- Isaiah 11 v 3 – 5, 32 v 1.
- Acts 17 v 31.
- 1 John 2 v 1.
- Revelation 19 v 11.



(2) THE KING OF THE KINGDOM

(3) The King's Consort

The King shall be pleased to associate with Himself those who

- compose the Christian church, the church of the living God
- (Revelation 19 v 7-9), and some special groups (Revelation 20 v 4-6).

They shall reign with Him. See also: -

Colossians 3 v 4.

2 Timothy 2 v 12.

Revelation 3 v 21 (even to Laodicea!), 5 v 10.

They shall reign over the earth and participate in the heavenly side of the kingdom. See: -

Heb. 12 v 22 and Rev. 5 v 10.

(4) The King's Regent.

- The King will personally set up His throne in (earthly) Jerusalem, turn it over to His regent (the "prince" of Ezekiel chapters 44 to 46), then withdraw from the earth to reign over the earth with the heavenly saints in the heavenly Jerusalem. See: -

Revelation 21 v 9 to 22 v 5.



3. THE SUBJECTS OF THE KINGDOM

- The chain of command and administration of the kingdom will be from the King (the Lord Jesus Christ), accompanied by those who shall “live and reign with Him a thousand years” (see paragraph 2 (3))
- The King’s consort), to and through the nation of Israel (restored to God and the “pleasant land” – Psalm 106 v 24), to the “saved nations” of the earth (Rev. 21:24).

As indicated in paragraph 2 (4), the King’s personal representative, the Prince of the house of David, will preside on the King’s behalf in earthly Jerusalem, which will be the capital city of : -

World Government

Psalm 72.

Psalm 98 v 9.

Teaching

Micah 4 v 2.

Worship

Jeremiah 3 v 17.

Zechariah 14 v 16,17.



4. THE BLESSINGS (BENEFITS) OF THE KINGDOM

The blessings of the Kingdom, and, particularly, the blessings enjoyed in the “pleasant land”, will necessitate a drastic change in the contours and climatic conditions in Palestine.

This will be effected by the Lord Jesus personally when “His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives” (Zechariah 14 v 4 – 8).

Some of the more prominent blessings will be: -

- (1) Justice (righteousness) – See paragraph 2
- (2) Peace

See : Isaiah 32 v 17; Hebrews 7 v 1 – 2.



4. THE BLESSINGS (BENEFITS) OF THE KINGDOM

(3) Joy

See: -

- Isaiah 65 v 18 – 19
- John 2 v 1 - 11.

N.B. Compare 4(1), 4(2), 4(3) with Romans 14 v 17.

(4) Fertility.

The curse (Genesis 3 v 17 – 19, 4 v 12a) having been removed, and the changes in contour, irrigation, and climate indicated earlier having been effected, the earth's yield, and, particularly in Palestine, will increase many-fold. See: -

- Isaiah 35 v 1 – 2.
- Hosea 2 v 21 – 23.
- Amos 9 v 13.



4. THE BLESSINGS (BENEFITS) OF THE KINGDOM

(5) Longevity

- Extreme longevity will be the rule, not the exception.
- Death, when it occurs, will be the direct and immediate consequence of sin.
 - See: - Isaiah 65 v 20.



(6) Animal creation

- There will be no such thing as animals preying on one another.
- Carnivorous animals will become vegetarians. See: - Isaiah 11 v 6 and 7.



4. THE BLESSINGS (BENEFITS) OF THE KINGDOM

(7) Opposition, Rebellion, Idolatry.

Satan having been banished from the earth and confined to the bottomless pit for the duration of the millennium, and idolatry having been abolished from the earth, opposition will be minimal and dealt with instantly if it shows itself.

The subjection of some might well be “feigned”. See: -

- Revelation 20 v 1 – 3.
- Isaiah 2 v 18.
- Psalm 66 v 3.

Among the many scriptures which detail the blessings of the kingdom, read, in particular: -

Psalm 72 (especially the end: ‘the (supplicatory) prayers of David are ended’.)

- Isaiah 11.
- Isaiah 65.
- Revelation 22 v 1-5.

(5) THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE KINGDOM.



“THE APPEARING”

See: -

- Zechariah 14 v 1 – 9.
- Matthew 24 v 27 – 31.
- Luke 19 v 11 – 15.
- Colossians 3 v 4.
- Titus 2 v 13.



(6) THE **DURATION** OF THE KINGDOM.

THE kingdom is the grand focal point and climax of much of the detail of Old Testament prophecy.

It will last one thousand years. See:

Revelation 20 v 1 – 7: -

- v 2 - **A** thousand years.
- v 3 - **THE** thousand years.
- v 4 - **A** thousand years.
- v 5 - **THE** thousand years.
- v 6 - **A** thousand years
- v 7 - **THE** thousand years.

7. THE **END** OF THE KINGDOM.



It will never be superseded by another. See: -
Ezekiel 21 v 26, 27.
2 Peter 1 v 11.

BUT:

- See: -
 - Revelation 20 v 7 – 10.
 - 1 Corinthians 15 v 24 – 28.

The kingdom will ultimately be delivered up by the Son, as such, to the Father, as such, that God, as such, may be all in all.



Israel has a Future

- The kingdom proper, in manifest form, is in the future.
- It is the climax of God's ways upon earth.
- It centres on Christ, personally.
- Its basis and foundation rests upon the value to God of the work of Christ, particularly His death, resurrection and ascension.
- The types, the promises, the allegories, the prophecies of the Old Testament, the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, the Epistles, especially The Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, all look on to it.

Israel has a Future



- **BUT**, God gives us information about the **FUTURE** to regulate **OUR** lives at the **PRESENT TIME**.
- **WE** are to act **NOW** in the light of what **GOD** has told us **HE** is going to do in the **FUTURE** (1 John 3 v 3).
- God grant that we might have the grace and courage to do so.
Amen.